

Exploring the Skills Needed by the Data Science / Analytics Professional

As 2.5 quintillion bytes (1 with 18 zeros) of new data are created each and every day, the age of big data has taken on new meaning with a renewed sense of urgency to prepare students, young professionals, and other workers across job functions for today's and tomorrow's analytics-roles along with the necessary analytical skills to tackle growing data demands. With the number of organizations embracing Data Science / Analytics skills and tools, organizations like LinkedIn, a leading professional networking and employment-oriented website and app, found that Data Scientists saw a 56% increase in the US job market in 2018. To keep up with the huge demand for analytics talent in 2019 and beyond, many colleges, Universities, and training organizations offer comprehensive Data Science / Analytics degrees and certificate programs to fulfill the increasing demand for analytical skills. This presentation explores the skills needed by the Data Science / Analytics professional including critical thinking; statistical programming languages such as SAS®, R or Python; Structured Query Language (SQL); Microsoft Excel; and data visualization.

About Kirk Paul Lafler

**SAS Consultant, Application Developer, Programmer, Data Analyst,
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Kirk Paul Lafler is an entrepreneur and founder at Software Intelligence Corporation, and has used SAS software since 1979 as a consultant, application developer, programmer, SAS solutions provider, data analyst, data manager, infrastructure specialist, performance tuner, educator and author. As a SAS Certified professional, mentor, and educator at Software Intelligence Corporation, and an advisor and adjunct professor at the University of California San Diego Extension, Kirk has taught SAS courses, seminars, workshops, and webinars to thousands of users around the world.

Kirk is also the author or co-author of several books including PROC SQL: Beyond the Basics Using SAS, Third Edition (SAS Press, 2019); hundreds of papers and articles on a variety of SAS topics; and has been selected as an Invited speaker, educator, keynote and section leader at SAS conferences and meetings worldwide; and is the recipient of 25 "Best" contributed paper, hands-on workshop (HOW), and poster awards.