

Statistics and Data Science Analytics 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 Data Science and Analytics combined degree program. 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 Data Science and Analytics degree 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.

LinkedIn's 2020 Emerging Jobs Report lists data science as one of the top 15 emerging jobs. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics claims that an estimated 11.5 million new jobs will be added by 2026.

Standard Grand Valley admission requirements include completion of the online application as well as a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education. Your application must include official transcripts, and if English is not your native language you must provide scores from one of our approved standardized tests such as the PTE Academic, TOEFL, IELTS, or Duolingo. There is a \$30 nonrefundable application fee, however this fee is waived if you attended Grand Valley previously or are currently attending Grand Valley.

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 60 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. Students must also have a satisfactory score on the GRE or GMAT test. In addition, students without adequate coursework in statistics or computer science will be required to take additional courses to prepare for this program. Students can apply directly to the School of Computing for the combined program during their second academic year.

More program details as well as the online application can be found on the Statistics and Data Science and Analytics combined degree website, www.gvsu.edu/combineddegrees/.

The great news about Grand Valley's graduate programs is that tuition rates do not change based on residency status. 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.

Students admitted to the Statistics and Data Science and Analytics combined degree program will count up to 12 credits of graduate work in partial satisfaction of the requirements for the undergraduate degree and may count towards both the bachelor's and master's degrees. Since the master's degree in data science and analytics is a Professional Science Master's (PSM) program, four credit hours at the graduate level involve an industry internship experience.

That is just a snapshot of the Statistics and Data Science and Analytics 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, Paul Stephenson, at stephenp@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast.