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**SCHOLARSHIP CALL**

**III INTERNATIONAL COURSE**

**DATA SCIENCE FOR PUBLIC POLICY**

**ONLINE EDITION – AFRICA 2025**

Available at <https://www.agcid.gob.cl>

Chilean Agency of International Cooperation for Development - AGCID

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. **NAME OF THE PROGRAM:**

Data Science for Public Policy Course (hereinafter referred to as the Course).

1. **INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR DEVELOPMENT**

This third version of the course is part of the international cooperation program that Chile has promoted over the last thirty years, a sign of the country's commitment to cooperation with third countries through the training and formation of high-level human capital in different areas for the development and innovation of relevant public policies.

To this end, South-South Cooperation promotes the exchange of technical and professional knowledge, which seeks to promote the development of countries according to their own characteristics and needs, aligned with the fulfillment of the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda. In this area, AGCID has led the Chilean initiative, together with various institutions of higher education, as well as other agencies, to generate an offer of academic and technical cooperation that is directly related to the needs and different realities of our partner countries.

Given the above, this academic program has been developed in collaboration between the Chilean Agency of International Cooperation for Development (AGCID) and the University of Chile, with the aim of making available to Africa the knowledge and technical experience that Chile has achieved in this area. This facilitates processes in which public decisions adequately incorporate the evidence available in each country.

1. **SUPERIOR GOAL:**

To enable participants to acquire, at the end of the course, a comprehensive and updated understanding of the various aspects and fundamental concepts of Data Science, applied to decision making process within the public sector. In addition, participants are expected to understand the social, political and economic implications inherent to the implementation and use of these new technologies, thus preparing them to comprehensively address the challenges and opportunities that arise in modern government management.

1. **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

* The course "Data Science for Public Policy" offers a comprehensive introduction to the world of Data Science applied to the field of public policy. Participants will be immersed in the essential fundamentals of Data Science, from understanding key concepts such as Big Data and Data Mining, to the application of methodologies such as CRISP-DM. They will explore how data is transforming management and public policy, analyzing relevant cases and examining the crucial role of ethics and transparency in data analysis in the public sector.
* In addition, modern analytical techniques such as exploratory data analysis and predictive modeling will be explored in depth, preparing participants to face current and future challenges in the use of data for informed decision making processes in the public sector, including the potential biases that exist in the data.

1. **EXPECTED RESULTS:**

At the end of the course, participants will acquire the following competencies:

* An understanding of the fundamental concepts and techniques of Data Science applied to the public policy context, which will enable participants to effectively analyze data to support informed decision making in the public sector.
* Ability to identify and address specific challenges and opportunities that arise when using data in the public policy arena, including the ability to recognize and mitigate inherent biases in data sets, as well as implement ethical and transparent practices in data analysis.
* Preparation to apply modern analytical techniques, such as exploratory data analysis, regression and time series models, and predictive models, in order to extract meaningful information to support the formulation, implementation and evaluation of public policies based on scientific evidence and solid data.

1. **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:**

The following is a brief description of the contents of each of the four modules that make up the course:

**Module 1: Introduction to Data Science**

In this initial module, participants will be introduced to the world of Data Science. It will explore the basic concepts, the importance of data in decision making process and provide an overview of the tools and techniques used in this constantly evolving field.

The specific contents to be covered will be:

* Motivation: The future of work
* What is Data Science?
* Key Concepts: Big Data, Data Mining, KDD and CRISP-DM Methodology.
* The data cycle
* Gartner's Four Analytics Capabilities

**Module 2: Data Science in the Public Sector**

This module focuses on understanding how Data Science is transforming public policy and management. It will examine relevant case studies and discuss the specific opportunities and challenges faced by public sector practitioners in using data to inform decision making process.

The specific contents to be covered will be:

* Analogical Government, e-Government and Digital Government
* OECD Digital Policy Model
* Data Driven Government
* Digital Transformation in the Public Sector

**Module 3: Analytical Models**

In this module, participants will delve into the analysis and interpretation of data in the context of public policy. It will explore various analytical techniques, such as exploratory data analysis and data modeling, and will teach how to apply these tools to extract meaningful information to support informed decision making.

