UCF

Big Data Analytics PhD Graduate Program Handbook

*Last updated **July 28, 2017***

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Big Data PhD

Together, the Graduate Student Handbook and your graduate program handbook should serve as your main guide throughout your graduate career. The Graduate Student Handbook includes university information, policies, requirements and guidance for all graduate students. Your program handbook describes the details about graduate study and requirements in your specific program. While both of these handbooks are wonderful resources, know that you are always welcome to talk with faculty and staff in your program and in the Graduate College.

The central activities and missions of a university rest upon the fundamental assumption that all members of the university community conduct themselves in accordance with a strict adherence to academic and scholarly integrity. As a graduate student and member of the university community, you are expected to display the highest standards of academic and personal integrity.

Here are some resources to help you better understand your responsibilities:

- Academic Honesty
- Academic Integrity Training - Open to all graduate students at no cost
- Plagiarism

Curriculum

Please visit the Graduate Catalog to see the current curriculum for our program.

Dissertation Requirements

University Dissertation Requirements

The College of Graduate Studies Thesis and Dissertation page contains information on the university's requirements for dissertation formatting, format review, defenses, final submission, and more. A step-by-step completion guide is also available on Thesis and Dissertation Services Site.

All university deadlines are listed in the Academic Calendar. Your program or college may have other earlier deadlines; please check with your program and college staff for additional deadlines.

The following requirements must be met by dissertation students in their final term:

- Submit a properly formatted file for initial format review by the format review deadline
- Submit the Thesis and Dissertation Release Option form well before the defense
- Defend by the defense deadline
- Receive format approval (if not granted upon initial review)
- Submit signed approval form by final submission deadline
- Submit final dissertation document by final submission deadline

Students must format their dissertation according to the standards outlined in Thesis and Dissertation Webcourse. Formatting questions or issues can be submitted to the Format Help page in the Thesis and Dissertation Services site. Format reviews and final submission must be completed in the Thesis and Dissertation Services site. The Dissertation Approval Form is also available in the Thesis and Dissertation Services site.

The College of Graduate Studies offers several thesis and dissertation Workshops each term. Students are highly encouraged to attend these workshops early in the dissertation process to fully understand the above policies and procedures.

The College of Graduate Studies thesis and dissertation office is best reached by email at editor@ucf.edu.

Annual Review

Information projected to be entered in 2019-2020.

Graduate Research

UCF has three fundamental responsibilities with regard to graduate student research. They are to (1) support an academic environment that stimulates the spirit of inquiry, (2) develop the intellectual property stemming from research, and (3) disseminate the intellectual property to the general public. Students are responsible for being informed of rules, regulations and policies pertaining to research. Below are some general policies and resources.

Research Policies and Ethics Information: UCF's Office of Research & Commercialization ensures the UCF community complies with local, state and federal regulations that relate to research. For polices including required Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval when conducting research involving human subjects (e.g. surveys), animal research, conflict of interest and general responsible conduct of research, please see their website: research.ucf.edu/ > Compliance.

UCF's Patent and Invention Policy: In most cases, UCF owns the intellectual property developed using university resources. The graduate student as inventor will according to this policy share in the proceeds of the invention. Please see the current UCF Graduate Catalog for details: ucf.catalog.acalog.com/index.php?catoid=4 > Policies > General Graduate Policies.

Graduate Student Associations

The Graduate Student Association (GSA) is UCF's graduate organization committed to enrich graduate students' personal, educational and professional experience. To learn more or get involved, please visit facebook.com/groups/UCFgsa/. For individual department or graduate program organizations, please see program advisor.

Professional Development

Occasionally there are opportunities for summer work for students in the Data Mining track. Interested students should contact the Director of this program.

Travel Support

The College of Graduate Studies offers a Graduate Presentation Fellowship that provides funding for master's, specialist, and doctoral students to deliver a research paper or comparable creative activity at a profession meeting. Students must be the primary author and presenter. For additional information visit Graduate Presentation Fellowship.

Another option is Graduate Students Travel Funding which is available to pay transportation expenses for graduate students who are delivering a research paper or comparable creative activity at a professional meeting. Contact the Student Government Association at 407-823-5648 for more information.

Teaching and Learning

The Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning (FCTL) promotes excellence in all levels of teaching at the University of Central Florida. They offer several programs for the professional development of Graduate Teaching Assistants at UCF.

