

Statistics and Applied Statistics Combined Degree Program Podcast

Hello, my name is Kassie and I am a staff member in The Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Grand Valley's Statistics and Applied Statistics combined degree program. A combined degree program allows students to complete their bachelor's and master's degree in as few as 5 years, thus saving both time and money compared to completing both degrees separately. Today we're going to cover the admissions process, program requirements, and the qualities that distinguish this program.

Let's start by explaining to you what this program entails. GVSU undergraduate students pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Statistics may pursue a Master of Science in Applied Statistics at Grand Valley through this combined degree program. In the program, students will have the opportunity to enhance their skillset and refine their career goals. As I mentioned, students in Grand Valley's combined degree programs are able to complete both degrees in as few as 5 years, while a traditional pathway would require 6 or more years to complete both a Bachelor's and Master's degree.

The Applied Statistics Master's degree program will prepare students to become applied statisticians in a variety of industry settings. The job outlook is strong for statisticians as employment is expected to grow 34 percent from 2016 to 2026 and 24 percent by 2024 in West Michigan. Statisticians are in high demand in a variety of industries including retail, manufacturing, health care, and academia.

Qualified Grand Valley undergraduate students must submit a resume, statement of interest, and two recommendation letters, along with their application for the combined degree program. At least 65 hours of undergraduate academic credit must be completed or in progress. A grade point average of at least a 3.25 or greater is required. Relevant work experience, and strong performance in statistics courses will strengthen the application. More details as well as the online application can be found on the combined degree website at www.gvsu.edu/combineddegrees.

The great news about Grand Valley's graduate programs is that tuition rates for Michigan resident and non-resident students are the same. In other words, there are no extra costs for being an out of state student. Current tuition costs and information about scholarships and financial aid can be found at www.gvsu.edu/financialaid or by calling 616-331-3234. For information on graduate assistantships, please contact The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu.

The Statistics and Applied Statistics combined degree program allows students to choose four courses to dual count toward the bachelor's and master's degree, up to 12 credit hours total. Courses are provided in a face-to-face format.

The Applied Statistics Master's program at GVSU is an applied non-thesis program that is producing outstanding statisticians. Prior to graduation, the required internship gives students valuable work experience that employers are seeking. The professional science courses within the curriculum help enhance communication and statistical technique skills. The statistics course work is very applied with practical objectives specifically designed to meet the needs of the statistical industry.

That is just a snapshot of the Statistics and Applied Statistics combined degree program at Grand Valley State University. We hope that you will consider applying to a graduate program at GVSU. Any questions can be directed to the Graduate Program Director, Dr. Robert Downer, at downerr@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast.