

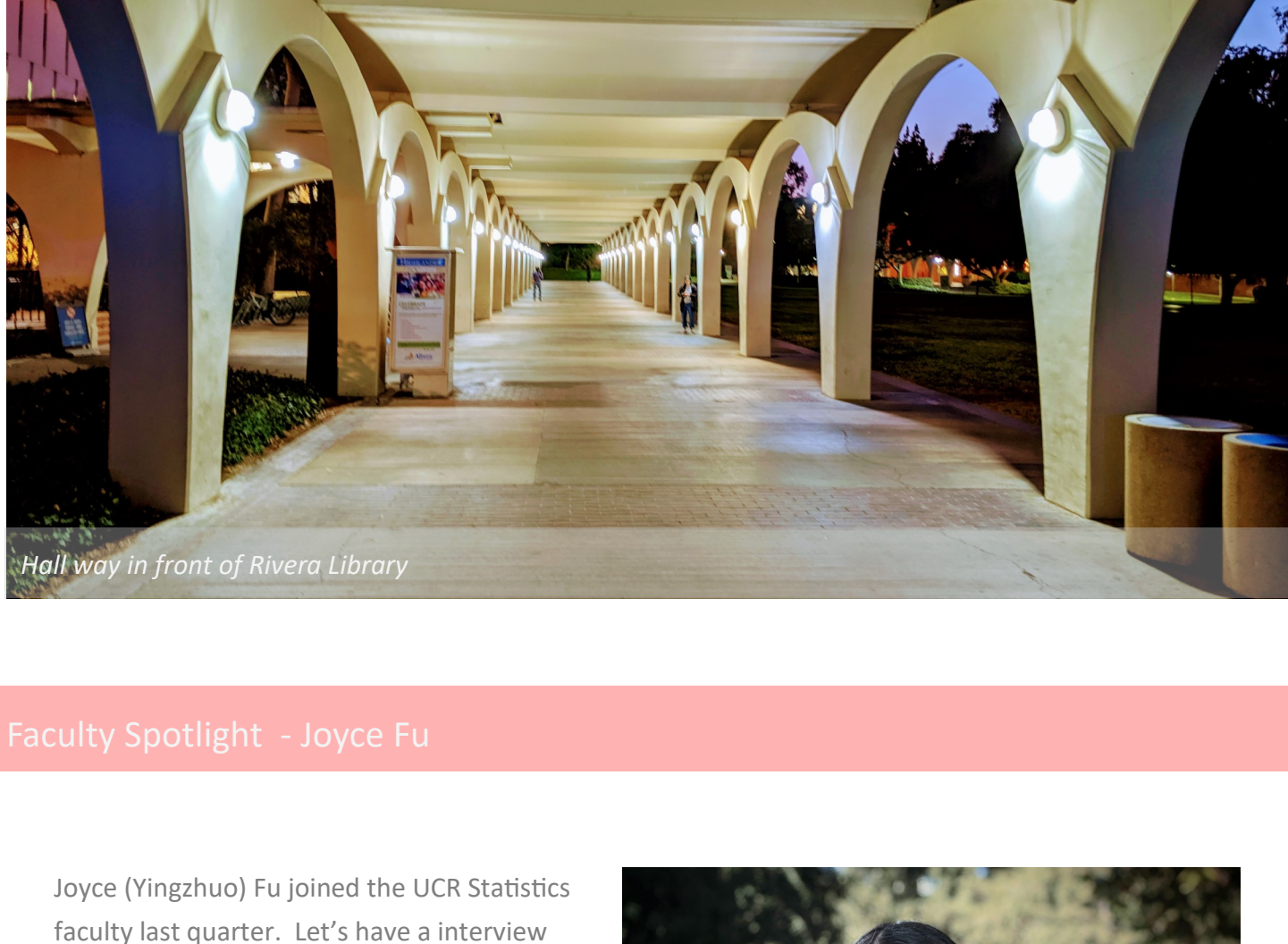
SPRING IN STATISTICS

Statistic Departmental GSA Newsletter, **Spring 2020**

In this issue:

- Faculty Spotlight (Joyce Fu)
- Graduate Student Seminars
- Qualify Exam
- Important Events and Deadlines
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- New Officers in Stat GSA

Statistics is the grammar of science
- Karl Pearson



Hall way in front of Rivera Library

Faculty Spotlight - Joyce Fu

Joyce (Yingzhuo) Fu joined the UCR Statistics faculty last quarter. Let's have an interview with her!

Where did you receive your PhD?

