

# Statistics, BS

## Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- be able to distinguish between observational studies and designed experiments and understand the issues related to the data collection method, including sampling bias, sampling error, sample size determination, statistical power, association versus causation, and the design and analysis of randomized experiments;
- use critical thinking skills to translate substantive questions into well-defined statistical problems and choose appropriate statistical methods and graphical summaries for a given problem;
- use computer software and leverage AI tools to manage data, carry out exploratory data analyses and computer simulations, produce numerical and graphical summaries of data, and apply basic statistical methodology;
- be able to clearly communicate study results to non-statisticians, and write accurate and meaningful reports that describe the statistical analyses and summarize important findings; and
- understand the mathematical tools underlying statistical methods, including distribution theory, uncertainty quantification via probability, estimation theory, and the probabilistic basis of formal statistical inference.

## Requirements

The Bachelor of Science with a major in statistics requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including at least 51 s.h. of work for the major. Students must maintain a grade-point average of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They must also complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core.

In planning coursework, students should be guided by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences maximum hours rule: students earning a BS may apply a maximum of 56 s.h. earned in one department to the minimum 120 s.h. required for graduation, whether or not the coursework is accepted toward requirements for the major; students who earn more than 56 s.h. from one department may use the additional semester hours to satisfy requirements for the major (if the department accepts them), and the grades they earn become part of their grade-point average, but they cannot apply the additional semester hours to the minimum 120 s.h. required for graduation.

Students who earn the major in statistics may not earn the major in data science.

Students complete 10 core courses that provide essential instruction in statistical methods, applications, and theory. In addition, they may concentrate on an interest area by selecting appropriate elective courses.

The BS with a major in statistics requires the following coursework.

Requirements	Hours
Core Courses	36
Electives	15

## Core Courses

All students complete the following 10 core courses.

Course #	Title	Hours
STAT:2010	Statistical Methods and Computing	3
STAT:3100/ IGPI:3100	Introduction to Mathematical Statistics I	4
STAT:3101/ IGPI:3101	Introduction to Mathematical Statistics II	3
STAT:3200/ DATA:3200/ IGPI:3200/ISE:3760	Applied Linear Regression	3
STAT:3210	Experimental Design and Analysis	3
CS:1210	Computer Science I: Fundamentals	4
MATH:1850	Calculus I	4
MATH:1860	Calculus II	4
MATH:2700	Introduction to Linear Algebra	4
MATH:2850	Calculus III	4

## Electives

Students complete 15 s.h. of electives with a maximum of 6 s.h. coming from domain electives.

Course #	Title	Hours
9-15 s.h. from these:		
STAT:1015/ DATA:1015	Introduction to Data Science	3
STAT:3620/ CEE:3142/ISE:3600	Quality Control	3
STAT:4100/ IGPI:4100	Statistical Inference I	3
STAT:4101/ IGPI:4101	Statistical Inference II	3
STAT:4520/ IGPI:4522/ PSQF:4520	Bayesian Statistics	3
STAT:4540/ DATA:4540/ BAIS:4540/ IGPI:4540	Statistical Learning	3
STAT:4580/ DATA:4580/ IGPI:4580	Data Visualization and Data Technologies	3
STAT:4750/ DATA:4750	Probabilistic Statistical Learning	3
STAT:5400/ DATA:5400/ IGPI:5400	Computing in Statistics	3
STAT:6220/ DATA:6220	Consulting and Communication With Data	3
STAT:6300	Probability and Stochastic Processes I	3
STAT:6301	Probability and Stochastic Processes II	3
STAT:6530/ IGPI:6530	Environmental and Spatial Statistics	3

STAT:6550/ BIOS:6310/ IGPI:6310	Introductory Longitudinal Data Analysis	3
STAT:6560	Applied Time Series Analysis	3
ACTS:4150	Fundamentals of Short-Term Actuarial Mathematics	3
BIOS:5130/ IGPI:5130	Applied Categorical Data Analysis	3
DATA:4600/ STAT:4600	Causal Inference for Data Science	3
DATA:4610	Data Acquisition and Management	3
DATA:4620	Text Data Analysis	3
Up to two courses from these domain electives:		
STAT:5120	Mathematical Methods for Statistics	3
ACTS:3080	Mathematics of Finance I	3
ACTS:4130	Quantitative Methods for Actuaries	3
CS:2210	Discrete Structures	4
CS:2230	Computer Science II: Data Structures	4
MATH:3770	Foundations of Analysis	4
MATH:3800/ CS:3700	Introduction to Numerical Methods	3
MATH:4820/ CS:4720	Optimization Techniques	3
MATH:4840	Mathematics of Machine Learning	3

