

# **CS 105**

## **Introduction to Databases and Data Analysis**

**A Math/CS Divisional Studies Course  
Offered in Fall 2007**

Databases and other collections of data are everywhere:

- Retailers use data about customers and their purchases to make decisions that increase profits.
- Researchers in molecular biology and medicine analyze data about the human genome to find treatments for diseases.
- Online DVD-rental services and music-downloading sites use databases to deliver customized recommendations about movies and music.
- Credit-card companies use data about a person's past purchases to discover credit-card fraud – before the person even realizes it has happened.

How does all this work? CS 105 is a new course that will help you understand how collections of data are organized, stored, and analyzed. We'll study relational databases and the SQL query language, the process of writing simple programs to analyze data, and data-mining techniques for discovering patterns in data.

Applications from a variety of domains (including business, medicine, the arts, and the sciences) will be used to illustrate the concepts of the course through lectures and hands-on labs.

The course has no prerequisites.

Meeting Time: MWF 1-2, plus one hour of lab per week.

Questions? Contact the instructor, Dave Sullivan, at [dgs@cs.bu.edu](mailto:dgs@cs.bu.edu)