

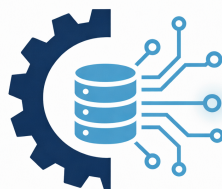
# The Data Scientist

From First Notebook to Portfolio

Fact Sheet

The Python Quants

June 24, 2026



**THE DATA  
SCIENTIST**

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Enrollment: <https://thedata scientist.dev>

## Program Motto

*“The success in your career will be defined as to whether or not you will be a lifelong learner or not, and AI will just make this all the more important.”*

— Kenneth C. Griffin, CEO of Citadel LLC

## 1. The Shift

AI is changing how analytical work is done. Tasks that once required manual research, spreadsheet work, reporting, and basic coding can now be supported, accelerated, or partially automated.

This does not reduce the need for human skill; it changes the type of skill required. People need to understand data, code, models, and AI-assisted workflows well enough to use modern tools productively and to judge their outputs critically. Data-driven decision-making is becoming the professional baseline, and finance roles increasingly require Python, data, analytics, and AI literacy. Entry-level and junior roles are under particular pressure because routine tasks are being automated, and companies need people who can work productively with data, code, and AI tools from day one.

## 2. The Company Pain Point

Many companies have more data and more AI tools than people who can use them effectively. The result is a gap between what companies want to do with data and AI, and what their teams can reliably execute.

- Too many candidates can “talk about AI” but cannot work with data and code.
- Analytical work is still too often handled through spreadsheets and ad-hoc workflows.
- Data, automation, and AI projects stall because teams lack practical implementation skills.
- Quant, risk, research, trading, compliance, and operations teams need people who can bridge business, data, and technology.
- Companies need talent that can learn continuously as tools change.

## 3. The Delegate Pain Point

The entry-level market has become more demanding. Degrees, certificates, and general interest in AI are often not enough to distinguish candidates in a crowded field.

- Entry-level jobs and internships are harder to get.
- A degree alone is no longer enough to stand out.
- Beginners often lack a structured path from Python basics to real projects.
- AI tools help, but only if users understand the underlying data, code, and workflows.
- Learners need tangible portfolio evidence, not just course completion.

For many beginners, the problem is not motivation. It is the lack of a structured path from first steps to credible project work.

## 4. What the Program Teaches

After completing *The Data Scientist*, delegates can:

- work productively in Python notebooks;
- analyze and visualize real data, and clean, structure, and explore datasets;
- understand essential statistics and core machine learning concepts;
- build and interpret first machine learning workflows;
- use GenAI tools productively and critically as coding and analysis assistants;
- develop first portfolio-style data projects;
- communicate analytical results in a clear and professional way.

The program focuses on practical competence, not abstract exposure.

## 5. How the Program Ensures Mastery

The program follows a structured progression from basic Python work to applied data science projects. Delegates do not only learn concepts; they repeatedly apply them.

- a systematic, hands-on notebook curriculum with guided coding examples;
- exercises, repetition, and practical data workflows;
- visual and statistical reasoning with real-world examples;
- first machine learning applications and project-based learning;
- responsible, AI-supported but not AI-dependent learning;
- a clear progression from foundations to applications, with portfolio-oriented outcomes.

## 6. Why These Skills Matter

Modern finance and other data-intensive industries increasingly depend on people who can combine business understanding, data literacy, coding ability, and AI fluency. The relevant distinction is not blind AI use, but the ability to ask better questions, validate outputs, automate workflows, and turn data into decisions.

These skills allow people to move beyond manual spreadsheet work, understand what AI tools are doing and where they can fail, support better decision-making with data, collaborate more effectively with technical teams, and continue learning as tools and workflows evolve.

## 7. What Successful Delegates Demonstrate

Successful delegates demonstrate that they can move from basic Python and notebook work to first practical data projects involving data analysis, visualization, statistical reasoning, machine learning foundations, and AI-assisted workflows.

This sets them apart from beginners who have only completed isolated tutorials, used AI tools casually, or worked mainly with spreadsheets.

They are not presented as senior data scientists. They are presented as practically prepared beginners with a clear ability to continue learning and to move into more specialized data, finance, AI, or analytical roles.

## 8. What Employers Can Expect

Employers can expect successful delegates to bring practical foundations in Python, data analysis, visualization, statistics, machine learning basics, and AI-assisted workflows.

They should be able to contribute to junior analytical tasks, support data-driven projects, work more independently with notebooks and datasets, and communicate with both business and technical teams.

Because the basic foundations are already in place, they are better prepared to learn company-specific tools, data structures, and workflows.

## 9. Practical Relevance

The program is designed for the early stage of the talent pipeline.

It helps delegates build the practical foundations increasingly expected in junior analytical roles: Python, data handling, visualization, statistical reasoning, basic machine learning, and AI-assisted work.

For employers, it addresses a common capability gap among junior candidates and early-career professionals: insufficient practical experience with data, code, analytical workflows, and responsible AI use.

Successful delegates are not positioned as senior data scientists. They are positioned as practically prepared beginners who can contribute to data-related work and continue into more specialized training or professional roles.

# Contact

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