## Combined Programs

### BS/MS in Statistics

The combined Bachelor of Science/Master of Science in statistics is for eligible students who seek to complete both the BS and the MS at the University of Iowa in five years. Students in the combined program must complete all requirements for each degree. A traditional MS in statistics requires completion of 32 s.h. of graduate-level coursework. The BS/MS program permits students to count 12 s.h. of credit (four courses) toward the requirements for both degrees. To complete the MS, an additional 20 s.h. of coursework is required. The four courses that count toward both degrees must be taken during the fourth year of undergraduate study, after admission to the combined program, and must satisfy degree requirements of both the BS and the MS in statistics.

### BS/MPH (Biostatistics Subprogram)

Students majoring in statistics who are interested in earning a Master of Public Health degree with a biostatistics subprogram may apply to the combined BS/MPH program offered by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the College of Public Health. The program permits students to count 15 s.h. of credit toward the requirements for both degrees, enabling them to begin the study of public health before they complete the bachelor's degree. For information about the public health program, see the Master of Public Health, MPH (biostatistics subprogram) section of the catalog.

### BS/MS in Biostatistics

The combined BS in statistics/MS in biostatistics enables Bachelor of Science students majoring in statistics to begin work toward the MS while completing the bachelor's degree. Students admitted to the program may count 12 s.h. of credit toward both the BS and the MS degree requirements. The combined program is offered by the Graduate College, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the College of Public Health; see the MS in biostatistics in the catalog.

## Honors

### Honors in the Major

Students majoring in statistics have the opportunity to graduate with honors in the major. Departmental honors students must maintain a grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.67 in their major and a cumulative University of Iowa GPA of at least 3.33.

To graduate with honors in the statistics major, students must complete an honors project or a suitable alternative. Statistics honors students should consult with the statistics undergraduate advisor.

### University of Iowa Honors Program

In addition to honors in the major, students have opportunities for honors study and activities through membership in the University of Iowa Honors Program. Visit Honors at Iowa to learn about the university's honors program.

Membership in the UI Honors Program is not required to earn honors in the statistics major.

## Career Advancement

Statistics and probability are vital to many fields, so the demand for well-trained statisticians is strong. Statisticians work in medicine, engineering, law, public policy making, marketing, manufacturing, engineering, agriculture, varied social and natural sciences, and numerous other areas.

When students graduate, they will be prepared to fill entry-level positions as statisticians or go on to graduate school. An advisor assists students in locating internship opportunities as well as the best-fitting graduate programs.

To learn more about job opportunities, see Your Career on the American Statistical Association website.

The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs.

## Academic Plans

### Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the university's Four-Year Graduation Plan. Courses in the major are those required to complete the major; they may be offered by departments other than the major department.

Much of the coursework in statistics is sequential, so students must begin requirements for the major as soon as possible. Individual study plans must be made carefully. Students who

first enroll for a spring semester must consult their advisor to confirm a four-year plan.

Courses must be taken in sequence, so students must begin work early.

**Before the fifth semester begins:** at least four courses in the major, including MATH:1850 Calculus I, MATH:1860 Calculus II, and STAT:2010 Statistical Methods and Computing.

**Before the seventh semester begins:** seven or eight courses in the major and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree.

**Before the eighth semester begins:** nine or ten courses in the major.

**During the eighth semester:** enrollment in all remaining coursework in the major, all remaining GE CLAS Core courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate.

