Do you have any additional comments? Do you have any advice for current statistics, biostatistics, or related fields students?

Either do a phd or do something else.

My advice for graduate statistics students would be to spend some time thinking about what they want to do with their degrees and what these roles entail, and then select classes that will develop the skills needed for their target career. I feel like I had a very productive stats education because I was able to tailor my classes to the specific skills needed to be successful in my PhD field. That being said, I think that it's also worth taking some statistics theory classes even if one's target career is more applied, since this makes it much easier to self-teach new skills.

Gain programming knowledge

I would encourage students to do a masters program. I felt like my knowledge and understanding of statistics grew exponentially while doing the masters program because the courses were all specific to my degree.

Do internships

the survey is a little too long.

I began to apply for jobs this week after returning from traveling since my graduation date. I honestly have no idea what jobs I am qualified for or what it looks like to be a statistician or data scientist or related. The school should have done a better job preparing us for that.

Seeking out as much programming experience as possible was the most useful thing I did in my MS program. I went in with no coding background, so proactively catching up on this was extremely beneficial.

Would definitely recommend doing some sort of internship or research assistantship during your schooling so you get experience and an idea of what you do/do not enjoy.

I would advise them to try to have hobbies unrelated to work.

In my experience, proficiency in a programming language like Python or statistical tools like R is incredibly valuable and a sought-after skill. Investing in acquiring these skills early in your program is important.

It is a great field, and there is more to explore.

Understanding computational techniques is useful for data analysis, but understanding the theoretical foundations would take you a long way

Learn AI, get good at Python and math. Practice, practice, practice.

The academic rigor of most highly prestigious universities probably matters more than you think.

None

Plan the career path even before the program starts.

Need Opportunities for graduates.

It is a good idea to seek applied internship opportunities if the student envisions to works in an industry setting.

No

Learn more about genomics and causal inference.

Work in something you enjoy doing

Consult a lot of people that you trust and make a solid career plan. If you want to pursue academia focus on research and publishing papers for top conferences. For industry, focus on personal projects, networking, and brand building. You'll have to apply to a lot of jobs, don't get discouraged. Be consistent and you'll have a much better time after graduation.

Study hard and think early on about what you want from a career (something technical like math stats or something hands on like applied stats). Also, it's very important to learn early on how to teach yourself things since most jobs won't teach you and just expect you to know how to do them.

Learn how to handle big data cleaning tasks Try to get experience working on long term projects

Learn the basics get really good solid foundation because it'll help to learn the new skills more easily, AI really seems to be the future of the field so learn as much as possible about neural networks, large language models, etc

Figure out what classes you're going to take as early as possible, keep on top of paperwork, and review fundamental mathematics topics (e.g. calculus and real analysis) if you haven't recently used them. Good luck!

Learn multiple ways to solve the same problem because most companies solve statistical problems using different methods and languages.

Take internships seriously Build your resume to include all projects handled and conferences attended Take the practical understanding of the concepts taught more seriously.

From my graduated peers, it seems like industry values applied skills and projects, so make a portfolio with projects and practice up and coding skills/programs like SQL or Python.

no

Come on!

I think sometimes I still find myself questioning if my degree was "worth it." I'm definitely not making the 80k-100k salary that was quoted at me when I researched programs, but I picked my job because it was a good match for my numerous skills, and statistics and data is just one of those skills. So I think I would encourage current students to not focus too hard on developing that one muscle (statistics), because when job searching I found that most jobs that sounded intellectually stimulating and interesting also required interpersonal skills, diversity awareness, etc.

No

Take the time to get an internship and find a professor to be a mentor.

Make developing a good portfolio of projects a priority during your studies. I assumed my classes and degree would provide those naturally, but many of my professors simply didn't require that much from its students. I didn't have many interesting projects to showcase to employers, which I felt hurt me in the long-run.

Strong communication skills are important.

It's still a grind finding a job after school

Since stats is used in so many fields it is important to understand what field you might be interested in so you can better prepare. I work in biostats and find it hard to move out of biostats. Try to gain an understanding of which skills are important in the field you are interested in.

Internships and experience working on projects are key.

Need to be constantly learing or acquiring new skills and ensure statistical foundation is intact.

Learn the theory! Once you have a framework for how things work, it becomes much easier to learn new methods. Also, look for opportunities to clean and transform real datasets- the clean datasets you get in assignments rarely exist in the real world. Most importantly,

be curious and learn how to ask good questions in your data- you'll often have to generate those questions so you can develop appropriate conclusions.

