

Requirements for Dual Major Doctoral Degrees: STT and Forestry

Background information on current requirements for the Ph.D. Program in STT

1. **Core courses** for Ph.D. in Statistics: STT 872, STT 881-2, STT 867-868 **(15 credits)**
2. **Preliminary exams:** one in statistics, and one in probability
3. **Five elective courses (15 credits)** from
 - Advanced Probability: STT 961, STT 962, STT 964, STT 996
 - Advanced Statistics: STT 873, STT 874, STT 951, STT 953, STT 997
4. **Thesis:** A doctoral candidate must demonstrate the ability to carry out significant original research in statistics and/or probability.

Requirements for Track 1 (STT is the primary department)

1. **Formally admitted to STT Ph.D. program.**
2. **Core courses:** STT872, STT881, FOR802, and 1 course selected from STT 882, STT867, STT868 **(11 credits).**
3. **Pass at least 2 prelim exams:** At least one prelim exam from STT and one exam from FOR. The student chooses which STT exam to take, and gets approval from their guidance committee and the Graduate Directors from respective departments as outlined in MSU's dual major doctoral degree requirements.
4. **Five electives: (15 credits, at least 3 courses from STT and 2 courses from FOR)** from
 - Core sequence: STT 882, STT867, STT868 (exclude those chosen in core)
 - Advanced Probability: STT 961, STT 962, STT 964, STT 996
 - Advanced Statistics: STT 873, STT 874, STT 951, STT 953, STT 997
 - Forestry courses approved by the guidance committee.
5. **Advisors:** Student can choose their PhD advisor(s) from STT or from FOR. If a student chooses a Ph.D. advisor whose primary appointment is not in STT, it is expected that funding from outside of STT is secured for at least 3 years. Exceptions must be approved by the STT Graduate Director and the STT Chair.
6. **Guidance Committee:** At least 50% of the committee members must have primary appointments in STT.
7. **Thesis:** The thesis must contain a majority portion of original research in statistics and/or probability and a substantive component from at least one core area of forestry. Scope of the thesis must be approved by the guidance committee.
8. **Meet other requirements of STT.**

Remarks

- The course plan must be approved by the Guidance Committee.

Requirements for Track 2 (STT is the secondary department)

1. **Formally admitted to the Ph.D. program in FOR.**
2. **Core courses:** STT872, STT881, and FOR802 **(8 credits)**.
3. **Pass at least 2 prelim exams:** At least one prelim exam from STT and one exam from FOR. The student chooses which STT exam to take, and gets approval from their guidance committee and the Graduate Directors from respective departments as outlined in MSU's dual major doctoral degree requirements.
4. **Electives: (15 credits, at least 2 courses from STT and 2 courses from FOR)** from
 - Core Ph.D. sequence: STT 882, STT 867, STT868
 - Advanced Probability: STT 961, STT 962, STT 964, STT 996
 - Advanced Statistics: STT 873, STT 874, STT 951, STT 953, STT 997
 - Forestry courses approved by the guidance committee.
5. **Advisors:** Student typically chooses their major PhD advisor(s) from FOR. A co-advisor from STT can be chosen depending on the student's need. FOR generally retains the responsibility for funding and placing the student.
6. **Guidance Committee:** At least 25% of the committee members must be with primary appointments in STT.
7. **Thesis:** The thesis must contain a majority portion of original research in statistics and/or probability or applications of cutting-edge statistics/probability methodology in forestry and a substantive component from at least one core area of forestry. Scope of the thesis must be approved by the guidance committee.
8. **Meet other requirements of FOR.**

Remarks

- The course plan must be approved by the Guidance Committee.