## Sample Plans of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

### Statistics, BS

Course	Title	Hours
<b>Academic Career</b>		
<b>Any Semester</b>		
GE CLAS Core: Sustainability <sup>a</sup>		
STAT:2010 Statistical Methods and Computing and STAT:3200 Applied Linear Regression are important prerequisites for advanced statistics classes and completing them earlier in the academic career provides for more elective options in later semesters.		
<b>Hours</b>		<b>0</b>
<b>First Year</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
MATH:1850	Calculus I <sup>b</sup>	4
STAT:2010	Statistical Methods and Computing	3
CSI:1600	Success at Iowa	1
GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course <sup>c</sup>		4 - 5
Elective course <sup>d</sup>		2
<b>Hours</b>		<b>14-15</b>
<b>Spring</b>		
MATH:1860	Calculus II	4
STAT:3200	Applied Linear Regression	3
RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200	Rhetoric: Writing and Communication or Interpreting Literature	3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course <sup>c</sup>		4 - 5
Elective course <sup>d</sup>		1
<b>Hours</b>		<b>15-17</b>
<b>Second Year</b>		
<b>Fall</b>		
MATH:2700	Introduction to Linear Algebra	4
STAT:3100	Introduction to Mathematical Statistics I <sup>e</sup>	4

ENGL:1200 or RHET:1030	Interpreting Literature or Rhetoric: Writing and Communication	3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Third Level Proficiency or elective course <sup>c</sup>		4 - 5
<b>Hours</b>		<b>15-17</b>

#### Spring

MATH:2850	Calculus III	4
STAT:3101	Introduction to Mathematical Statistics II <sup>f</sup>	3
GE CLAS Core: Understanding Cultural Perspectives <sup>g</sup>		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level Proficiency or elective course <sup>c</sup>		4 - 5
Elective course <sup>d</sup>		1
<b>Hours</b>		<b>15-16</b>

#### Third Year

##### Fall

CS:1210	Computer Science I: Fundamentals <sup>h</sup>	4
Major: statistics advanced elective <sup>i</sup>		3
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues <sup>g</sup>		3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences with Lab <sup>g</sup>		4
Elective course <sup>d</sup>		1
<b>Hours</b>		<b>15</b>

##### Spring

STAT:3210	Experimental Design and Analysis <sup>f</sup>	3
Major: statistics advanced elective <sup>i</sup>		3
GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts <sup>g</sup>		3
GE CLAS Core: Social Sciences <sup>g</sup>		3
Elective course <sup>d</sup>		3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>15</b>

#### Fourth Year

##### Fall

Major: statistics advanced elective <sup>i</sup>		3
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives <sup>g</sup>		3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences without Lab <sup>g</sup>		3
Elective course <sup>d</sup>		3
Elective course <sup>d</sup>		3
<b>Hours</b>		<b>15</b>

##### Spring

Major: statistics advanced elective <sup>i</sup>		3
Major: statistics advanced elective <sup>i</sup>		3
GE CLAS Core: Values and Society <sup>g</sup>		3
Elective course <sup>d</sup>		3
Elective course <sup>d</sup>		3
Elective course <sup>d</sup>		3
Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall) <sup>j</sup>		
<b>Hours</b>		<b>18</b>
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>122-128</b>

a Sustainability must be completed by choosing a course that has been approved for Sustainability AND for one of these General Education areas: Natural Sciences; Quantitative or Formal Reasoning; Social Sciences; Historical Perspectives; International and Global Issues; Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts; or Values and Society.

- b Enrollment in math courses requires completion of a placement exam.
- c Students who have completed four levels of a single language or two levels of two different languages in high school or college have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Students who have completed three levels of a single language may complete a fourth-level course in the same language or may choose an approved World Language and Cultural Exploration course. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course. Contact your academic advisor or CLAS Undergraduate Programs Office with questions concerning the World Languages requirement.
- d Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.
- e Typically this course is offered in fall semesters only. Check MyUI for course availability since offerings are subject to change.
- f Typically this course is offered in spring semesters only. Check MyUI for course availability since offerings are subject to change.
- g GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.
- h Enrollment in this course requires completion of a placement exam.
- i Statistics majors must complete 15 s.h. of electives in addition to the core course of study. At most, 6 s.h. of these may come from domain electives. Most advanced statistics elective courses are only offered once per year. Check MyUI for course availability since offerings are subject to change.
- j Please see Academic Calendar, on Office of the Registrar website, for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor or Degree Services.