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College of Liberal Arts
Degree Type(s)
B.A., B.S.
Link to major's website
B.A. degree requirements
B.S. degree requirements
Minor available

The B.A. program gives students an understanding of the theory of statistics, trains them in basic use of the most important types of statistical methods, and prepares them for graduate work or for jobs in such diverse areas as marketing analysis, quality management, and support for scientific research.

The program provides a broad foundation in statistics that can be combined with coursework in other technical disciplines or as a basis for further specialization in statistics.

The B.S. program is concerned with theories and methods of data collection, tabulation, analysis, and interpretation, and their use in learning from data and making decisions.

The College of Liberal Arts Advantage: More Than a Major
When you study Statistical Science at the University of Minnesota, you gain the added advantage of a College of Liberal Arts education. At CLA, the liberal arts mean you get more than just a degree in one major or another; it means you will be exposed to different areas of study, to different ways of thinking and learning. In fact, the liberal arts teach you how to learn—how to ask the right questions, how to problem solve, and how to innovate. The liberal arts prepare students for the complexities of our world, because here at CLA you will study not just, say, politics or art but also where politics and art intersect, where science and ethics intersect, where economics and the environment intersect.

Meet Our Students

Seniors Sabrina Li and Ryan Lerch participated on an analytics team for the College of Liberal Arts’ First-Year Experience, looking at how a first-year student’s demographic background affects their sense of belonging.

Read more about Sabrina and Ryan's story, and learn more about our undergraduate program.

Student Experiences

Learning Abroad: Prepare to Lead in a Global Economy

Learn more about study abroad for Statistics majors.

Undergraduate Research: Turn Curiosity into New Knowledge
Statistics is the science of learning from data. Statisticians collect, organize, analyze, interpret, and present data. We are constantly seeking better ways to do that in more and more challenging situations, using mathematics, computing, and insight. People use statistics in business, industry, medicine, government, and scientific research. The Institute for Research on Statistics and its Applications (IRSA) serves to advance the use of statistics in the 21st century.

**Student Organizations: Find Friends and Grow as a Leader**

- [Undergraduate Statistics Club](#)

**Meet Our Faculty**

After earning a PhD in engineering sciences at Harvard University, Assistant Professor Jie Ding has finally returned to his roots in fundamental mathematics. This field brought him to the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.

[Read more about Jie's story.](#)
“It’s like playing tennis without a net. You always win,” says statistics professor Charles Geyer about conducting unethical research. Discover how Geyer and other professors at the University of Minnesota mobilize the open science movement to inspire appropriate research practices.

Read more about Charles's story.

Meet Our Alumni

“My CLA degree taught me how to learn quickly and think critically,” says TheanCheat Lim, a recent statistics alum. His double major in statistics and psychology made him an attractive job candidate to a Twin Cities insurance company.

Read more about TheanCheat's story.
CLA Graduates: Successful Careers and Purposeful Lives

CLA graduates succeed in many different careers — law, health care, medicine, business, government, teaching, advertising, arts and entertainment, international relations, and more — precisely because they understand how to navigate a complex and interconnected world. As our alumni explain below, “Being a good employee means being curious, and continuing to evolve, and learn, and educate yourself, and I can think of no stronger foundation for doing that than a liberal arts education.

“An education in the liberal arts is a springboard to lifelong career success”
-- Dean John Coleman

You might also explore

Computer Engineering
Applied Economics
Computer Science
Economics
Mathematics
Associated Careers

Actuaries, Computer Programmers, Market and Survey Researchers, Mathematicians, Medical Scientists, Postsecondary Teachers, Research Psychologists, Statisticians

Admission Information

FRESHMAN: Admission information

TRANSFER STUDENTS: Requirements for the College of Liberal Arts

Beyond admission, if you have questions about transferring, the College of Liberal Arts (CLA) has transfer advisors to help. Please feel free to contact them about any of the topics below:

• Course plans before transferring
• Estimated time to graduation
• Career preparation in CLA
• Getting ready for orientation, if admitted
• Connecting with major/minor departments