Overview
Statisticians act as interpreters of the vast accumulation of facts and figures available today. They provide ways of gaining new insights into the behavior of many phenomena people encounter in a variety of fields of specialization. Statistics is a field in which experts have virtually unlimited opportunities. The existence of modern-day computers relieves the statistician of tedious computations and elevates his or her professional activity to dealing with people and/or engaging in basic research.

Statisticians are in high demand in private industry, government and education. There is no area in which a statistician’s skills are not needed. It is a discipline that teaches how to make intelligent judgments and informed decisions in the presence of uncertainty and variation, using available data and facts. The modern computer is the primary tool of each statistic professional, and statisticians are an integral part of the improvements and progress made every day in computer design and use.

A background in statistics is also excellent preparation for many other fields of study.

Professional options
Employers
Perhaps the most recognizable careers in statistics are those in the state and federal governments. Professionals are not only hired into such areas as the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Census Bureau, but also are in demand in many service agencies. Universities hire statisticians in many academic departments, including mathematics, management sciences, economics, genetics, history and psychology, and at administrative and service levels, including business affairs, research support and personnel.

Points of pride
The Princeton Review picked K-State among the best colleges in the country, K-State is a national leader among state-supported universities in its total of Rhodes, Marshall, Truman, Goldwater and Udall scholarship winners.

Academics
Degree options
Bachelor’s degrees
The Department of Statistics offers a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree.

Both degrees require the completion of the general College of Arts & Sciences core, which includes introductory work in English composition, speech and electives in the humanities and social sciences. The B.A. requires some additional work in modern languages; the B.S. requires further work in some sciences and formal reasoning.

Both degrees require extensive statistics course work. A dual degree program with mathematics is available. The department and the current Kansas State University undergraduate catalog can offer specific requirements. Visit catalog.k-state.edu.

Minor
Students interested in quantitative methods to complement their major area of study may select a minor in statistics. A minor in statistics can enhance a student’s resume and make him or her more marketable to those employers seeking quantitative skills and the ability to analyze and interpret data.

Dual majors and dual degrees
Students may major in statistics and another discipline within the College of Arts & Sciences. The degree requirements of both departments must be met. For instance, it is possible to complete a dual statistics-mathematics degree in four years.

Students may obtain a dual degree in statistics and a field in another college such as business administration or engineering. The degree requirements of both colleges must be met and a minimum of 150 hours must be completed. Students who choose this option should complete the calculus sequence by the end of their sophomore year.

Advanced degrees
The department of statistics offers studies leading to a Master of Science or a Doctor of Philosophy degree. A master’s degree is recommended for a career in industry or government. The Ph.D. is usually required for postsecondary teaching and higher level positions.

Preparation
Students entering the Department of Statistics at K-State should have a strong background in math.

Facilities
The department of statistics offers a help lab in 4 Dickens Hall where students can get help with homework or class projects. Other forms of assistance, such as with research projects, are available through the consulting lab in 12 Dickens Hall. A stat lab in 10 Dickens is also available to undergraduate and graduate statistics majors. This lab contains computers and a printer, as well as an open area for students to gather and to discuss ideas. 1 Dickens also is a campus computing lab that is open to students 24/7.
Activities

Clubs

Statistics club
The statistics club promotes enthusiasm and interest in statistics on campus and helps students overcome intimidation of statistics in a casual, friendly and fun atmosphere. Members receive a better all-around understanding of the statistics profession, meet other statistics students and faculty, and engage in activities designed to promote statistical and general scholarly development. The club’s activities have included pizza parties during finals, ice skating, T-shirt sales at the Conference on Applied Statistics in Agriculture and Halloween pumpkin carving contests.

Research
The department has an excellent reputation for turning out students who can solve real-world problems. Students are strongly encouraged to become involved in the collaborative research and consulting activities of the department.

Interested students work closely with faculty on a range of problems. For example, the student can assist with data analysis of a split-plot design in an agricultural project, designing a survey in a sociological project, or coding an analysis under a statistical analysis computer package.

Projects vary in length of time and sophistication of the statistical methods needed to complete them. Students gain formal training in statistical consulting and communication through STAT 945.

Financial assistance

Scholarships

The Holly and Beth Fryer Scholarship
This scholarship is available to any regularly enrolled student at Kansas State University who is majoring in statistics. Scholastic performance is the criterion used in selecting a recipient. Winners will be expected to enroll in a statistics curriculum during the current academic year. The scholarships will be paid out in two sums, half being provided upon enrollment for each of the two semesters of the academic year.

The Ronald and Rae Iman Scholarship
This scholarship is open only to students who graduated from an accredited high school in one of the following states: Mexico, Oklahoma or Texas. Preference will be given to students majoring in statistics. Scholastic performance is the criterion used in selecting a recipient.

Arthur D. and Lavonia B. Dayton Scholarship
This scholarship is available to any undergraduate or graduate student properly enrolled in the Department of Statistics at Kansas State University.

Dr. Lynn Ying-Shiang Lin Statistics Graduate Research Scholarship
The recipient of this scholarship will be a graduate research assistant in good academic standing, as determined by the Department of Statistics Scholarship Committee, who is properly enrolled in the department of statistics at Kansas State University. Preference will be given to a student with financial need.

Howard Siepman Memorial Scholarship
This scholarship is available to any Ph.D. student properly enrolled in the department of statistics at Kansas State University.

The Statistics Scholarship
This scholarship is available to any student enrolled in the Department of Statistics.

Other opportunities
The department may hire undergraduates for grading or tutoring duties. Additionally, assistance is available for students who wish to attend local chapter meetings of the American Statistical Association and accompanying workshops.

Suggested course work
Students who major in statistics and data sciences may seek a Bachelor of Arts degree or a Bachelor of Science degree by satisfying the general requirements of that degree and by completing the following:

- Undergraduates who graduated from an accredited high school in rural Kansas.
- Undergraduates who graduated from an accredited high school in Kansas.
- Undergraduates who graduated from an accredited high school in one of the states listed above.
- Graduate students who graduated from an accredited high school in one of the states listed above and did undergraduate work in engineering.

For more information about statistics, contact:

Department of Statistics
Kansas State University
101 Dickens Hall
1116 Mid-Campus Dr North
Manhattan, KS 66506–0802
785-532-6883
statdept@k-state.edu
k-state.edu/stats

Additional department information:
Suzanne Dubnicka, dubnicka@k-state.edu
Christopher Vahl, vahl@k-state.edu

For more information about Kansas State University, contact:

Office of Admissions
Kansas State University
119 Anderson Hall
919 Mid-Campus Dr North
Manhattan, KS 66506–0102
1-800-432-8270 (toll free) or
785-532-6250
k-state@k-state.edu
k-state.edu/admissions

Notice of nondiscrimination
Kansas State University prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex (including sexual harassment and sexual violence), sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, age, ancestry, disability, genetic information, military status, or veteran status, in the University’s programs and activities as required by applicable laws and regulations. The person designated with responsibility for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning nondiscrimination policies is the University’s Title IX Coordinator: the Director of the Office of Institutional Equity, equitty@k-state.edu, 103 Edwards Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas 66506, (785) 532-6200. The campus ADA Coordinator is the Director of Employee Relations, charlottg@k-state.edu, who may be reached at 101 Edwards Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas 66506, (785) 532-6277.

Post-Graduation Statistics
k-state.edu/postgrad-stats
ksdegreestats.org

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