



Welcome and Orientation

Fall 2026

Overview



Welcome and Student
Introductions
--Dr. Maddox



Assistantships
--Dr. Maddox



Department
Introductions
GPD Structure and
Roles
Course Requirements



Departmental
Policies/Culture
--Dr. Hering



Exams and
Checkpoints
--Dr. Hering

Lunch @ 12:00 pm

Introductions

First Year Students, please introduce yourselves with:

1. Name
2. Where you are from
3. What you hope to do with your degree



Department of Statistical Science

Prof. James Stamey
Interim Dept. Chair



Ms. Tammy Corntassel
Office Manager



Dr. Jeanne Hill
Undergrad Program Director



Prof. Rod Sturdivant
Consulting Director



Dr. Amy B. Maddox
Grad Program Co-Director



Prof. Mandy Hering
Grad Program Co-Director



Follow Us on Social Media

- Twitter/X: @BUStatistics
- Instagram: baylor_statistics

- Facebook: Baylor University Department of Statistical Science

Tammy curates our posts for social media, so if you have pictures of events in the department to showcase, please send them to her along with a description of what the pictures are.

Tammy_Corntassel@baylor.edu



baylor_statistics 🎄 Our Annual Department Christmas Party
What an amazing time we had yesterday celebrating... more
December 12, 2025



baylor_statistics The Department of Statistical Science at Baylor University was proud to celebrate these three outstanding Ph.D. graduates this past Saturday! 🎓 Please join us in congratulating Dr. Caleb Fox, Dr. Yu (Bel) Zhang, and Dr. Hunter Privett on this remarkable achievement. Your dedication and hard work have led to this milestone, and we are honored to recognize your success.
May 20

New Happenings

New Faculty Joining the Department:



Eva Murphy
Assistant Professor



Dr. James Stamey Named Associate Dean for Research in Arts & Sciences

BY RANDY FIEDLER, BAYLOR UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES | JULY 31, 2026

James Brockmole, Ph.D., dean of the Baylor University College of Arts & Sciences, has announced that [James Stamey, Ph.D.](#), has been appointed as associate dean for research and strategic initiatives in the College.

Dr. Stamey, who joined the Baylor faculty in 2005, is a professor of statistical science who has served as chair of the [Department of Statistical Science](#) since 2018. He will begin a three-year term as associate dean on August 15, 2026, and will also serve as acting chair of the statistical science department until a successor as chair is chosen.



Dr. James Stamey

GPD Structure and Roles Course Requirements (UPDATED) Exams and Checkpoints

Dr. Mandy Hering

Piled Higher and Deeper

8/23/24, 9:02 AM

Piled Higher and Deeper by Jorge Cham

www.phdcomics.com

REPORTED SIGHTINGS OF PROF. _____ IN THE LAB

PLEASE POST THIS ON YOUR LAB/OFFICE. AUTHORITIES NEED YOUR
HELP TO ENSURE ACCURATE MONITORING OF LOOSE FACULTY IN
THE EVENT OF THEIR ESCAPE FROM CAPTIVE SITUATIONS.

REASON	SIGHTINGS
GIVING A TOUR	✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓✓
GOT LOST TRYING TO FIND THE CONFERENCE ROOM	✓✓
LOOKING FOR GOLDEN BOY/GIRL	✓✓✓
WANDERING THE HALLS TO AVOID WORKING ON A GRANT PROPOSAL	✓✓✓✓✓
ACTUAL LAB WORK	
STOPPED BY TO TELL EVERYONE ABOUT THEIR RECENT VACATION	✓✓✓

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https://phdcomics.com/comics/archive_print.php?comicid=1482

Page 1 of 1

GPD Division of Responsibilities

Tammy Corntassel	Amy Maddox	Mandy Hering
Administrative Issues	Assistantship Assignments	Curriculum Decisions
Payroll and HR	TA Core I/II Training	New Student Recruiting/Admissions
Workspace/Computers	Personal Issues Affecting Work	Academic Advising
Calendar Invitations	Degree Audits	Scheduling/Reporting PPP, Defense, Master's Orals

Dr. Gallagher is in charge of proctoring/scheduling the preliminary exams.