UC Riverside. *Welcome back!*

X is a random variable with mean 5 and variance 1. What is the mean of X^2 ?

26? *phD verified.*

Where do you call your hometown?

Changchun, China, a city snows 6 month a year. *I should photoshop Elsa's hair and dress for you lol.*

Did you work anywhere before UCR? If so, where, and what did you do there?

I worked in MarketShare (LA), a startup business analytics company, for about five years. I was working on dynamic pricing, digital marketing and other marketing analytics. Then I moved to Shanghai with my family. I taught as a data science teaching professor in New York University Shanghai for two years before I came back to UCR. *Sounds great! Hope you can share those experience with us in GSS some day in the future!*

How would you describe what you do for research? How is your research applied to actual data sets?

My research focuses on anomaly detection for discrete correlated data. It can be used to detect unusual behavior in network traffic. *Fortunately, I am the only normal person among my friends... "anormal detected".*

How did your interest in statistics begin?

I was first interested in probabilities related to poker games, mahjong, then I was curious about survival model for calculating insurance premium, and later I realized there are many situations that statistics play an important role in, even in courtroom. *Joyce Fu (2020) How to survive in a mahjong game and not being sued.*

What advice do you wish you had been given as a graduate student?

Writing is very important even you major in statistics.

What do you do outside of the department for fun?

Swimming, go to concerts, try out new restaurants, cooking, and watching YouTube videos. In the current situation, I can only do the last two.

What's something that most people in this department probably don't know about you?

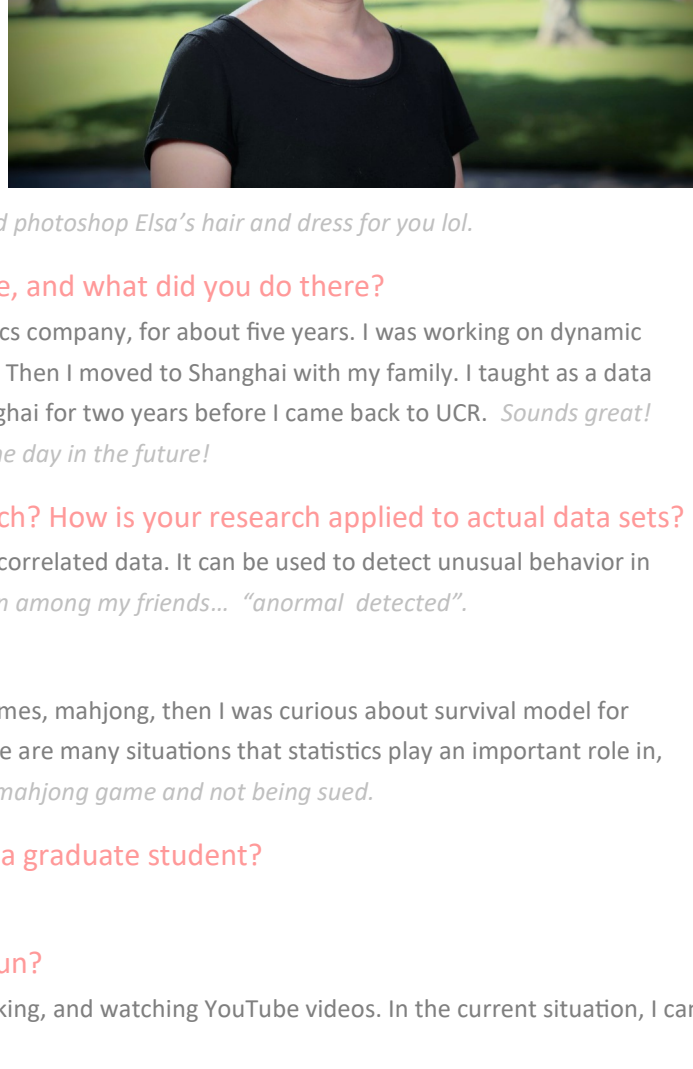
I love playing mahjong (but just for hanging out with friends, not for the money). *"Not for the money, but I always win."*

An interesting fact you just learned recently.

There are only three countries in the world that don't use the metric system and U.S. is one of those. *A: wait, what are the other two? Moon and Mars? B: Burma and Liberia. A: Okay, sounds like on Moon and Mars.*

If you were an animal, which would you be?

A koala bear. *I know. 20 to 22 hours sleeping per day is tempting.*



Koala picture from <https://animalfactside.com>, <https://alexloughlininstitute.wordpress.com>

Graduate Student Seminar (GSS)

A Seminar for Graduate Students

The GSS Series is an opportunity for graduate students in our department to showcase some of the cool things they are doing, gain presentation practice, and get to know each other. The presentations can be on a variety of topics, including research, projects, internships, a topic you wanted to investigate, a paper that you found interesting, and more. Anything that is appropriate for graduate-student level audience that could be of interest to the graduate students of this department is welcomed.

