Demand for statisticians is projected to grow 34 percent over the next decade as use of statistical analysis to make informed business, health care and policy decisions becomes more widespread with the large increase in available data from the Internet. Your master's degree in statistics will prepare you to tackle any area of analysis.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MS Statistics

The MS program in statistics draws upon a wide spectrum of faculty research and teaching interests, including from faculty outside of the school. As a result, plans of study can be transdisciplinary and tailored to reflect students' individual needs and goals.

At a Glance

- College/School: College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Location: Tempe campus

Accelerated Degrees

This program allows students to obtain both a bachelor's and master's degree in as little as five years. It is offered as an accelerated bachelor's and master's degree with:

Mathematics (Statistics), BS

Acceptance to the graduate program requires a separate application. During their junior year, eligible students will be advised by their academic departments to apply.

Degree Requirements
30 credit hours including the required applied project course (STP 593 or IEE 593 or ECN 593) and an oral comprehensive exam, or
30 credit hours, a thesis and an oral comprehensive exam, or
30 credit hours, a written comprehensive exam and an oral comprehensive exam

Required Theory Courses (9 credit hours)
STP 501 Theory of Statistics I: Distribution Theory 3 (3)
STP 502 Theory of Statistics II: Inference (3)
STP 526 Theory of Statistical Linear Models (3)

Required Applied Linear Statistical Model Courses (6 credit hours)
ECN 525 or IEE 578 or STP 530 Applied Regression Analysis (3)
IEE 572 or STP 531 Applied Analysis of Variance (3)

Electives (9-15 credit hours)

Culminating Experience (0-6 credit hours)
ECN 593 or IEE 593 or STP 593 Applied Project (3)
ECN 599 or IEE 599 or STP 599 Thesis (6)
Oral and written comprehensive exam (0)

Additional Curriculum Information
Prerequisites may not be used to complete the 30 credit hours.

The required theory courses are fundamental to the education of statisticians and are necessary for more advanced graduate study.

The program must also include either three credit hours of ECN 593, IEE 593 or STP 593 Applied Project; six credit hours of ECN 599, IEE 599 or STP 599 Thesis; or an oral and written comprehensive exam on advanced statistics coursework to be administered by the School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences. The applied project or thesis must be defended at an oral examination. The content of the applied project report or thesis, in its final form, must be suitable for submission to an academic journal or conference proceedings. The thesis must conform to the Graduate College format requirements.

The remaining credit hours come from elective courses chosen by the student with the approval of supervising faculty. A maximum of six credit hours may be chosen from a related field on which statistics relies (such as computer science) or in which statistics is an essential tool (e.g., biostatistics, quality control). The elective courses allow the student to emphasize a particular area of statistical inference, culminating in an applied project report or a thesis on a topic in that area. No foreign language or written comprehensive examinations are required.

The student has considerable flexibility in selecting an area of specialty.
Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree in mathematics, statistics or a closely related area from a regionally accredited institution.

Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of a student's first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum of a 3.00 cumulative GPA (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. statement of education and career goals
4. GRE (general) scores
5. three letters of recommendation
6. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English (regardless of current residency) must provide proof of English proficiency.

Applicants should have completed the following courses (equivalents at ASU are given in parentheses), and applicants who lack any of these prerequisite courses must complete the prerequisites before being considered for admission:

- advanced calculus (MAT 371)
- calculus (MAT 270, MAT 271 and MAT 272)
- computer programming (CSE 100)
- introductory statistics (STP 420)
- linear algebra (MAT 342)

Contact Information

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