New Course Requirements

Program Requirements: **currently requires 63 hours:**

- 9 hours are dissertation (STA 6V99)
- 3 hours are consulting-teaching practicum (STA 5V85)
- **27 hours (9 courses) are required core classes**
- **24 hours (12 courses) are electives**

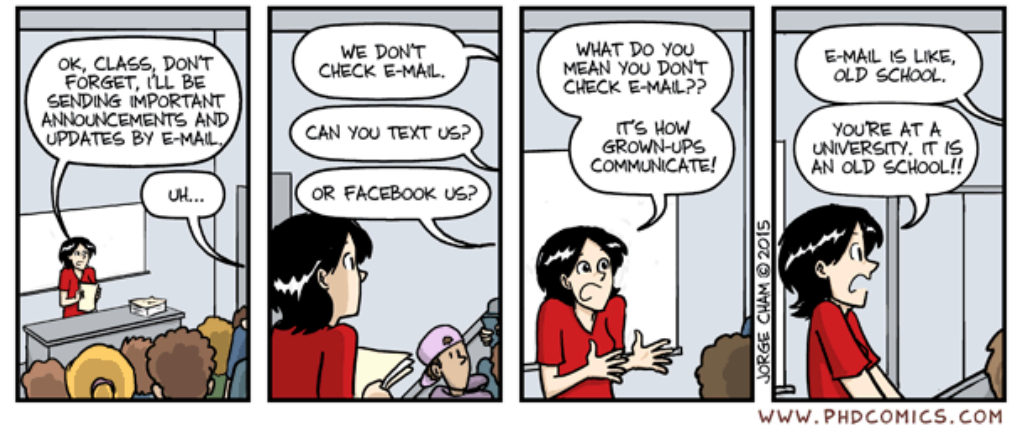
Of the 63 hours, 51 are from coursework, or 17 classes.

Required Core Classes (9 courses):

- STA 5353 Theory of Statistics II
 - *Implies STA 5352 Theory of Statistics I is needed.*
- STA 5380 Methods in Statistics I
- STA 5381 Methods in Statistics II
- STA 6375 Computational Statistics I
 - *But STA 6376 Computational Statistics II is also on preliminary exam, so it must also be taken.*
- STA 5383 Introduction to Multivariate Analysis
- STA 5362 Time Series Analysis
- STA 6382 Advanced Statistical Inference
- STA 6352 Bayesian Theory & Methods I
- STA 6360 Bayesian Theory & Methods II

Piled Higher and Deeper by Jorge Cham

www.phdcomics.com



title: "Class communication" - originally published 3/25/2015

Who can this apply to?

- 2026-2027 (current 1st years)
- 2025-2026 (current 2nd years)
- 2024-2025 (current 3rd years)

	Future Sample Student
Summer 1 (3/3)	STA 5380* Methods in Statistics I
Fall 1 (10/13)	STA 5352 Theory of Statistics I STA 5381* Methods in Statistics II STA 6375* Computational Statistics I STA 5V85 (1) Practice in Statistics
Spring 1 (10/23)	STA 5353* Theory of Statistics II STA 6376 Computational Statistics II STA 5383* Intro to Multivariate Analysis STA 5V85 (1) Practice in Statistics
Summer 2 (6/29)	STA 6363 Advanced Data-Driven Methods STA 6100
Fall 2 (10/39)	STA 5362* Time Series Analysis STA 6352 Bayesian Theory & Methods I STA 6382 Advanced Inference CHE 5101 (1) Responsible Conduct of Research
Spring 2 (9/48)	STA 5377 Spatial Statistics STA 6360* Bayesian Theory & Methods II Elective
Summer 3 (6/54)	STA 6384 Analysis of Categorical Data STA 6100 Graduate Research
Fall 3 (9/63)	STA 53XX Elective STA 53XX Elective STA 6V00
Spring 3 (3/66)	STA 53XX Elective STA 6V00
Summer 4	
Fall 4	
Spring 4	

