Ph.D. program in Statistics and Data Sciences
The Department of Data Sciences and Operations within the USC Marshall School of Business at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles invites applications to their Ph.D. program in Statistics and Data Sciences. We seek highly motivated students who are enthusiastic in making contributions to research in these areas. The Statistics group has developed a significant level of expertise in high-dimensional data analysis, an increasingly important field given the vast quantities of data generated in many different situations. The group also conducts active research in financial econometrics, functional data analysis, large-scale multiple testing, social and economic network analysis, and applications of statistics in marketing, finance and other business disciplines.

**KEY ASPECTS OF THE NEW PROGRAM INCLUDE:**

- A guaranteed stipend covering living expenses and tuition for at least the first four years of the program, assuming normal progress. A fifth year of funding is also available for students making satisfactory progress. The stipend is highly competitive.
- Unlike many programs, for which students are required to perform teaching assistant duties of up to 20 hours per week, Marshall only requires students to act as TAs for a single semester and teach a class (as lecturer) for one semester before graduation. The primary aim of the teaching assignment is to gain classroom experience before obtaining a faculty position.
- All students receive a personal research budget each year, which may be applied to any research related expenses,

"I loved my experiences at USC and Marshall. One surprisingly gratifying aspect of the program was the connections I made with the other students. Since we didn’t have to compete for research experience or faculty attention, we were able to truly support one another throughout our Ph.Ds. Those friendships helped immensely as I was getting my degree, but I had no idea how valuable that support system would be in transitioning from grad student to professor. The encouragement I received from both the faculty and students at Marshall really shaped my career.”

**Courtney Paulson**  
Assistant Professor, Robert H. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland
Since Marshall only admits a small number of students in the statistics program, the program quality remains incredibly high, and it guarantees a high ratio of faculty to students. The statistics group took time to walk me through the academic job application process, helping me prepare for interviews and honing my presentation skills. The valuable feedback I got built up my confidence and ultimately enabled me to land a dream job in a competitive marketplace.

Xinghao Qiao
Assistant Professor, London School of Economics

including travel to conferences, research-related computer equipment and so on.

- Each year we admit a small and highly selective group of students. As a result, the faculty-to-student ratio is high relative to many other statistics Ph.D.s, resulting in a personalized program that promises to increase students’ achievements. Each student is carefully guided by a highly active, caring and dedicated group of faculty. The guaranteed stipend, low teaching load and congenial environment enable students to concentrate almost entirely on research. Recent graduates from our program have taken up tenure track assistant professor positions at elite institutions such as the London School of Economics and the University of Maryland’s Robert H. Smith School of Business.

- Being situated within a top-ranked business school allows our students access to faculty in disciplines such as Finance and Marketing, and numerous interesting statistical problems and unique research opportunities.

- Over the last two decades, USC has arguably experienced the most rapid ascent of any university in the United States and now ranks among the preeminent research universities in the world. USC combines the strength of a research university with the advantages of a small private college and is the oldest major private university in the West. In most years USC enrolls more international students than any other U.S. university. Only a major research university such as USC makes the breadth of resources and academic programs funded here possible.

- USC’s central location is minutes from downtown Los Angeles, with access to the Disney Center, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, and many other cultural and gustatory highlights. The beautiful beaches of Santa Monica and Manhattan Beach, hiking trails in the Palisades, unparalleled shopping, and Hollywood-style entertainment are all within a short drive of campus.
Information about the Marshall Statistics group is available at:
www-bcf.usc.edu/~gareth/StatGroup/

Information on the Marshall Ph.D. program in the field of data sciences and operations (DSO) is available at:
www.marshall.usc.edu/programs/phd-program/departments/data-sciences-and-operations

To apply our Statistics Ph.D. program, please visit the USC Marshall graduate admission website:
www.marshall.usc.edu/programs/phd-program/admissions

For more specific information about the Statistics Ph.D. program please contact:

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