Michigan Tech

Menu ≣

Top 10 Famous Statisticians

Invest in your future!

MS Applied Statistics!

June 18, 2019

The field _____ck centuries. It has naturally evolved over tim_____iduals who made significant progress in shapi_____ certainly not exhaustive, it is an introduc_____istics greatly influence how we manage

Famo_____ Their Cont_____

Glad you enjoyed reading this article :) what else would you like us to write about?

Please type here...

Next

88_____FO   APPLY NOW

✓

Michigan Tech

Florence Nightingale (1820-1910) traveled as a nurse to a hospital during the Crimean War in 1854. The conditions were alarmingly unsanitary. Nightingale proceeded to use her skills in data collection and analysis (honed by her study of mathematics) to provide evidence that the conditions surrounding the soldiers were likely more deadly than the wounds incurred during battle. She created a graphic that clearly established that fact – a novel approach at that time. This made Nightingale a pioneer in the field of statistical graphics.

Karl Pearson (1857-1936) has shared the title of the father of modern statistics with his fellow statistician (and rival) Ronald A. Fisher. Among his major contributions to statistics is the Pearson Product Moment Correlation, a procedure to ascertain the magnitude of a relationship/association between variables. He also developed the Chi-Square distribution. Pearson founded the world's first university statistics department at the University College London in 1911 and wrote ("*Statistics is the grammar of science*") in 1932.

William Sealy Gosset (1876-1937). Among the great statisticians is a man who was not a statistician at all – he was, in fact, the head brewer of Guinness beer. He was tasked with testing the consistency of hops in small batches and thus was born the now prominent t-distribution, a method for interpreting information extracted from small samples of data. Why isn't he better known? When he published his findings, Gosset was required to adopt a pseudonym in order to protect Guinness trade secrets, so perhaps you might know him as "A.Student."

Ronald A. Fisher (1890-1962) is considered the father of modern statistics along with Karl Pearson. It was Fisher who laid the groundwork for much of experimental design, statistical inference, and the procedure known as Analysis of Variance (ANOVA). Fisher argued for the concept of randomization in experimental design and proposed the now conventional use of p-values of .05 as a threshold for statistical significance. Fisher also developed the maximum likelihood method of estimation (i.e., estimating parameters of a statistical model given observations).

Edwards Deming (1900-1993) developed the concept of quality control. He was instrumental in assisting post-WWII Japan rise as a world power in the industry, given his expertise in systems and systems thinking. Deming also taught industry leaders how to p... ...nd external groups, and how they relate to ... ...llaboration so fundamental in research...

Gertrud... ...us statisticians to experience many "firsts." O... ...master's degree in statistics. She was the first ... ...emale department head at North Carolina ... ...artment of Experimental Statistics. She was ... ...ship in the National Academy of...
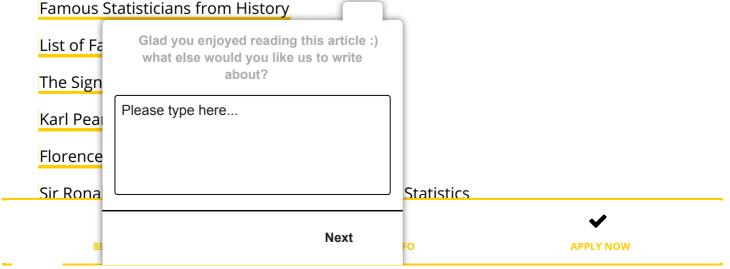
✔

Michigan Tech

John Tukey (1915-2000) could certainly be described as one of the great statisticians; his own contributions to statistics were wide-ranging and numerous. He coined the term "bit" from binary digit as well as the term "software." He is known for robust methods, graphing, and creating the ubiquitous box plot (introduced in his classic book *Exploratory Data Analysis*). The Tukey Range Test is employed often in ANOVA when doing multiple comparison procedures (testing if means differ significantly).

George Box (1919-2013) was a British chemist who considered himself an "accidental statistician." He was called upon as a sergeant in WWII to study the effects of poisonous gases. Studying under Fisher, he developed expertise in data transformations, developing the Box-Cox transformation (transforming non-normal dependent variables into a normal shape). He may also be best known for his statement, "essentially all models are wrong, but some are useful." This was not intended as an indictment, but rather, the need to e applied to everyday life.

Janet Norwood (1923-2015) was the first female commissioner of the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (appointed in 1979 by Carter and re-appointed twice by Reagan). She had a leading role in the enhancement of critical government statistics such as Consumer Price Index (CPI) and unemployment. She was elected the president of the American Statistical Association in 1989 and was a senior fellow in both the Urban Institute and the New York Conference Board, a think tank established in 1916.

The techniques developed or enhanced by these great statisticians can be fascinating. If you are interested in advancing your career as a statistician, consider earning a master's in applied statistics. Michigan Technological University offers an online Applied Statistics program, so you can continue to work while pursuing your master's degree.

Sources

Famous Statisticians

Famous Statisticians from History

List of Fa

The Sign

Karl Pea

Florence

Sir Rona   Statistics

Glad you enjoyed reading this article :) what else would you like us to write about?

Please type here...

Next

✓

88   FO   APPLY NOW

Michigan Tech

Menu ☰

Deming the Man

Gertrude Cox and Statistical Design

The Guinness Brewer who Revolutionized Statistics

Carl Friedrich Gauss

George Box, a Model Statistician

Looking for more information?

To learn more about our **Online Masters in Statistics** program, start by filling out the form **on this page ›**

×

Invest in your future!

MS Applied Statistics!

Request Information

Get the information you need to get started. Download your Student Program Guide and receive:

- Complete curriculum and course descriptions
- Admission requirements
- Tuition and financial aid information
- Contact from an admissions advisor

DOWNLOAD PROGRAM GUIDE

Glad you enjoyed reading this article :) what else would you like us to write about?

Please type here...

Next

✔

88   FO   APPLY NOW

Michigan Tech

Menu ☰

Connect With Your Michigan Tech Enrollment Advisor

Whether you have a simple question or need advice to determine if this program is right for you, our friendly advisors are here to help. They can chat with you on your schedule and guide you through the entire admissions process, so you can feel confident in moving forward with your online master's program.

EMAIL ADMISSIONS

✕

Invest in your future!

MS Applied Statistics!

Glad you enjoyed reading this article :) what else would you like us to write about?

Please type here...

Next

✔

88   FO   APPLY NOW