GTA Training (mandatory for employment as a GTA)

This training provides information and resources for students who will be GTAs. The training covers a variety of topics, including course development, learning theories, lecturing, and academic freedom. For details on the required GTA training, visit GTA Training Requirements.

Preparing Tomorrow's Faculty Program

This certificate program (12-weeks) consists of group and individualized instruction by Faculty Center staff and experienced UCF professors. Textbooks and materials are provided. International students are provided the same training as well as information regarding language immersion and tricks and cultural awareness as a way of knowing what to expect from American students.

For more information, visit the UCF Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning's website at fctl.ucf.edu/ > Events > GTA Programs.

Pathways to Success Workshops

Coordinated by the College of Graduate Studies, the Pathways to Success program offers free development opportunities for graduate students including workshops in Academic Integrity, Graduate Grantsmanship, Graduate Teaching, Personal Development, Professional Development, and Research. For more information and how to register, please visit graduate.ucf.edu/pathways-to-success/.

Graduate Student Association

facebook.com/groups/UCFgsa/

Graduate Research Forum

Sponsored by the College of Graduate Studies, the Research Forum is an opportunity for students to showcase their research and creative projects and to receive valuable feedback from faculty judges. Awards for best poster and best oral presentation in each category will be given and all participants will receive recognition. For more information, contact researchweek@ucf.edu.

For grant-proposal writing resources: uwc.cah.ucf.edu/.

Discipline Societies

American Statistical Association (ASA)

The American Statistical Association is the world's largest community of statisticians. The ASA supports excellence in the development, application, and dissemination of statistical science through meetings, publications, membership services, education, accreditation, and advocacy.

Institute of Mathematical Statistics (IMS)

The IMS is an international professional and scholarly society devoted to the development, dissemination, and application of statistics and probability.

Royal Statistical Society (RSS)

The Royal Statistical Society (RSS) is the UK's only professional and learned society devoted to the interests of statistics and statisticians. It is also one of the most influential and prestigious statistical societies in the world.

Mathematical Association of America (MAA)

There is an organization for people who love the mathematical sciences. A community that values discussion and exposition, for meeting colleagues and building knowledge together. An organization with roots in the nineteenth century and a powerful role in the twenty-first. It's the Mathematical Association of America.

International Association for Statistical Education

The International Association for Statistical Education, seeks to promote, support and improve statistical education at all levels everywhere around the world. It is the international umbrella organization for statistics education.

Job Search

Career Services and Experiential Learning

career.ucf.edu/

Graduate career development issues are unique and include evaluating academic and nonacademic career choices, discussing graduate school effect on career choices, as well as learning, evaluating, and refining networking and interviewing skills. Whatever your needs, the offices of Career Services and Experiential Learning offer services and resources to aid in the career exploration and job search of Master and Doctoral students in every academic discipline.

For a listing of job links specific to the statistics discipline visit the Statistics program Job Opportunities webpage.

Forms

- **College of Graduate Studies Forms and References**
  A complete listing of general forms and references for graduate students, with direct links, may be found here.
- **Graduate Petition Form**
  When unusual situations arise, petitions for exceptions to policy may be requested by the student. Depending on the type of appeal, the student should contact his/her program adviser to begin the petition process.
- **Traveling Scholar Form**
  If a student would like to take advantage of special resources available on another campus but not available on the home campus; for example, special course offerings, research opportunities, unique laboratories and library collections, this form must be completed and approved.

Useful Links

- Big Data Analytics PhD
- College of Sciences
- College of Graduate Studies
- Academic Calendar

- Bookstore
- Campus Map
- Computer Labs
- Counseling Center
- Financial Assistance
- Golden Rule Student Handbook
- Graduate Catalog
- Graduate Student Association
- Graduate Student Center
- Housing and Residence Life
- Housing, off campus
- Knights Email
- Learning Online
- Library
- NID Help
- Pathways to Success
- Recreation and Wellness Center
- Register for Classes
- Shuttles Parking Services
- Statistical Computing Program
- Student Health Services
- Student Life
- Thesis and Dissertation (ETD)
- UCF Global
- UCF IT
- University Writing Center

Grad Faculty

Asterisk = has previous committee experience, which qualifies the person to serve as chair, co-chair or vice chair.

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