Under 2026-2027 Catalog



- **Required Core Classes Are**
- STA 5353 Theory of Statistics II*
- STA 5380 Methods in Statistics I
- STA 5381 Methods in Statistics II
- STA 6375 Computational Statistics I**
- STA 5383 Intro to Multivariate Analysis
- STA 5362 Time Series Analysis
- STA 6382 Advanced Statistical Inference
- STA 6352 Bayes Theory & Methods I
- STA 6360 Bayes Theory & Methods II

Full Time Equivalent:

- STA 6V00 is Graduate Research
 - One credit of this makes you full-time
 - Take for PPP-related work
- STA 6V99 is Dissertation Research
 - One credit of this makes you full-time
 - Take after passing PPP

Degree Concentrations

Students can earn a concentration in Biostatistics or Data Science by taking any four of the courses below:

Data Science Concentration (one of these overlaps with the implied required core classes)		Biostatistics Concentration (none of these overlap with the required core classes)
• STA 5363	Advanced Data Driven Methods	• STA 5364 Survival and Reliability Theory
• STA 6376	Computational Statistics II	• STA 5365 Design of Experiments and Clinical Trials
• STA 6380	Modern Trends in Data Science Computing	• STA 5377 Spatial Statistics
• CSI 5325	Introduction to Machine Learning	• STA6366 Statistical Bioinformatics
• ELC 5365	Introduction to Deep Learning	• STA6384 Analysis of Categorical Data
• ECO 5351	Data Science I	
• CSI 5357	Cloud Learning	

Exams/Checkpoints

- Preliminary Exam
 - Written Exam
 - Preliminary Project Presentation (PPP)
- Master's Orals
- Ph.D. Defense

Piled Higher and Deeper by Jorge Cham

www.phdcomics.com



JORGE CHAM © THE STANFORD DAILY

title: "Quals" - originally published 1/21/1998

All of this information can be found in the 2026-2027 [Graduate Handbook](#).

Preliminary Exam (1st Year Cohort)

The preliminary exam has two portions. When a student successfully completes both phases of the preliminary exam, then they officially are “admitted to candidacy.”

- **Written Exam:**

- Taken in August at the end of the first year of study, usually during the week before Fall classes begin.
- The exam covers the methods, theory, and computational course sequences.
- Outcomes on each of the 3 sections are: pass, pass with qualification, or fail.
- A student must pass all three parts of the exam to pass overall.
- If a student passes a portion of the exam with qualification, then the student will be assigned some remedial work in that area in the following academic year.
- If the student fails any part of the exam, then the student must retake that part of the exam again in January and must pass it without qualification in order to remain in the Ph.D. program.

- **PPP:**

- Includes identifying a problem of interest to the student and their advisor and working on that project until the advisor feels sufficient progress has been made. When the advisor indicates to the student that progress is sufficient, the student will present their work to the Department.
- Usually becomes the first chapter of the dissertation.
- Should be presented to the department no later than the end of the summer of the 3rd year.

Finding a Ph.D. Advisor (2nd Year Cohort)

After the written preliminary exam is taken:

- Dr Hering will meet with you and notify you of the prelim results.
- A list of faculty who are willing to accept new students will be given to you.
- You have 2 weeks to talk to those faculty members whose research interests you.
- Talk to current graduate students who work with those faculty members.
- Return a ranked list of who you would like to work with to Dr Hering.
- Every effort is made to match each student to someone in their top 2-3, but sometimes, conflicts are inevitable.
- You can choose to have two co-advisors.
- Dr. Hering will inform you who will be your advisor, and you and the advisor will both sign the [research mentoring agreement](#).

For more information, simply Google “How to Choose a Ph.D. advisor.”
There are lots of articles and advice about what to look for in an advisor.



Finding a Ph.D. Advisor

After the Written Preliminary Exam is Taken:

1 Meet with Dr. Hering

- Discuss your prelim results.



2 Get Faculty List

- Receive a list of available advisors.



3 Talk to Professors

- Meet faculty that interest you.



4 Consult Grad Students

- Get advice from current students.



5 Submit Ranked List

- Send your advisor preferences to Dr. Hering.



6 Choose Your Advisor

- Option for one or two co-advisors.



7 Sign Agreement

- Sign the research mentoring agreement.



8 Begin Your Research

- Start working with your new advisor.