A graduate degree in statistics is challenging and worthwhile. However, if you decide to pursue Data Science, be aware that the degree is only the start of your journey. While data scientist jobs can be lucrative and challenging, they demand near-constant learning of new skills, unlearning of old methods, and research to stay up-to-date. Whether this is desirable depends on assessing what you want out of your career (which I encourage you do early and often).

Identify your end goal first and backward plan from there.

I would advise current students to seek internships or early career opportunities at least a year before graduating. I would also recommend that if your program does not include SQl or Power BI/Tableau to learn them on your own time.

Internalize everything you can. Either your job will require you to remember all of the model details and you will be glad you did or no one at your next job will have all of those details down and you will have an opportunity to add a lot of value if you understand the statistics backwards and forwards.

If you want to pursue graduate education in statistics, it is more important to take mathematics classes than statistics courses.

I hope [my school] can provide more career counseling, coaching, or guidance to help new graduates seek major related jobs. Especially for the international students. If the school could offer students on-campus jobs with sponsorship, that would be so helpful!

Statistics is the best field to study. So versatile and useful - lets you dabble in everything! Focus on getting practical experience while in school. I found that the methods I worked with are the skills that I am retaining the best.

Definitely work at getting an internship so that you can easily move into your career. Otherwise it is quite difficult.

Setting goals and expectations while you are enrolled in a statistics program as there are a wide variety of things you can do with your degree

I think the university should teach more python rather than R to the statistic students in the classes. For current students, to meet the future challenges in this big data era, prepare yourself ready, Learn more programming skills, like python, Linux, R, and SAS Learn more theoretical knowledges, like deep learning, simulation, etc..

Network with industry professionals, understand what they are doing and how they do it. Learn to use those Cloud Platforms(Azure, AWS, GCP) and understand basic project management ideas(eg., agile).

It's a great field!

Learn SQL if possible. A lot of grad programs are not teaching it however I use it everyday on the job. Also learn command line programming, Python, and seek research opportunities as well as attend conferences. Seek mentoring form any statisticians/mathematicians on campus. Also if interested in clinical trials consider clinical trials-related roles.

If you're looking for an internship, start looking the second you're accepted to your program.

Update the program and courses to be more interactive and helpful for learning.

Learn as much as you can!

Faculty connections are hugely important. Participate in class so they get to know you and choose thesis advisors wisely

Try to really understand the basics and try to find some statistical methods that really interest you to go further in depth. (Obviously, its impossible to know in depth about every statistical method.) Also develop technical programming skills because that'll set you apart from the rest of your colleagues.

My advice for students is to immerse yourself into the statistics/biostatistics community and to seek out mentors to assist you in personal growth, academic growth, and career growth within our field as students.

Can you help with a job? I am desperate

Statistical communication is a very important skill for statistics jobs that often gets overlooked in academic programs

I put my stipend pre-tax. I think the directions for that survey question should have been more clear. A Master's in statistics/biostatistics is a great degree and can lead to very fufilling careers. If you plan to work after a Master's degree instead of pursuing a PhD, it is important to choose a graduate program that has many opportunities to be involved in applied projects.

Explore all options from industry (pharma, biotech, med device, etc.), CROs, government, and academia! Talk to a lot of people in any area you're interested in to learn about career options while you're still in school.

Real world work in my internship was the crucial piece of my graduate eduction that solidified my career preparation outside of my coursework

Your skills are valuable, the market just sucks.

Try to figure out what you enjoy doing and go and network with people to figure out what they do so you can figure out what sounds interesting to you. You never know what opportunities you'll end up finding. Get involved!

It's a numbers game for international students. Keep trying, learn from your experiences, and don't give up!

For any future statistics student, I would recommend doing thorough research into what kind of careers an advanced degree can lead to, and pay special attention to degree requirements of certain jobs. Some jobs in the industry expect people to have phd degrees, whereas others don't. This should be done even before applying to any program. Also, plan your time during your degree program. For a master's degree, two years are really not that long. Every semester and the summer are important in building your resume, so start looking for internships and research positions early.

Focus on learning the computational methods or programming language you will use first, this will be the biggest roadblock to your learning. Try to learn the programming yourself and try not to rely on copying the instructor's code. Try to avoid using AI to code for you.

Getting and internship is crucial for getting a good job quickly after graduation

Don't major in statistics/biostatistics. This field has the same problem as Computer Science of too much supply not enough demand. There are a lot of international students that get a PHD,which is driving up the education requirement right now for jobs and lowering salaries.

Look for jobs early and apply to any and everything that sounds interesting.

No