1. Admission to the Program

It is necessary to have an undergraduate degree, not necessarily in mathematics or statistics, to begin a program of study toward the M.S. degree in statistics. It is expected that some students will be admitted to the program who have either a bachelor's degree or a master's degree in some other field. However, the student should have a mathematical background which, as a minimum, is equivalent to the mathematics courses:

- MATH 2144 Calculus I
- MATH 2153 Calculus II
- MATH 2163 Calculus III
- MATH 3013 Linear Algebra
- MATH 4013 Engineering Mathematics: Calculus of Several Variables

Students admitted to the program with deficiencies will be required to remedy such deficiencies. In addition to the above courses, each student is required to demonstrate competence in a computer programming language.

2. Credit Requirements

The M.S. Degree can be earned by one of the following plans:

- Plan 1 30 hours with thesis (max. 6 hours for thesis)
- Plan 2 32 hours with report (max. 2 hours for report)
- Plan 3 36 hours and pass a comprehensive exam

The third plan will be initiated by the Statistics faculty. The exam covers STAT 5123, STAT 5223, STAT 5303, STAT 5323. MS students that intend to pursue a PhD in Statistics at Oklahoma State University should consider this plan. The exam also serves as the PhD preliminary exam. Students scoring well enough on the exam to earn an MS degree need not necessarily be admitted to the PhD program.

3. Grade Requirements

Students who receive more than two grades of C or below will be dismissed from the program. Students who receive a D in a course with a STAT prefix may be dismissed from the program. At most one grade of C will be allowed in the courses STAT 5123 Probability, STAT 5223 Inference, STAT 5303 Experimental Design, and STAT 5323 Linear Models I.

4. Required Courses

- STAT 5023 Statistics for Experimenters II
- STAT 5123 Probability
- STAT 5223 Inference
- STAT 5303 Experimental Design
5. Elective Course

A three-hour 5000 level or higher graduate course, excluding those with STAT prefix, may be used as an elective with committee approval.

6. Plan of Study

The plan of study must be completed prior to enrollment in the 17th credit hour. The responsibility for doing so rests with the student and his/her advisor. STAT 5013 Statistics for Experimenters I, STAT 5253 Mathematical Statistics I, and STAT 5263 Mathematical Statistics II are not allowed on the plan of study. It is recommended that students planning to work toward a Ph.D. in statistics include two semesters of advanced calculus (MATH 5043 and MATH 5053). All required courses must appear on the plan of study, and the plan must list all courses needed to satisfy the 30, 32, or 36 credit hour requirement under plans 1, 2, and 3 respectively. Exceptions will be evaluated on an individual basis.

7. Graduate College Requirements

All requirements listed in the current Graduate Catalog must be satisfied. For answers to questions about the master's degree program or application materials see the FAQ page or contact:

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