"Life in the Data Deluge" is a first-year seminar course designed to give students a deeper understanding of how data and statistics are used in the world around them. During this course, students learn to look at data with a critical eye, while picking up some introductory knowledge about concepts from statistics and data science. Students also study the motivations for presenting data in a certain context or collecting it in a specific way, and the influence that data have on decisions at all levels. Interesting applications of data science are presented from sports analytics, political polls, and targeted marketing.

This session will provide a glimpse into how statistics and data science can be incorporated into a first-year seminar through popular media, scientific journal articles, and student data collection projects. This session will also explore the importance of social context in a first-year seminar and how quantitative skills can be used to tackle difficult societal issues. Topics from Life in the Data Deluge can be easily modified to fit into a variety of first-year seminar models (reading-intensive, writing-intensive, or deep study of a single topic) or a traditional quantitative literacy course. (Received June 20, 2017)