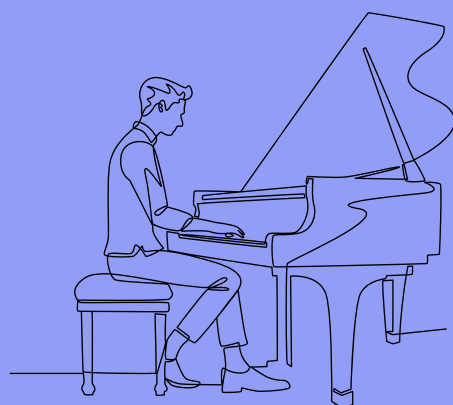# Level Up Your Data Literacy & Fluency

Data literacy provides the foundation: the ability to read, understand, and interpret data. Data fluency goes a step further, equipping researchers with practical skills to use data effectively, working with tools, extracting insights, asking the right questions, and communicating findings clearly. Learn which campus resources are available to support your journey from literacy to fluency.

Learning data skills is a lot like learning to play the piano
When you start, you can read sheet music and play simple songs. That's literacy; you follow the notes and produce what's expected. But true fluency requires a deeper mastery, such as the ability to improvise: adapting to new pieces, developing your own style, and expressing ideas effortlessly.

Data Literate = Reading Notes

- Reads data and creates basic charts, metrics, and reports
- Applies standard methods to answer predefined questions
- Relies on predefined workflows to analyze and interpret data

Vs

Data Fluent = Making Music

- Asks meaningful questions and explores data creatively
- Communicates insights clearly to different audiences
- Adapts tools, methods, and approaches as needed

Opportunities to Sharpen Your Data Skills

Communities

Explore campus and local communities of practice in data analysis, coding, and AI. Each community provides unique opportunities for undergraduates, graduate researchers, faculty, and staff to learn, collaborate, and grow.

Workshops

Stay up to date on Data and Software Carpentry workshops, along with other data-related library and campus events, so you never miss valuable opportunities to build skills, engage, and grow.

Consultations

Connect with staff at the DREAMLab, DataLab, and Research Data Services for personalized support on data access, management, analysis, and more to help you advance your projects.

UC SANTA BARBARA
Library

Need help?
rds@library.ucsb.edu

www.library.ucsb.edu