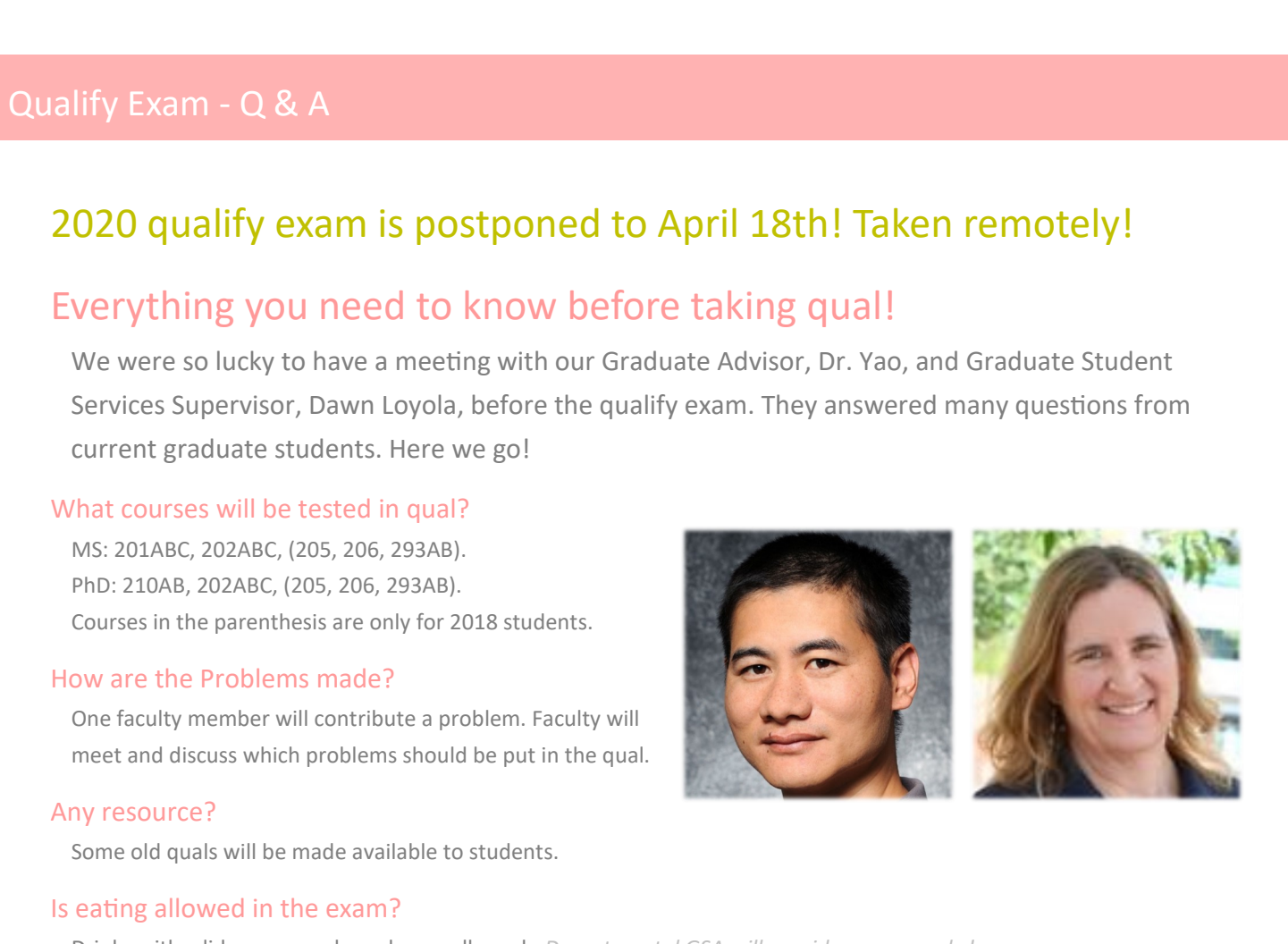
The GSS welcomes, and ENCOURAGES, anyone who is interested to attend. This includes undergraduates, faculty, and staff. This is open to ALL graduate students. We are hoping to get a variety of topics and perspectives. Please email ucr.grad.stat@gmail.com your name as soon as possible if you would be willing to put together a presentation, we would be delighted to have you.

Temporary Plan Due to Covid-19

Since the school shut down until at least April 30th, we will hold the GSS in a different way. So far, we have the following changes:

- The GSS talk will be on Tuesday, 2-3 pm.
- We will meet via Zoom.
- We will send out the Zoom invitation a week in advance of each talk.

We have many awesome talks waiting, and we are looking forward to meeting you online, though I personally miss the free coffee provided in the meetings...



Bibby presenting her internship on GSS

Qualify Exam - Q & A

2020 qualify exam is postponed to April 18th! Taken remotely!

Everything you need to know before taking qual!

We were so lucky to have a meeting with our Graduate Advisor, Dr. Yao, and Graduate Student Services Supervisor, Dawn Loyola, before the qualify exam. They answered many questions from current graduate students. Here we go!

What courses will be tested in qual?

MS: 201ABC, 202ABC, (205, 206, 293AB).

PhD: 210AB, 202ABC, (205, 206, 293AB).

Courses in the parenthesis are only for 2018 students.

How are the Problems made?

One faculty member will contribute a problem. Faculty will meet and discuss which problems should be put in the qual.

Any resource?

Some old quals will be made available to students.

Is eating allowed in the exam?

Drinks with a lid or cap, and snacks are allowed. *Departmental GSA will provide some snacks!*

Is a scientific calculator allowed? Is any cheat sheet provided?

Scientific calculators are allowed, but no smart phone or tablet. You might also want to bring pencils and erasers. Some tables and a cheat sheet containing descriptions of commonly used distributions are provided.

How is each answer graded?

The answer is usually graded by the professor who made the problem. Students' names are not shown while grading.

How would you decide the pass or failure of a student after grading?

There will be a faculty meeting to discuss the qualify exam results. Generally, if a student gets more than 70%, he/she will pass. However, if the problems are too difficult, we might curve the passing grade. For students whose grades are less than but above the passing grade, we will take other records into account, such as classroom performance based on GPA and the efforts made for academic progress.

Will the department provide a feedback of our test in general or detail?

Yes, when sending out the exam results, the department will provide some feedback and guidelines for the failed students about which areas they should pay more attention for the second try.

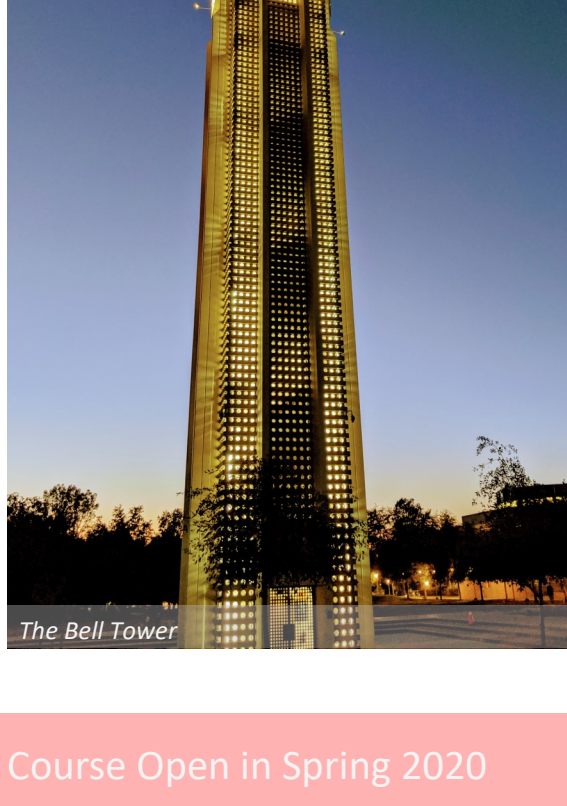
How can we meet someone to discuss feedback on our reviewing Exam?

Students can make an appointment at the department office to review their answers. For any discussion on a problem, one may make an appointment with the faculty who set the problem.

Would the criteria be more flexible for the second Exam attempt?

No, the criteria is the same. We might also look at your first grade if your second one is close but still not enough to pass.

Contacts: Dr. Yao weixin.yao@ucr.edu
Dawn stat@ucr.edu
Departmental GSA ucr.grad.stat@gmail.com



The Bell Tower

Things You Shouldn't Forget

First time TAing? Planning to graduate? Have not registered yet? Look at the time line below and do not miss anything important.

