Opportunities for interdisciplinary study in statistics

The Department of Statistics, ranked ninth in the nation by the most recent study by the National Research Council, offers master's and doctoral degrees in statistics as well as a master's in applied statistics. Our renowned and diverse faculty make it possible for our students to pursue a wide range of opportunities from theoretical, methodological, and interdisciplinary research to a hands-on approach to developing consulting and teaching skills.

Students interested in a master of applied statistics that focuses on the applications of statistics and prepares students to work in government or industry can apply for an in-residence or online program.

Our doctoral program offers advanced exploration and investigation of mathematics and statistics theory, methodology, and applications. Our Ph.D. students' theses vary from research emphasizing theory and methodology, to dissertations focused on applications. Graduates from our program go on to careers in research and teaching, as well as government and industry. Students can obtain a master's of science degree as a part of their doctoral studies or as a terminal degree.
RESEARCH FOCUS AREAS

Penn State statistics faculty have wide-ranging research expertise, including these areas:

- Computational statistics
- Functional data analysis
- High-dimensional data analysis
- Mixture models and latent variable models
- Network analysis and graphical models
- Non-parametric and semi-parametric methods
- Probability theory
- Spatial and spatio-temporal statistics
- Statistics education
- Time series and longitudinal data
- Numerous interdisciplinary areas, including astrostatistics, biostatistics, bioinformatics, data privacy and reproducibility, genomics, and statistical applications in industrial, environmental, and social sciences

DUAL-TITLE DEGREES AND MINOR

We also offer dual-title master's or doctoral degrees in partnership with the College of Engineering's Operations Research programs and the College of the Liberal Arts' Social Data Analytics degree. Students in these programs are exposed to an interdisciplinary array of tools, techniques, and methodologies. Students can also earn graduate minors in these areas and in computing.

In addition, our department offers a graduate minor in statistics, which can add a broad array of statistics fundamentals and depth to study in many disciplines.

FELLOWSHIP AND ASSISTANTSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Statistics graduate students in the doctoral and master of science programs are eligible for University, college, and governmental fellowships, departmental teaching and research assistantships, and other forms of financial aid. The Eberly College of Science's assistantships and fellowships include a stipend, tuition, and subsidized health, dental, and vision insurance. There is no financial support for students in the master of applied statistics program.

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