

CARLA RUDDER, PMP

Data Analyst | Project Manager | SQL | Python

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Versatile data analytics professional with expertise in SQL, Python, and data visualization, complemented by a PMP credential and experience in project management. I'm a results-driven problem solver and critical thinker, skilled at using data insights to streamline operations, mitigate risks, and inform strategic decisions. Known for my approachable style and commitment to excellence, I bring a detail-oriented mindset to enhance operational efficiency and support cross-functional team performance.

Key Attributes

- **PMP credentialed Project Manager and accomplished researcher** with 15+ years of experience leading data-driven initiatives and managing cross-functional teams, consistently delivering projects on time and within budget.
- **Skilled data analyst** with expertise in Python, SQL, and statistical modeling to perform data cleaning, predictive analytics, and visualization, driving a 42% improvement in learner experience and a 15% increase in success rates.
- **Insightful data strategist**, passionate about using data and trend analysis to support informed, meaningful decisions. I enjoy making numbers relatable through predictive analytics and visual storytelling, sharing the value in data for impactful results.
- **Independent project manager** for high-stakes initiatives that drive strategic decisions and strengthen external partnerships with consistent high-quality results.
- **Excellent communicator**, adept at simplifying complex topics into relatable, engaging content, ensuring message clarity and understanding for diverse audiences regardless of prior knowledge or background.
- **Inclusive leader** who fosters organizational culture, empowers employees, and aligns goals across teams, driving a 15% improvement in cross-functional collaboration.
- **Academically distinguished, with a BSc, MSc, Ph.D., and Post-Grad Certificate from top-ranked institutions**—North Carolina State University, Florida State University, and MIT—with each program consistently ranked #18 or higher in Applied Mathematics, Mathematics Education, and Data Science.

Relevant Work Experience

Associate Professor, Mathematics, Rabdan Academy

Abu Dhabi, UAE | September 2014 – Present

Key contributor to the foundation and growth of a startup, joining in its second year and dedicating 10 years to its success. Demonstrated flexibility by taking on multiple roles to support organizational growth and strategic goals.

- Used Python for data cleaning, statistical modeling, and visualization to translate and analyze complex data into understandable insights, identifying key metrics to guide business strategy and contributed to a 10% increase in qualified applicants.
- Developed advanced statistical visualizations and trend analyses using Python (Plotly), ensuring accessibility to both technical and non-technical audiences, showcasing program performance and driving a 42% improvement in the student experience.
- Led a key strategic initiative in scope management, competitor analysis, and market trends, defining activities, schedules, and milestones while meeting deadlines and delivering all project deliverables, resulting in a 25% increase in program innovation.
- Documented and reviewed two standards for the organization's first international accreditation, collecting requirements, documenting the program lifecycle, validating scope, and applying quality control. Conducted curriculum alignment and gap analysis, guiding updates that achieved full compliance with zero corrections.
- Co-secured a \$54,000 grant and directed project planning, budget control, and impact measurement for over 500 participants, using structured assessments to measure outcomes through pre- and post-surveys.

Department Chair, Assistant Professor, Mathematics & Statistics, Zayed University

Abu Dhabi and Dubai, UAE | August 2008 – August 2014

Inclusive leader who promotes organizational culture, empowers employees, and facilitates goal alignment between individuals and the organization, driving improved communication and a 15% increase in inter-departmental collaboration.

- Provided strategic leadership as Head of Department across Abu Dhabi and Dubai campuses, overseeing academic operations, personnel management, conflict resolution, and quality assurance to uphold course integrity, faculty productivity, and departmental performance.
- Led a task force for four years, collaborating with various departments and stakeholders to drive process improvement, organizational initiatives, regulatory compliance, and strategic policy recommendations, fostering alignment with organizational and operational goals.
- Managed a 35-member team through all phases of the project lifecycle, integrating iPad-based learning tools to align with organizational and governmental strategic initiatives. Leveraged risk prediction and mitigation skills to swiftly address issues, resulting in a 20% productivity boost and enhanced facilitation and task execution.

- Spearheaded initiatives to enhance the department’s reputation and ease of collaboration, applying stakeholder engagement and communication management strategies to improve cross-functional collaboration by 15% and multi-sector knowledge sharing by 10%.
- Gathered and analyzed detailed requirements by collaborating with internal teams and external vendors to enhance project planning and tool implementation, integrating data-driven insights to align educational content with sector needs.

Consultant / Researcher / Project Manager / Data Analyst, Research Triangle International (RTI)

Durham, NC (Remote) | 2019

Led a key initiative under a \$58 million USAID grant, transforming an initial concept into a completed, impactful project.

- Independently led a multi-phase project, developing a structured project plan, managing execution, and driving stakeholder engagement to deliver on-time, within-scope results that supported strategic decision-making.
- Performed trend and predictive analytics, optimizing over 10,000 datasets through data cleaning and statistical analysis to enhance decision-making accuracy to 95% and inform strategic recommendations.
- Designed and executed a comprehensive survey for 146 participants, capturing critical insights through data collection and analysis that informed senior leadership’s decisions on participant effectiveness and program improvement.

Consultant / Researcher / Data Analyst, Research Triangle International (RTI)

Durham, NC (Remote) | 2017 – 2018

Conducted a Comprehensive Study Under a \$58 Million USAID Grant on mathematics education in upper primary grades.

- Independently managed the end-to-end data collection and analysis process, overseeing project execution, resource management, and timeline optimization to reduce delivery time by 30% while adhering to budget constraints.
- Collaborated with the program manager to align project scope and stakeholder engagement, delivering a comprehensive report on five countries' education systems with timely, actionable recommendations based on extensive research.
- Conducted thematic analysis and content modeling on 75+ journal articles and datasets to identify inefficiency gaps, delivering targeted, data-driven recommendations that improved productivity and guided strategic adjustments.

Education

Applied Data Science and Machine Learning

Postgraduate Certificate | Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Mathematics Education (18+ graduate credits in Applied Mathematics)

Ph.D. and MSc | Florida State University

Applied Mathematics

BSc | North Carolina State University

Technical Skills

Big Data	ETL	Google Cloud	Seaborn	Competitor Analysis	Machine Learning	Predictive Analysis
BigQuery	EXCEL	Python	SQL	Data Visualization	Mathematics	Project Budgeting
Data Science	Github	Scikit-Learn	Tableau	Hypothesis testing	Microsoft Power BI	Statistical Analysis

Professional Certifications

Project Management

- **Project Management Professional**
Project Management Institute – Credential ID 3960997
- **Certified Scrum Master**
Scrum Alliance – Credential ID 001508254

Data Analysis

- **Google Data Analytics Professional Certification**
Google – Credential ID 4WAL64UPERYG
- **IBM Data Science Fundamentals with Python and SQL Specialization**
IBM – Credential ID JTBR8W6BBBD86
- **SQL Basics for Data Science Specialization**
UC Davis – Credential ID WD7W8LCKKBHD