Last day of the winter quarter	03 / 20 / 2020
First day of the spring quarter	03 / 25 / 2020
First day of instruction	03 / 30 / 2020
Fee payment deadline for grad students	03 / 30 / 2020
School close at least to (due to Corvid-19)	04 / 03 / 2020
Add and drop course in R*web deadline	04 / 10 / 2020
Last day to withdraw from a course (no fee)	04 / 17 / 2020
Qualify exam (Statistics department)	04 / 18 / 2020
Apply for graduating in Summer	07 / 01 / 2020

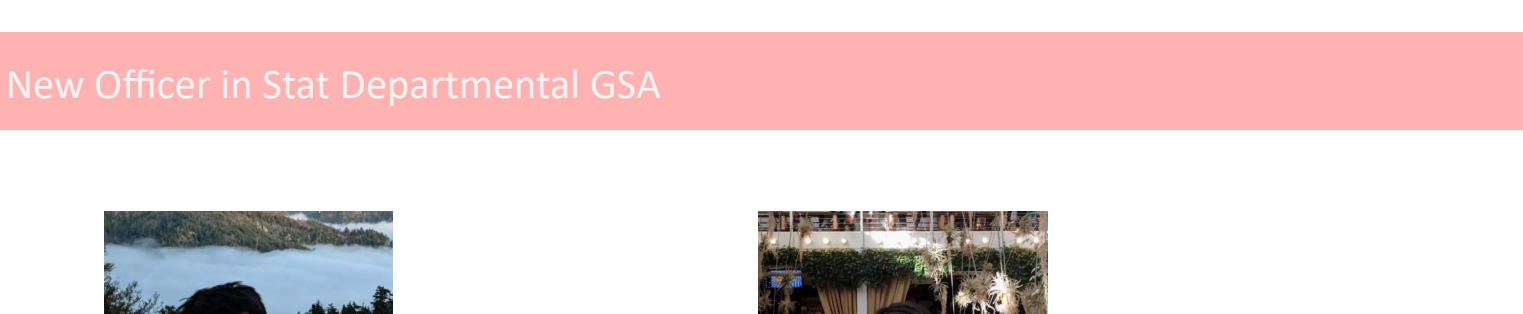
Course Open in Spring 2020

Stat

STAT 201C	Theory of Probability and Statistics	(Shujie Ma)	TR 10:30 - 11:50, R 3:30 - 4:20
STAT 202C	Regression, ANOVA and Design	(Subir Ghosh)	MWF 11 - 11:50, W 12 - 12:50
STAT 205	Discrete Data Analysis	(Weixin Yao)	TR 12:30 - 1:50, F 2 - 2:50
STAT 208	Statistical Data Mining Methods	(Daniel Jeske)	MW 10 - 10:50, F 9 - 10:50 M 6 - 6:20, WF 6 - 6:15
STAT 217	Mixture Models And Their Applications	(Weixin Yao)	TR 9:30 - 10:50, F 3 - 3:50
STAT 255T	Modern Nonparametric Statistic	(Shuheng Zhou)	R 2 - 4:40, F 11 - 11:50

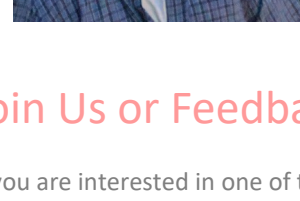
Substantial

BMSC252	General Seminar in Biomedical Science	(Monica Carson)	M 4 - 4:50
CS229	Machine Learning	(Christian Shelton)	MW 2 - 3:30
CS235	Data Mining Techniques	(Evangelos Papalexakis)	TR 5 - 6:20
CS238	Algorithm Techniques in Computational Biology	(Tao Jiang)	MWF 1 - 1:50
ECON205C	Econometric Methods III	(Tae-Hwy Lee)	TR 10 - 11:20, W 11 - 11:50
ECON285E	Advanced Econometrics	(Tae-Hwy Lee)	TR 2 - 3:20
MGT202	Financial Management	(Ivalina Kalcheva)	M 6 - 8:50
MGT203	Economics For Management	(Yawen Jiao)	M 6 - 8:50

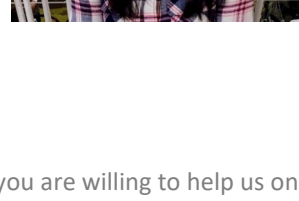


Statistic Department (Olmsted Hall)

New Officer in Stat Departmental GSA



Isaac Quintanilla
GSA representative



Phan Kim
GSA officer

Join Us or Feedback

If you are interested in one of the jobs we are working on, and you are willing to help us on any part of any project (social events, GSS, newsletter, social media, survey design... etc.), email us right away!

On the other hand, if you have any suggestion on any project, we would appreciate to receive your advice.

ucr.grad.stat@gmail.com