

Statistics

In the College of Sciences

OFFICE: Geology/Mathematics/Computer Science 413
TELEPHONE: 619-594-6191

Faculty

Emeritus: Bell, Burdick, Macky, Moser, Park, Romano

Chair: Shen

Coordinator for Statistics: Levine

Professor: Lui

Associate Professors: Fan, Levine, Lin

Assistant Professors: Bailey, Duncan

Lecturers: Manchester, McElroy, Noble

Offered by the Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Master of Science degree in statistics.

Concentration in biostatistics.

Major in statistics with the B.S. degree in applied arts and sciences.

Emphasis in actuarial science.

Emphasis in statistical computing.

Minor in statistics.

The Major

Statistics is the science which studies data – its collection, description, analysis, and interpretation. Almost all modern professions, from economists to engineers and from social scientists to medical scientists, rely on statistics. Statistical methods are used for studying relationships, predicting results, testing hypothesis, and a variety of other purposes.

The Bachelor of Science degree in statistics is designed to provide students with a fundamental understanding of probability and mathematical statistics, a complementary knowledge of basic methods for data collection and inference, and practical computing skills to carry out statistical analyses of problems in many different areas of application.

One option within the major allows students with a strong interest in statistical or biostatistical aspects of a particular science to apply courses in that science to their major. This option should provide the interested student with a good background for employment or graduate work in statistics, biostatistics, or in that science. Emphases in actuarial science and statistical computing enable students to pursue further specializations aligned with professional opportunities in these areas.

Statistics is the discipline at the heart of the scientific method of discovery. Statistical principles are used in designing experiments and surveys to collect information, and statistical procedures are applied to summarize information, draw conclusions, and make decisions.

Because of the broad applicability of their training in statistical reasoning and data analysis, undergraduate majors are prepared for careers in diverse fields – such as biotechnology, environmental science, insurance, industrial manufacturing, and market research – in which the need for professionally trained statisticians is great.

Graduates who seek to acquire additional skills in applied or theoretical statistics may also consider programs of advanced study at the master's or doctoral level. Statisticians with advanced degrees are sought for senior positions in industry and government, as well as teaching positions in secondary schools, community colleges, and universities.

Major Academic Plans (MAPs)

Visit <http://www.sdsu.edu/mymap> for the recommended courses needed to fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs Web site was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

Statistics Major

With the B.S. Degree in Applied Arts and Sciences

(Major Code: 17021)

All candidates for a degree in applied arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

A minor is not required with this major.

Upon entry to the program, the student will be assigned to an undergraduate adviser in statistics. Thereafter, the student will meet with the adviser each semester and discuss his or her academic program. A program of study must be approved by the undergraduate adviser in statistics.

In addition to meeting the requirements for undergraduate standing and the basic requirements for the bachelor of science degree as described in this catalog, the student must complete a Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement and must complete a minimum of 61 units of coursework as described below.

Preparation for the Major. Statistics 119 or 250; Mathematics 150, 151, 245, 252, and 254; Computer Science 106 or 107. (24 units)

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above or completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

Major. A minimum of 36 upper division units to include Statistics 350A, 350B, 510, 551A, 551B, 560; six units selected (with the approval of the undergraduate adviser in statistics) from Statistics 325, 496, 520, 570, 575, 596; 12 upper division units in statistics, mathematics (excluding Mathematics 302, 303, 312, 313, 414), computer science, or a science of application (selected with the approval of the undergraduate adviser in statistics).

Master Plan. A master plan of the courses taken to fulfill the major must be approved by the adviser and filed with the Office of Advising and Evaluations.

Emphasis in Actuarial Science

This emphasis is designed to prepare students for careers in the actuarial profession, applying probability and statistical models to problems of insurance and finance. Actuaries improve financial decision making by evaluating the current financial implications of uncertain future events. Students completing this emphasis would also be well prepared for graduate study in actuarial science or statistics.

Preparation for the Major. Statistics 119 or 250; Accountancy 201; Computer Science 106 or 107; Economics 101, 102; Mathematics 150, 151, 245, 252, 254. (33 units) The student must complete these courses before being allowed to register for the upper division finance courses.

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above or completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

Major. A minimum of 36 upper division units to include Statistics 350A, 350B, 551A, 551B, 575; Economics 320, 321; Finance 323, 327; six units from Statistics 325, 496, 510, 520, 560, 570, 596; three units from Finance 329, 421, 427; Mathematics 580.

Master Plan. A master plan of the courses taken to fulfill the major must be approved by the adviser and filed with the Office of Advising and Evaluations.

Emphasis in Statistical Computing

Modern day statistics applications require heavy computing for manipulating massive data sets, mining immense databases, and implementing computationally intensive data analytic tools to solve

complex scientific problems. This emphasis is designed to prepare students for careers in statistics by providing them with the data analytic and computational machinery needed to excel in all avenues of statistical science during an information age where statistical computing plays a crucial role. Students completing this emphasis would also be well prepared for graduate study in statistical computing and statistics.

Preparation for the Major. Statistics 250, Mathematics 150, 151, 245, 252, 254, Computer Science 107, 108, 205. (30 units)

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement. Passing the Writing Proficiency Assessment with a score of 10 or above or completing one of the approved upper division writing courses (W) with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

Major. A minimum of 39 upper division units to include Statistics 325, 350A, 510, 551A, 551B, Mathematics 541, 543, Computer Science 310, 320; six units selected (with the approval of the undergraduate adviser in statistics) from Computer Science 501, 503, 505, 514, 520, 550, 553, 558, 559, 560, 575; six upper division units in statistics, computer science, or a science of application with a heavy statistical computing component (selected with the approval of the undergraduate adviser in statistics).

Master Plan. A master plan of the courses taken to fulfill the major must be approved by the adviser and filed with the Office of Advising and Evaluations.

Statistics Minor

The minor in statistics consists of a minimum of 15 units in statistics to include Statistics 250 (or equivalent), 350A, 350B or 510, and six units of upper division electives in statistics excluding Statistics 357. For Statistics 550 and 551A, students must satisfy lower division calculus and linear algebra prerequisites (Mathematics 151, 252, and 254 as appropriate).

The minor program includes a combination of courses in applied statistical methods, computer-oriented data analysis, probability, and mathematical statistics, which can be tailored to the student's major, academic, or professional interests. For example, business students interested in actuarial science may wish to consider a minor comprising Statistics 350A, 350B, 551A, and 551B. Students in the social, behavioral, and natural sciences who are particularly interested in applications and data analysis may wish to consider a minor comprising Statistics 350A, 350B, 510, and 520.

Students considering a minor in statistics are encouraged to consult with their major adviser and with the minor adviser in statistics. Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed at San Diego State University.



STAT