Scheduling the PPP (2nd & 3rd Year Cohorts)

Usually, one hour total with about 35-45 minutes for your presentation, 5 minutes for outside committee member questions, 10 minutes for committee questions, and a few minutes for the committee to deliberate.

1. **Decide on your PPP committee. It needs to have 3 faculty members---your advisor and two statistics faculty. You are strongly encouraged to add a 4th member to this committee who is a faculty member at Baylor outside of the Department of Statistical Science.** All of them need to be “graduate faculty,” which you can check on this website: <https://graduate.baylor.edu/search-grad-faculty>
2. It is up to you to schedule the date and time that works for your committee members. Please coordinate with them to select a date/time. To facilitate this, you can look up all of your committee’s Outlook calendars to see when they are all available to get a set of plausible dates/times. Then, email your committee to see which times work best for them and to finalize a time.
3. Once you have a date and time decided, contact Ms. Corntassel to reserve a room.
4. Contact Dr. Hering, and let her know the following:
 - Your full name and student ID number
 - The date and time of your PPP, along with location and Zoom link
 - The name of your PPP advisor
 - The names of the other faculty members who are on your committee.
5. Send out a Calendar invitation to all of the faculty and students in the department (Stat-Faculty-L@baylor.edu, stat-grad-l@baylor.edu). Include each of your committee members individually. Put the location of the in-person presentation in the invitation, and include your advisor’s Zoom link for those who need to call in to attend virtually. Committee members are allowed to attend virtually.
6. After the PPP, please let Dr. Hering and Ms. Corntassel know the results of the exam.

Scheduling the Dissertation Defense (4th + Year Cohort)

Usually, two hours total with approximately 45-60 minutes for your presentation, 10-15 minutes for outside committee member questions, 30 minutes for committee questions, and 5-15 minutes for the committee to deliberate.

