

Statistics, MS

Department: Mathematics and Statistics Department

College: College of Science

Overview

About This Degree

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics offers a master's degree in statistics. The MS degree is intended for students pursuing areas of research in pure and applied mathematics and statistics. Student research projects focus on analyzing data sets arising in a broad spectrum of applied fields, including biology, genetics, economics, finance, sports, engineering, environmental, and geosciences. This wide spectrum of applied areas prepares students for the many and varied career opportunities for statisticians.

The department's excellent ratio of graduate students to faculty permits close personal guidance for each student. Students are able to tailor their programs of study to match their interests in specific areas of mathematics and statistics as well as interdisciplinary research.

Career Options

The statistics degree prepares students for positions as statisticians who can work in almost every kind of occupational field. Most commonly, statisticians work in a wide variety of positions in the following areas:

- Governmental agencies
- Businesses and industries
- Teaching at high schools and two-year colleges

The master's program also gives students the necessary applied and theoretical background to pursue doctoral programs in statistics or biostatistics.

What it takes

Admissions Requirements

Students may apply with an undergraduate degree in statistics, mathematics, or a wide variety of other disciplines, including the biological and social sciences. An advanced undergraduate class in probability and mathematical statistics and a class in linear algebra are desirable.

Application Requirements:

- Complete the [online application](#)
- Pay the \$55 application fee
- Score at or above the 40th percentile on the GRE (score of 700 out of 800 on the quantitative section)
- Have a 3.0 or higher GPA on your last 60 semester or 90 quarter credits
- Provide transcripts of all college/university credits
- Provide three contacts for letters of recommendation

International students have [additional admissions requirements](#).

Admissions Deadlines

The department has the following application deadline:

- Fall semester - February 1

Master's Degree Plan Options

Students can receive the **MS** by pursuing one of three options:

- In the **Plan A** option, students complete graduate-level coursework and must write a thesis.
- The **Plan B** option requires the production of a paper or creative work of art and is expected to reflect equivalent scholarship standards as a thesis.

Financial Assistance

A majority of students receive major financial assistance with their studies via [teaching or research assistantships](#). All students that meet the qualifications may receive [tuition awards](#) and subsidized [health insurance](#) as well.

A variety of additional funding opportunities are available, including [fellowships](#), [scholarships](#), and [travel support](#).

Program Requirements

[Click here](#) to see course requirements for the **Master of Science**.

Contact

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Get Involved

Professional Organizations, Honor Societies, and Clubs

American Statistical Association: ASA is the largest organization of mathematicians in industry and academe. The ASA supports excellence in the development, application, and dissemination of statistical science through meetings, publications, membership services, education, accreditation, and advocacy. Its members serve in industry, government, and academia in more than 90 countries, advancing research and promoting sound statistical practice to inform public policy and improve human welfare.

Biometric Society: ENAR and WNAR (the eastern and western North American regions) is an association of statisticians working on problems in statistics with biological, agricultural, and medical applications. The society's goal is to advance biological and life science through the development of quantitative theories and the application, development, and dissemination of effective mathematical and statistical techniques.

Institute of Mathematical Statistics: IMS is an organization mainly for research statisticians working in academe. The IMS is an international professional and scholarly society devoted to the development, dissemination, and application of statistics and probability. The institute currently has about 4,500 members in all parts of the world.

Interface Foundation: This is a society working on problems at the interface between statistics and computing sciences. Its members are computational scientists, statisticians, mathematicians, and individuals from related discipline areas interested in the interface between computing science and statistics. Interests include topics such as computational statistics, statistical software, exploratory data analysis, data mining, pattern recognition, scientific

visualization, and related fields.

Journal Club: The purpose of the Journal Club is to introduce participants to mathematics and statistics education research by providing an opportunity to read, present, and discuss noteworthy papers in the field. The primary intended audiences are graduate students and faculty members interested in starting research on education topics, and needing familiarity with the education literature.