

From the perspective of your status as of March 4, 2024, what would you do differently concerning your undergraduate education?

Master's degrees in statistics are useless. If you want to create models or new methods do a phd. Otherwise do anything else because all of the jobs out there are just 99.9% data management.

Nothing

The only things I can think of is that I might have taken some additional training in probability theory and data visualization, although I haven't had too much trouble picking these skills up on my own. I honestly was very happy with my graduate statistics education, as I felt like I gained the skills I needed to be a successful quantitative researcher in my PhD program.

Networking

I would have liked to intern in the Biostatistics field so that I had more experience in the work feild.

Pick a different major

Taken sql course if not filled up

I wouldn't have done anything differently

Nothing

Secure a useful internship

Not go

I found the overall quality of instruction at my program to be poor. I would have likely chosen a different program.

Enroll in a PhD program

Choose a different program to attend.

Nothing

Take more courses in advanced math and try to learn more about science communication.

I would try to spend less time teaching and more time focusing on my research.

I would obtain cloud certifications from AWS.

I would have started it earlier.

Conduct Research, complete an internship

No regrets.

Study more coding skills

I should have taken more theoretical courses

I graduated early from my PhD program with an MS. In retrospect, this was a mistake. I don't think the program was right for me anyway. I should have taken a gap year after my first master's and I should've gone into computer science academia.

Take more deep learning courses.

Tried to pursue a few professional fraternities and some clubs sooner.

none

Choose more computer science courses or go to PHD

Nothing different

I feel very desperate about graduate education. Though I learned many useful statistical methods, none of them are helpful in finding a job.

I believe my graduate degree at [my school] gave me a good foundation to excel in my current PhD program

I would have started working on the research for my MS earlier.

Do it 5 years ago when the market was such that it was possible to get a job

I should have done it 20 years ago.

Nothing.

More hands on coding. More example datasets. More volume of work in general

Start focusing on employment from day 1 of my masters. Focus on the skills needed and make appropriate projects to showcase those skills. Be much more involved in networking and brand building.

I would have kept a more rigid schedule for myself since that's where I really blossomed at once I had my job plus school. I also wish I studied harder and went to more office hours when I was struggling with the material.

Learn more programming, in particular Python

Nothing.

I would prepare more for it before starting.

Try to get an internship

I might put more effort to seek for an internship. It was the first step to get a job after graduate

None

Work on personal projects to apply what I learned in long term projects Take coursework on data structures and algorithms

Focused more on python and spark - academia uses and teaches in R for statistical analysis but the corporate world uses python and spark, had really little introduction to spark and some but not in depth usage of python - learned more python from my undergraduate computer science courses

I would have done a computer science degree

I would have asked more questions and developed a course plan with the head of graduate studies.

I have no idea.

Focus more on obtaining certifications rather than grades

Acquire more skills and certifications

I would have started my PhD research far earlier with a Master's thesis project. Additionally, I wish that I would have supplemented topics of interest with self-learning. Finally, my coding skills and background are pretty horrendous, so I wish that I would have practiced more coding or taken Computer Science Courses.

Study a little harder

Enroll in more research-oriented courses.

Try to carve out time to do it full time, pursue research and perhaps a phd

I need to devote more time in career finding.

Make even more use of the career services

Spend more time on networking and participate in career fairs

Start doing job applications sooner

I shouldn't have suffered through a degree in mathematics for my job - the theoretical requirements my school had feel like a waste of time now. So I would probably opt for a more applied, less technical, and less rigorous degree program.

nothing, I am satisfied so far

Complete more personal coding projects to advance my resume and coding skills

I would have taken extra time to seek an internship while still enrolled as a student.

Apply for PhD programs earlier

Think differently about concepts in a much deeper way

Changed my research topic to a more applied area.

I would have done an on-campus program (I had to do an online program due to personal circumstances and no offerings in my area). I would have considered a program with more emphasis on internships, real-world projects, and a thesis option for more rigor. I would have possibly looked for a program focused on specifically on machine learning for better job opportunities and programming skills.

Participated in research

Take 1 or 2 computer science courses

I would've tried harder to go to a more bio-focused statistical program.

