Statistics and Biostatistics Degrees Awarded in the U.S. by Degree Level

BACHELOR'S
MASTER'S
PHD'S

Source: National Center for Education Statistics: Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System

UA SCIENCE
School of Mathematical Sciences

Statistics undergraduate programs have grown dramatically in the last decade. For example, the American Statistical Association data show that the number of students graduating with a degree in Statistics from our peer programs grew five-fold from an average of 14 in 2010 to 70 in 2016. In response to this, the Department of Mathematics is offering a new degree program in **Statistics and Data Science**. The addition of Data Science to the name of the degree is meant to acknowledge that Statistics students must go beyond traditional training and have experience in the modern needs in computation and other data intensive approaches necessary in visualizing, organizing, and making decisions with data. Consequently, our curriculum includes modern data science topics like statistical computing, optimization, and an introduction to data science. All Statistics students will be proficient in the principles of computing using python and R and will have considerable experience working with data sets to address real world problems. In addition, Stat and Data Science students are required to take two application courses with a broad choice of academic fields across the campus -- life sciences, physical sciences, social sciences, health sciences, engineering, and agriculture -- so that they can see first-hand how data intensive approaches are presently being used.

This program received approval from the University's Faculty Senate on March 12, 2018 and by the Arizona Board of Regents on February 8, 2018. During the preparation of the program application, we received letters of support from two dozen academic units. In addition, local industry leaders indicated that jobs are waiting on these graduates. Advanced Placement Statistics Instructors are excited by the prospects of sending students to the University of Arizona for undergraduate education because of the existence of this new degree program.

We anticipate graduating our first minors in the Fall of 2018 and our first majors in the Spring of 2020. Even though this undergraduate degree program is brand new, we are ahead of our projections with 20 students having declared the Statistics and Data Science major and an additional 18 having declared the minor.

Upon graduating, Stat students and Math students with good statistical background come to the workforce with an education that is very much in demand. Students from any number of majors have the very attractive opportunity to double major or take a minor in Statistics and Data Science. For more information visit: http://math.arizona.edu/academics/undergrads/requirements/SDS

Interested in learning more? Contact the Math Center: **mathcenter@math.arizona.edu**