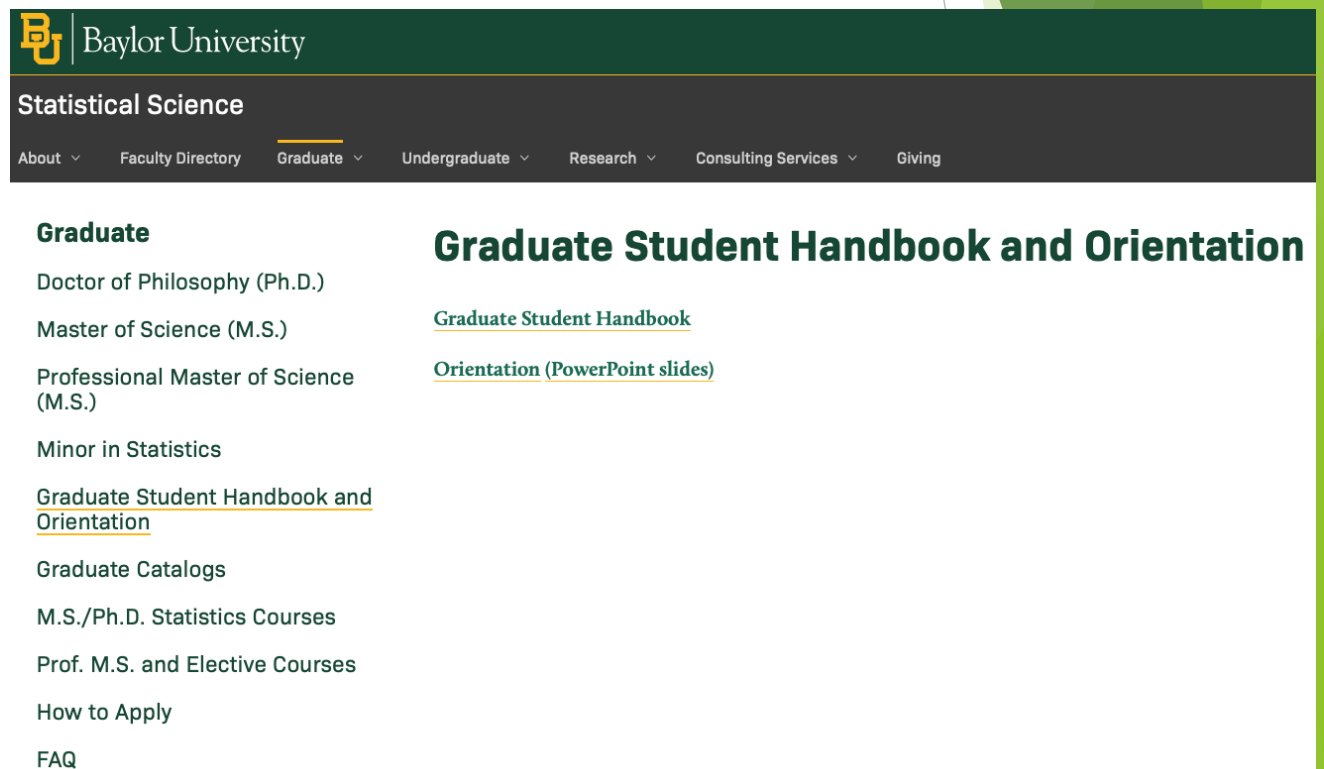
1. Check the Graduate School's website for a list of steps and a checklist to plan to schedule the oral defense and dissertation documentation, Overview and Checklist.
2. Decide on your dissertation defense committee. It needs to have 4 faculty members—your advisor, two faculty members in the Department of Statistical Science, and one faculty member at Baylor outside of the Department of Statistical Science. All of them need to be “graduate faculty,” which you can check on this website: <https://graduate.baylor.edu/search-grad-faculty>
3. At least 14 days before your defense, you need to set up an appointment to do a preliminary technical review of your dissertation document with the Thesis Office.
4. At least 14 days before your defense, you should provide your dissertation committee with a copy of your dissertation document. An emailed, electronic copy is preferred and typical.
5. **At least 10 days in advance of your dissertation defense, contact the Graduate School and inform them of your intent to defend, and the department needs to submit an Announcement of Oral Examination at least 10 days before the defense.**
6. Coordinate with your committee to select a date/time. You can look up all of your committee's Outlook calendars to see when they are available to get a set of plausible dates/times. Then, email your committee to see which times work best for them and to finalize a time.
7. Once you have a date and time decided, contact Ms. Corntassel to reserve a room.
8. At least two weeks prior to the defense, email Dr. Hering, and let her know the following:
 - Your full name and student ID number
 - The title of your dissertation
 - The location, date, and time of your examination
 - The name of your dissertation advisor
 - The names of the two or three other Statistics faculty members who are on your committee
 - The name, department, and rank of the external Baylor faculty member
9. Send out a Calendar invitation to all of the faculty and students in the department. Include each of your committee members. Put the location of the in-person presentation in the invitation, and include your advisor's Zoom link. Committee members may attend virtually.
10. After the defense, please let Dr. Hering and Ms. Corntassel know the results of the exam.
11. Within 10 days of the defense, submit your revised dissertation and signed signature page, along with other required documentation.

Scheduling Something Big?

CHECK THE GRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK!!

It has the detailed
list of steps.

It's online. Find it
on our website.



The screenshot shows the Baylor University Statistical Science website. The header includes the Baylor University logo and name. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: About, Faculty Directory, Graduate (highlighted), Undergraduate, Research, Consulting Services, and Giving. The main content area is titled "Graduate Student Handbook and Orientation" and lists various graduate programs and resources.

Baylor University

Statistical Science

About ▾ Faculty Directory Graduate ▾ Undergraduate ▾ Research ▾ Consulting Services ▾ Giving

Graduate

- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)
- Master of Science (M.S.)
- Professional Master of Science (M.S.)
- Minor in Statistics
- [Graduate Student Handbook and Orientation](#)
- Graduate Catalogs
- M.S./Ph.D. Statistics Courses
- Prof. M.S. and Elective Courses
- How to Apply
- FAQ

Graduate Student Handbook and Orientation

[Graduate Student Handbook](#)

[Orientation \(PowerPoint slides\)](#)

Master's Degree (2nd Year Cohort)

