Atanas Hansen

Lecturer – Information Systems

Where are you from?

Sofia, Bulgaria

Where are you employed and what do you do in your job?

I am a Data Management Consultant for IBM/Kyndryl and I am responsible for assessing how different companies use their data to accomplish their business and technical objectives and provide recommendations. I also teach evening technology classes at UTD where I obtained my Bachelor's degree in Software Engineering and Master's degree in IT Management.

My career spans working in the healthcare and financial services industries for companies like BlueCross BlueShield, New York Life, and Wells Fargo. I have worked as a Business Systems Analyst, engineering and modeling system requirements, as a Data Governance Analyst, helping companies manage data as an asset, and as a Quality Assurance Analyst, ensuring systems perform as expected.

I am Microsoft Azure certified as well as a Certified Data Management Professional (CDMP).

What is so exciting about programming and why would you recommend that students learn programming?

Programming is foundational to building intelligent machines to do amazing things with. It can be used to help people with all sorts of tasks from managing finances and helping diagnose a disease to creating mobile apps and analyzing weather patterns. I believe in the future, programming will be similar to using Microsoft Word today – most people will have an idea of how to use it for their advantage. Learning to program is great for developing critical thinking skills and patience and allows us to creatively express ourselves.