The specific contents to be covered will be:

* Exploratory Data Analysis
* Data diagnostic models
* Regression and time series
* Predictive Models

**Module 4: Data Biases**

Finally, this module will address a critical issue in data use: biases. Participants will learn how to identify and mitigate biases inherent in data sets, as well as how to implement ethical and transparent practices in data analysis and interpretation in the public sector.

The specific contents to be covered will be:

* Bias
* Bias Mitigation Strategies
* Algorithmic Transparency
* AI Responsible

1. **DURATION:**

The course will be held in the year 2025 in 100% *On-line* mode. The course has a duration of 21 chronological hours, which include 18 hours of lectures, workshops and synchronous group activities (real time) and 3 hours for voluntary weekly tutorials. At the same time, each student must have 8 hours for autonomous work.

Classes, workshops and tutorials will be spread over three weeks, between Monday, **October 13 and Friday, October 31, 2025**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Day** | **Schedule** | **Activity** |
| Monday | October 13 | 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Chilean time) | Session 1 |
| Wednesday | October 15 | 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Chilean time) | Session 2 |
| Monday | October 20 | 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Chilean time) | Session 3 |
| Wednesday | October 22 | 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Chilean time) | Session 4 |
| Friday | October 24 | 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. (Chilean time) | Tutorial N°1 |
| Monday | October 27 | 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Chilean time) | Session 5 |
| Wednesday | October 29 | 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Chilean time) | Session 6 |
| Friday | October 31 | 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. (Chilean time) | Tutorial N°2 |

The program modality will be virtual and requires dedication of 6 hours per week for synchronous activities (sessions of 3 hours each twice a week, and 1.5 hours for asynchronous tutoring), in addition to the student's personal and autonomous work hours.

Students must participate via Zoom in the activities on the dates and times established in the calendar above.

1. **METHODOLOGY:**

This academic program will be taught under an *online* methodology, which combines lectures and group activities carried out synchronously through the Zoom platform, with personal and autonomous work of the students, which will be facilitated by the teaching support platform of the University of Chile, through the use of forums, online tests, among other features.

Students will have defined spaces to consult with the course professor (during the established tutoring hours) and with the support of tutors, who will be available to resolve doubts and queries, in order to guide the autonomous work of the participants.

The conditions for approval of the course will be associated with attendance and participation in classes and the delivery of assignments and evaluations assigned by the professor. The course requires a minimum of 70% attendance to the mandatory sessions for its approval.

**Lecturer:** The course will be taught by **Professor Jerko Juretić,** Industrial Civil Engineer and MBA from the University of Chile. Executive Certificate in Strategy & Innovation, MIT Sloan School of Management, and Diploma in Artificial Intelligence from UC Chile. Executive Secretary of Analytics Day 2022-2023. Member of the Institute of Engineers of Chile and member of the Harvard Business Review Advisory Council.

He has served as a senior consultant in strategic management, innovation, digital transformation and artificial intelligence. He has worked in several industries nationally and internationally, leading the design and implementation of strategic plans and organizational modernization processes. He has participated in projects with Entel, CORFO, Sabesp (Brazil), Judiciary, AGCID, SQM, Subtel, Ministry of Finance, Felix Bulnes Hospital, Government Laboratory, Budget Office, UNICEF, United Nations, Transvip, CODELCO, ENEL, SKRETTING, and the Chilean Energy Efficiency Agency, among others.

He is currently Academic Director of the Diploma in Digital Business Transformation, the Diploma in Analytics for Professionals and the Diploma in Management and Automation of Business Processes, all from the Faculty of Economics and Business at the University of Chile.

1. **LANGUAGE:**

The course will be conducted entirely in English.

1. **FINANCING:**

The Program will fund[[1]](#footnote-1) :

* Tuition and program fees.
* Digital Diploma of the Course “Data Science for Public Policy”, certified by the Department of Industrial Engineering of the Faculty of Physical and Mathematical Sciences at the University of Chile.

1. **REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY:**

The course is aimed at people who meet the following requirements:

* Professional experience in the area of management and public policies and who have a Bachelor's degree and/or a Professional Degree.
* The courses are aimed at public officials from different levels of government, as well as researchers from universities and research centers, professionals from NGOs, international organizations and in general professionals working in the field of public policies and their management.
* It is desirable that they work in institutions related to the subject matter of the course and that they have institutional sponsorship.
* Be appointed by their respective governments in accordance with the procedure indicated in section XIV.
* To have access to internet network at least 7.5 hours per week for the development of *on-line* classes on the dates and times established for the course.
* Be a citizen of the country in question and be a resident of that country.
* Be fluent in spoken and written English.

