



Florida State University Department of Statistics

2023 Orientation





Schedule



Monday, August 21, 9:30am - 3:00pm

Department Orientation

- Graduate programs
- People to know
- Duties and responsibilities
- Program of Study
- Discussion session with graduate students
- Lunch provided



Graduate Programs



- MS
 - Applied Statistics
 - Biostatistics
 - Mathematical Statistics
 - **Statistical Data Science**
 - Thesis Option
- PhD
 - Statistics
 - Biostatistics



MS



MS Degrees

- Specific course requirements
- 36 credits (12 courses)
 - Exception: The MS in Statistical Data Science requires 32 credit hours.
 - 6 credits (2 Courses) can be replaced by a Masters thesis
- The minimum cumulative GPA in all courses is 3.0.
- See Graduate Handbook
https://stat.fsu.edu/sites/g/files/upcbnu1811/files/Handbook2023_7_21%20%28002%29.pdf
- Common courses in Semester I:
STA5066, STA 5106, STA 5166, STA 5326



Ph.D.



Course requirements

- All coursework must be taken for letter grade, C- or better
 - Exception: interdisciplinary option for Statistics PhD
 - One of these may be DIS (Directed Individual Study)
 - At least one course each semester (in 4th year, at least two courses total in fall / spring)
- Ten specific, required courses must have minimum grade of B-
- GPA at least 3.0
- See Graduate Student Handbook



Ph.D.



Other requirements

- Qualifying exam
- Essay proposal and defense
- Dissertation defense



Ph.D.



Qualifying exam (“Preliminary”)

- Each year at the end of August and early January
- Must take in second year
- Topics from six of the ten required courses
- May retake exam once (following year)
- Lose funding if not passed by end of third year of study



Ph.D.



Essay (“Prospectus”)

- Must pass qualifying exam first
- Then select the PhD committee members
- Write the essay proposal
 - Literature review
 - Preliminary results
 - Research plan for dissertation
- Essay defense
 - 50 minute presentation in front of the committee
 - Closed door committee review



Ph.D.



Dissertation defense

- Copy to committee at least four weeks prior to defense
- 50 minute department seminar
- Closed door committee review



Ph.D.



Timeline

- Required coursework: first two years
- Qualifying exam: before 5th semester
- Essay defense: by the end of 4th year
- Dissertation defense: by the end of 5th year



Graduate Programs



Good references:

- [Office of Graduate Studies](#)
 - [FSU Graduate Handbook](#)
 - Workshops
 - Insurance
 - Dissertations
 - Much more ...
- Statistics Department Graduate Handbook
- Supervisory Committee
- Graduate director website:

<http://statgraddirectorfsu.blogspot.com/>



People to Know



- Dr. Eric Chicken
 - Department chair
 - Determines continuance in program
- Dr. Steve Ramsier
 - Large lecture coordinator
 - Runs the consulting center



People to Know



- Me (Dr. Adrian Barbu)
 - Graduate student director
 - Monitor student progress toward degree
 - Handle questions and complaints
- Professor Radha Bose
 - Large lecture guru
- Your (temporary) advisor



People to Know



- Mr. James Stricherz
 - Computer system manager and developer
 - Email accounts, software
- Ms. Pamela McGhee
 - Office administrator
- Ms. Natalie Webster
 - Course related matters
- Ms. Jing Liu
 - Administrative support assistant



Duties and Responsibilities



As a student

- Earn a degree in a timely manner
 - Attend all classes
 - 9 – 12 credits each term
 - 3.0 cumulative GPA
 - B- or better in required courses
- Communicate with advisor
- Program of study (due each April)
- Participate in annual review (due each April)



Duties and Responsibilities



As an employee

- RA
- TA
 - Instructor
 - Recitation instructor
 - Grader
 - Department support
- Statistical Consulting Center (SCC)



Duties and Responsibilities



Research assistant (RA)

- Assigned to a single faculty member
- Funded by the faculty member's grant
- Assist with this faculty member's research



Duties and Responsibilities



Instructors / Recitation instructors

- University standards for TAs (OGS)
- Attend PIE first (scheduled)
- Take Teaching in the Discipline course
- Pass English competency exam (SPEAK)
 - SPEAK test for International TAs
 - Once every semester
- Have minimum number of hours in the discipline



Duties and Responsibilities



Graders

- Grade for 2 or more classes
 - Faculty led courses
 - Graders do not work for other students
- Proctor exams for large lectures
- Other duties as specified by instructor
- Talk with instructor or coordinator, learn expectations



Duties and Responsibilities



Tutors

- Up to 20 hours a week in Strozier help center
- Assist with low level courses
 - STA 1013 – low math background students
 - STA 2023 – business students
 - STA 2122 – general student population
 - STA 2171 – biology students
 - STA 3032 – technical students



Duties and Responsibilities



Statistical Consulting Center (SCC)

- Run by Dr. Ramsier
- Assist university members outside the department with statistical issues
 - Design of experiments
 - Software
 - Data analysis
 - etc.
- Expectations and hours determined by Dr. Ramsier



Duties and Responsibilities



Program in Interdisciplinary Computing (PIC)

- Support of PIC
- Assisting students
 - Email
 - Chat
 - In-person
- ...



Duties and Responsibilities



TA Support

- Overseen by Dr. Ramsier
- Database building (test banks, practice tests, homework)
- Online course development



Duties and Responsibilities



Pay

- Stipend paid every two weeks
- 39 weeks each year
- Three pay levels
 - Instructors
 - Recitation instructors and SCC
 - Everyone else
- RA pay is set by the faculty member
- Tuition waiver (you pay some fees)
- Limited summer support



QUESTIONS?