- ❑ While you have been admitted to the Ph.D. program, we strongly encourage you to get a Master's Degree along the way.
- ❑ The requirements are:
 - ❑ 15 hours of M.S. statistics core classes
 - ❑ 3 hours of consulting-teaching practicum (STA 5V85)
 - ❑ 21 hours of elective courses
 - ❑ Pass an oral examination
- ❑ Oral Exam—taken by the end of the 2nd year, 1 hour long
 - ❑ 3 faculty members must be present, two from Statistics and one from outside the dept.
 - ❑ You do not get to choose the two Statistics faculty, but you can choose the one faculty member from outside of the department. Two of Dr Kahle, Dr Song, Dr Sturdivant, & Dr Hering will be the faculty who serve on this committee.
 - ❑ If you fail the first time, you are allowed to take the exam one more time with the same faculty members.
 - ❑ If you fail the oral exam twice, you are dismissed from the program and will not be allowed to complete the Ph.D.

Departmental AI Policy—Will be Updated This Year

Ways in which AI tools may be used:

1. Once text has been written, an AI tool may be used to improve its readability, style, grammar, spelling, punctuation, and tone. These improvements may include wording and formatting changes to the text.
2. Extensive use of AI should be documented. The specific AI tool and how it was used should be noted in every homework/project assignment (when permitted), research report, manuscript acknowledgment section, and/or methodology description.
3. AI tools may be used to summarize and synthesize existing published literature and to identify related publications for literature reviews.

Bottom Line: YOU are ultimately responsible for your ideas, writing, and code.

In the classroom, you may AI tools with the express permission of the faculty instructor.

In your research, always discuss the use of AI tools with your advisor.

Never submit cutting-edge research manuscript drafts and code scripts to AI tools at large.

Many journal and grant-funding agencies now have AI policies, requiring you to report any AI usage and prohibiting certain uses of AI in research. *Science* [policy](#), *Nature* [policy](#)

Some Recent Examples

From a journal where I recently submitted a paper:

I have read and agree to comply with the [Taylor & Francis AI Policy](#). I confirm that in accordance with the Taylor & Francis AI Policy, if I have used Generative AI tools (e.g., Chat GPT) or any large language models at any point in the preparation of my manuscript, I have clearly disclosed the use in the manuscript, including the full name of the tool used (with version number), how it was used, and the reason for use.

ADA Compliance of Dissertations:

- Provide alternative text for images, graphs, and figures
- Use heading styles to define document structure (and include tags/bookmarks in PDFs)
- Write in clear, concise language and define abbreviations upon first use
- Ensure sufficient color contrast for readability
- Use tables appropriately and identify row and column headers
- Use built-in list formatting for structured lists

Considering AI Usage:

1. If the use of AI in a given setting is prohibited, does that include AI grammar checkers?
2. If it is impermissible to have an AI write paragraphs of a manuscript, is it impermissible to have AI write blocks of code?
3. If it is permissible for AI to substantially rewrite sentences to improve clarity (i.e., to function as an editor), can it write them from crude English descriptions? And, if so, can similar descriptions be used to generate paragraphs, sections, or an entire manuscript?
4. Is it ethical for a student to propose a problem to their mentor without disclosing it was suggested by an AI?
5. If an instructor indicates they will help you solve problems on one of their assignments, is it permissible to use an AI instead? Is it ethical to ask the AI to solve the problem? Would supplying a professor's notes into an AI to make study materials be acceptable?

Assistantships

Dr. Amy B. Maddox



Assistantships -

Work Requirements

- 20 hours per week
- Summer and internships

First Year
Assistantships

Opportunities for
Teaching

Opportunities for
Consulting

Opportunities for
Research



Assistantships - First Year Assistantships

- Extra Help Sessions - Guided help sessions for STA 1380.
- Tutor Room - help students in 1380, 2381, and 3381 with homework and general questions.
- Graduate Assistant
 - Grader
 - Office Hour Help
 - projects
- Required to attend either a 1380 or 2381 class

Assistantships - Opportunities for Teaching

- TOR for STA 1380; STA 2381; QBA (Ph.D. candidate)
- Extra Help Session for STA 3381
- STA 3310 Lab Instructor

TORs are required to

- Attend CORE I training (2 hours) (prior to classroom)
- Attend CORE II training (3 one hour sessions)
- Attend weekly meetings
- Hold 3 hours/week of office hours

