

# Clustered Course Learning: What is it and Why is it a Good Way to Learn?

A group of linked courses is a great way for you to learn about how seemingly unrelated topics united by a common themes. For example, how would business help reduce child malnutrition in the world? Can business improve the public education system in the U.S.? Can energy production plants be successful in underdeveloped countries?

By pulling together a group of courses with a linking seminar, you will be able to use information gained in each course to work on problems illustrated under a specific theme.

## Clustered Courses: Storytelling with Data

The Storytelling with Data three-course cluster engages students in an in-depth understanding of how to use data to create persuasive arguments, frequently referred to in business as storytelling.

You will understand the importance of collecting, analyzing and presenting data and the ability to construct both informative and persuasive narratives that effectively communicate problems and strategies that address issues in the business and professional environments.

### Cluster I Option:

**Prerequisites/Co-requisites:** Must have completed or be concurrently enrolled in at least one of the following courses

- GB 213 Business Statistics
- CS 150 Introduction to Data and Information Management

### Plus IDCC 399 linking seminar - Visualizations and Data in Professional Communication

#### Course Description for IDCC 399 P1:

With increasing access to data sets , business people are seeking ways to analyze them to extract actionable business intelligence. Visualization of analyses have become popular ways of helping people capture and reviewqal insights tthat would be more difficult to percieve or convey through non-visula means. This course focuses on how students can take relevant questions and using data from a variety of sources and formats, inteegrate visualizations of the data into effective oral and written presentations for a vaireity of stakeholders.

Course designation: may be applied to the IDCC major or minor, as a business elective, or additional majors with permission of the appropriate department . Please note that this linking seminar will also be offered in spring 2021 for students wishing to complete the course cluster in two semesters.

## Cluster II Option:

**Prerequisites/Co-requisites:** Must have completed or be concurrently enrolled in at least one of the following courses:

- GB 213 Business Statistics
- NASC 150 Environmental Science and Sustainability

## Plus IDCC 399 linking seminar - **Visualizations and Data in Professional Communication**

### Course Description for IDCC 399 P1:

With increasing access to data sets, business people are seeking ways to analyze them to extract actionable business intelligence. Visualization of analyses have become popular ways of helping people capture and review insights that would be more difficult to perceive or convey through non-visual means. This course focuses on how students can take relevant questions and using data from a variety of sources and formats, integrate visualizations of the data into effective oral and written presentations for a variety of stakeholders.

Course designation: may be applied to the IDCC major or minor, as a business elective, or additional majors with permission of the appropriate department. Please note that this linking seminar will also be offered in spring 2021 for students wishing to complete the course cluster in two semesters.

## Cluster III Option

**Prerequisites/Co-requisites:** Must have completed or be concurrently enrolled in GB 213 and at least one of the following courses during the fall 2020 semester:

### 1. AC 214-P1 Data Integrity - Measure What Matters

Prerequisites: None

**Please note: course may not be used towards an Accountancy major or minor and may not be used as an elective in any other major without permission of the Department Chair.**

Data used by public and private organizations can support good decision making if properly collected and measured. Bad data practices can just as easily mislead decision makers into decisions that are not in the best interest of their owners, customers or even society. This course introduces principles and techniques to assure that organizations collect, measure and utilize good data in support of their mission, focusing on the value of assurance of the information produced from these measurements. Students will develop an understanding of the role of assurance in multiple areas, including but not limited to environmental and public health and safety, government sponsored programs, supply chain, and marketing. They will learn to choose among multiple methods to collect different types of data, and how to collect, analyze, and store data. The course will feature methods of assuring the quality of information developed from these data.

Course designation: business elective or unrestricted elective

**OR**

**2. SO 221 Homelessness and Society with Professor Curtis Smith**

Course designations: fulfills the general education Social Science requirement or maybe used as a Humanities/Social Science elective, Arts and Sciences elective, unrestricted elective, may be used towards the Sociology minor.

**Plus Linking Seminar:**

**IDCC 399 IDCC-P1 Visualizations and Data in Professional Communication**

Please note that this linking seminar will also be offered in spring 2021 for students wishing to complete the course cluster in two semesters.

Course Description

With increasing access to data sets, business people are seeking ways to analyze them to extract actionable business intelligence. Visualization of analyses have become popular ways of helping people capture and review insights that would be more difficult to perceive or convey through non-visual means. This course focuses on how students can take relevant questions and using data from a variety of sources and formats, integrate visualizations of the data into effective oral and written presentations for a variety of stakeholders.

Course designation: may be applied to the IDCC major or minor, as a business elective, or additional majors with permission of the appropriate department chair. Please note that this linking seminar will also be offered in spring 2021 for students wishing to complete the course cluster in two semesters.