Nothing

I had a PhD in a biomedical field before deciding to pursue an MS in Statistics. If I could do it all over again, I would have sought a PhD in Statistics in the first place.

Getting more involved in upskilling with regards to the field of statistics

Starting Actuarial exams earlier, and taking courses to help succeed in passing them.

I would have loved more opportunities for research projects and to take a spatial statistics course.

I would mix in more advanced math and computer science courses. I really enjoyed my statistics degree and learned valuable skills. However, for a Data Scientist position it is not enough by itself (examples such matrix algebra for deep learning, computer science for coding, etc.)

Learn more Python and less SAS.

Focused on more business application

I would have like to have learned SQL and Visual Studio instead of focusing so much on R and SAS.

Learned technical skills

I would take a survival analysis class.

More focus on application of methods.

I would have taken more rigorous math classes.

Nothing that feels realistic to accomplish during my 2 years of study. I wish I could've taken more computer science courses, since most of my job involves coding.

Do it earlier

I wish I could have had a more significant internship between my undergraduate graduation and the start of my graduate degree. I also wish I had taken a class in SQL, sadly no courses in SQL were offered.

Make more of an effort to learn programming and software development best practices

Go to career counseling guidance

I would try to find a senior bioinformatician position after two or three years.

I'd spend more time improving my coding skills.

give more practical examples

I would take more machine learning and Artificial Intelligence courses.

I would have taken fewer theory based and more practical based classes.

Choose Data Science Program

Nothing!

go to more seminar lectures

I would focus on learning more SQL, python. I would also seek out opportunities to train in CDISC/SDTM reporting standards and push more for projects to showcase my biostatistics knowledge.

I would look for an internship immediately from the start of my program.

Nothing

Go to a statistical conference to learn about different research topics outside my department.

Need more interaction with professors

I would not get the Masters in Biostats because the courses are very outdated. I remember feeling like the slides were from 100 years ago. The department is very stuck in their ways and they have not updated the core classes to be more engaging for the students.

Taken a leave of absence sooner so that I did not complete graduate school during COVID

Nothing

Likely use python in addition to R for statistical coding and learn more about AI

Nothing

I would have pursued more networking opportunities

Pay more attention to in-depth technical side of math/stats classes. Would be really helpful if I could recite the things that I learned back in the day.

Nothing. I have enjoyed my journey.

Pursue an internship

yes

Nothing.

Taken more coding heavy courses specially in SAS and R package development. I wish I pursued research more, but my funding was through teaching for a different department.

it is pretty good

Should have more emphasize on research

Reach out to more people

Nothing

Probably would've worked a year or two in between my undergrad and graduate degrees. Then during my graduate degree, would've put less pressure on myself and sought out the accessible learning support that I needed.

Practice SAS more and take certification exams. I would also take more time to network with people in the industry.

Nothing! [my school] was amazing for developing me professionally, and I'm getting the remaining theory I wanted in my current PhD program at CSPH.

Nothing really, maybe practicing explaining statistical concepts to clinicians

Not much. I probably would have taken more Math coursework. I had the opportunity to take Real Analysis but bailed on it. I probably should have taken it.

Nothing

Study harder on theories, conduct a more technical Master's project

Being in a diverse place

I'm satisfied with my current position and would not do anything different.

I would have quit my part time job and work full time as a student so I could focus more on the Master's degree

Nothing, really. It would have been nice to have taken math stats but I didn't end up having the time (mostly applied stats program)

I would have taken the python and machine learning electives

There is very little I would have been able to change, there was minimal flexibility in the courses I could take and I finished my thesis as quickly as possible after courses were completed.

I worked during the period i was in school. I should have gone to school full time instead

I would have tried to graduate undergraduate earlier so I could finished my masters before 2023. The job market was a lot better in the first few years of Covid (no hiring freezes or mass layoffs). I had two internships and companies didn't care as they wanted 5+ years of experience for entry level jobs. The companies I interned at outsourced entry level jobs to India.

Maybe tried to have done an internship between the two years. Try to get career services to help me more with job placement.

Take a few more statistical elective courses