TORs have opportunity to complete the Teaching Capstone in Higher Education (TeaCHE) program through the Academy for Teaching and Learning

Assistantships - Opportunities for Consulting

- Statistical Consulting Services with Dr. Rod Sturdivant
 - opportunities to work on projects
 - possible co-authorship

Mission Statement

The **mission** of the Baylor Statistical Collaboration Center is to enhance the quality of research involving statistical methods conducted at Baylor University and with external partners. Specific goals for the center are:

- 1) Provide meaningful educational experiences for statistics students in working on applied research
- 2) Act as a hub which facilitates collaborative research at the university
- 3) As a “Center that learns” promote efforts to expand the overall level of knowledge of statistical methods used in research



Assistantships - Opportunities for Research

- Baylor Scott and White
- Eli Lilly
- Grants, such as
 - NSF
 - DOE



Assistantships - Expectations



20 hours per week



Professional Attire



Professional Attitude/Work Ethic



Respect for the Client



Perform the work duties correctly



Show up on-time!

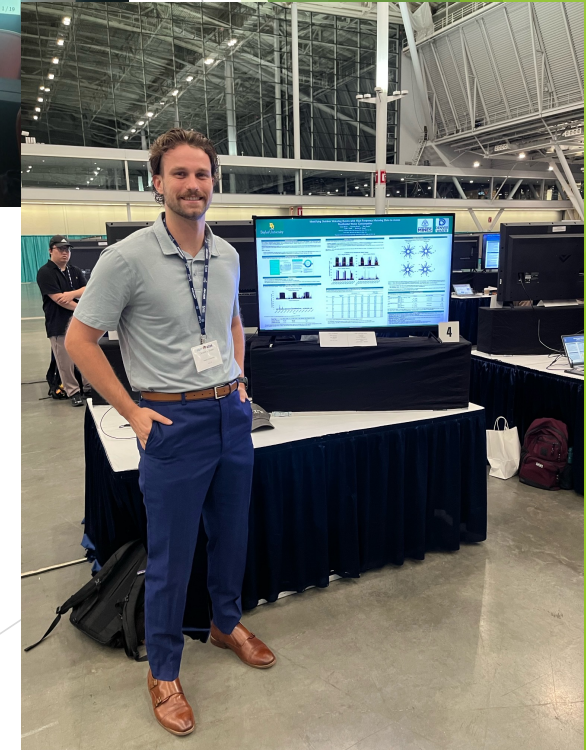
Expectations

- ❑ If you do not perform your responsibilities in a manner that is satisfactory, you can be dismissed from your assistantship
 - ❑ This means that you will be responsible for paying your tuition, you will no longer receive a stipend, and you will no longer receive an insurance subsidy.
 - ❑ It does not mean you are dismissed from the academic part of the program.
- ❑ How will you know?
 - ❑ Your supervisor will tell you. If you do not improve, they'll notify me.
 - ❑ During the semester, if your performance doesn't improve, you'll be on probation.
 - ❑ Further complaints will result in dismissal from our assistantship.
- ❑ For details, see pages 19-20 of the departmental Graduate School Handbook.



Departmental Policies/ Culture

Dr. Mandy Hering

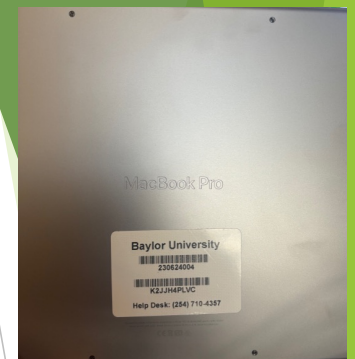


Dismissal From the Program

- ❑ You must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.0 to remain in the program with support.
- ▶ You must adhere to the Student Code of Conduct. Misconduct: (1) interferes with Baylor's pursuit of its educational and/or Christian objectives, and/or reflects poorly on the University; (2) fails to exhibit due regard for or violates the rights of others; (3) shows disrespect for persons and/or property; (4) violates, attempts to violate, and/or is complicit in a violation of University rules, regulations, and/or policies; and/or (5) fails to demonstrate honesty in communication with, or in representing information to, the University and its personnel.
- ❑ Failure of the preliminary exam.
 - ❑ Failing the written part twice.
 - ❑ Failure to complete the PPP prior to the beginning of the 4th year.
- ❑ Failure to make progress on dissertation, resulting in a “No-Credit” earned twice in either STA 6V00 or STA 6V99. After one NC, the student is on academic probation. A second NC will result in release from the program.