1. **INVITED COUNTRIES AND/OR ORGANIZATIONS:**

The governments of the following countries will be invited to nominate applicants for the Course: Angola, Algeria, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Morocco, Mozambique and South Africa.

1. **TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS:**

The number of participants from invited countries will not exceed 60 students in total. There is no pre-established quota per country.

1. **APPLICATION PROCESS:**

The application and selection process consists of the following stages:

1. ***Scholarship Application***: Process carried out by the applicant before the Focal Point of the respective country (Annex IV).

**Scholarship Application: Process carried out by the applicant.**

The following documents must be submitted to the Focal Point in their respective country:

* Certificate of degree(s) or previous academic degrees.
* Application Form (Annex I), with a record of all the information requested, duly completed and signed by both the applicant and a representative of the sponsoring institution.
* Applicant Engagement Letter (Annex II).
* Work Certificate (Annex III).
* English language proficiency (advanced level in reading, writing and oral expression). The Chilean Embassy in the applicant's country may certify such knowledge.

Candidates must submit their application with a record of all the information requested in digital format to the Focal Point in their country of origin (Annex IV) for pre-selection and officialization.

Applicants should inquire about the closing date of the call for applications at the Focal Point in their respective country.

**RELEVANT DATES**

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| --- | --- |
| **Stage** | **Dates** |
| **Attention Applicants**  Scholarship application deadline at the Focal Point in each country | **Until September 26, 2025** |
| Scholarship Selection Committee | October 1 to 3, 2025 |
| Publication of results | October 6, 2025 |
| Notification to selected and creation of UChile accounts | From October 7, 2025 |
| Beginning of the course | October 13, 2025 |

**TO CONSIDER:**

* Only applications officially submitted by the Focal Point will be considered for selection. No applications submitted directly by the applicant will be considered.
* It is the applicant's responsibility to carefully read the call for applications with all its requirements, application procedures and all the attached documents, as well as to submit his/her application in compliance with the professional requirements specified in each offer.
* The information provided in the application form and its respective annexes is a sworn statement. Therefore, in the case of having falsified, adulterated, concealed or submitted inaccurate information with the purpose of obtaining the scholarship, the applicant will assume the respective administrative, civil and criminal penalties, in accordance with the regulations of his/her country of origin. Likewise, the applicant will be disqualified from applying for future scholarships indefinitely. This must be reported by the committee formed for the implementation of the scholarship.

1. **SELECTION:**

The selection will be made by a technical committee based on the following criteria: eligibility, priority of the Focal Point, degree to which it meets the profile, professional experience in the area of the Course, curricular consistency and possibility of impact, among other elements that the Committee considers relevant.

The Universidad de Chile will contact each selected candidate by e-mail, according to the contact information provided in the application form, in order to coordinate the corresponding arrangements for his/her participation.

In addition, the results of the selection process will be published on the AGCID website, www.agcid.gob.cl for the information of all interested parties. **NOTE:** only those selected will be notified by e-mail.

**Both the awarding of the scholarship are exclusive resolutions of the Department of Industrial Engineering of the Universidad de Chile and the Selection Committee respectively. Both decisions are unappealable and the entities are not obliged to inform about the criteria of the decision.**

1. **OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTICIPANT**

* Applicants are responsible for submitting current contact information (Annex I: Application Form) and for periodically checking their e-mail accounts, in case of requests and official notices from the coordinating team, according to the dates described in section XIII.
* Participants will adhere strictly to the course program. Requests for changes or alterations to the initially established course program will not be accepted (except for emergency reasons, duly justified).
* The course will be held exclusively in a non-attendance mode for this edition. A minimum of 70% attendance to classes and workshops is required for its approval.
* Complete all the necessary formalities for their participation in the program, including authorization from the head of the program.
* Participants must pay for any personal expenses during the course or that are not specified in the FINANCING section.

**CONTACTS**

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**ANNEXES**

* Annex I: Application form.
* Annex II: Applicant Engagement Letter.
* Annex III: Work Certificate.
* Annex IV: List of Focal Points.

1. No additional items other than those mentioned above will be financed. Personal expenses must be covered by each participant. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)