Computers and Software

- ❑ Do not move your computers from one desk to another, and do not switch computers with another person. They do not belong to you; they belong to the university and have been assigned to you! Any issues? Ask Tammy.
- ❑ The university has lots of resources that are available to you, see [ITS](#).
 - ❑ Box
 - ❑ Zoom/Teams
 - ❑ VPN
 - ❑ OsoFast (Library Resources)
- ❑ Software programs that you can access as a student are listed [here](#).
- ❑ Do not install any kind of security or virus protection on your computer; the university takes care of this.



Get Involved!

- ▶ Paper Club talks will be scheduled soon. These are student-led talks and events. Carson Slater is organizing it this year.
- ▶ Theo Anim Bediako is the departmental Graduate Student Association (GSA) Representative.
- ▶ Departmental seminars are usually on Friday afternoons, so do not schedule out-of-town trips on Fridays. Announcements may come the week of the event.
- ▶ Because we have a faculty search this year, candidates invited for interviews will also be giving talks, and as long as your classes or TA-work do not interfere, you must also attend these talks.
- ▶ Go to conferences!! The Graduate School has up to \$400 in funding for you to attend a conference once each academic year. You do have to apply in advance, and after that, you can seek departmental funding to cover the additional expenses. See Tammy for questions.
- ▶ There are lots of fun events both within the department and across the broader university throughout the year.



Odds and Ends

- Be present in the department. Don't just show up for classes and leave.
- Your fellow students now will become your professional network later!
- Seek to dress professionally. Pajamas, work-out clothes, and anything potentially offensive is not appropriate.
- Your office is a professional workspace. Treat it as such; your fellow classmates may be on virtual calls with clients or collaborators.
- The Baylor Counseling Center has a lot of great resources that are available to you. See their website [here](#).



Professional Organization

- ❑ Join the American Statistical Association
- ❑ www.amstat.org
- ❑ The department will pay for your first year, but an annual student membership is only \$30.
 - ❑ Fill out the individual membership application form and bring a hard copy to Tammy **within the first two weeks of the semester.**
 - ❑ Join sections that interest you; they are free for the first year and not very expensive after that (<https://www.amstat.org/membership/asa-communities/sections-amp-interest-groups>)



International Student Policies

- ▶ Things are changing all the time, so stay in touch with your Center for Global Engagement contact. You should be assigned to someone.
 - ▶ Last name A-M is Leslie Hicks
 - ▶ Last name N-Z is Tim Johnson
- ▶ **Program End Date:** The date listed on the I-20 for F-1 students or DS2019 for J-1 Exchange Visitors by which the individual is expected to complete his or her academic program.
- ▶ **Admit Until Date (AUD):** Limits the period of stay in the U.S. Individuals must leave by the Admit Until Date unless they have been approved for Extension of Stay.
- ▶ **Extension of Stay (EOS):** The request submitted to USCIS for students who need additional time to stay in the U.S. for study or OPT/STEM. The cost to file online is currently \$420. Paper filing is currently \$470.
- ▶ **Effective Date:** September 15, 2026

Graduate School

- ❑ How is being in graduate school different from being an undergraduate?
 - ❑ Coursework is highly specific.
 - ❑ Switching majors or to a different program is typically not possible.
 - ❑ Fewer classes per semester, but they are more intense.
 - ❑ Smaller classes and cohort cohesion.
 - ❑ You do research. It is expected and required.
 - ❑ You build many soft skills—critical thinking, problem solving, time management, perseverance, communication.
 - ❑ A grade of “C” is effectively failing a class.
- ❑ If you miss class, show up late, or don’t submit assignments, then all of these things are noticed, and the faculty pay attention. Treat the entire experience as if it is a job interview. Everything that you do reflects on you, and you never know which connection you make that will lead to an opportunity.

Piled Higher and Deeper

8/23/24, 9:33 AM

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