

# Maria Tackett

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Assistant Professor of the Practice  
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## Education

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**Ph.D. in Statistics** 2013 - 2018  
University of Virginia

- Dissertation: *Creating Fingerprint Databases and a Bayesian Approach to Quantify Dependencies in Evidence*
- Advisor: Dan Spitzner

**M.S. in Statistics** 2009 - 2010  
University of Tennessee-Knoxville

**B.S. in Mathematics** 2005 - 2009  
University of Tennessee-Knoxville

## Academic Appointments

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**Assistant Professor of the Practice** 2018 - present  
Duke University, Department of Statistical Science

## Teaching Experience

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### *Duke University*

- STA 199: Intro to Data Science Fall 2019, Spring 2019
- STA 210: Regression Analysis Fall 2019, Spring 2019, Fall 2018

### *University of Virginia*

- STAT 1100: An Introduction to Statistics Spring 2018, Fall 2017,  
Spring 2017, Fall 2016, Spring 2016, Fall 2015, Summer 2015
- STAT 2120: Introduction to Statistical Analysis Summer 2017, Summer 2016

### *Virginia Commonwealth University*

- SLWK 609: Foundations of Research in Social Work Practice Spring 2017

### *University of Tennessee-Knoxville*

- STAT 201: Introduction to Statistics Fall 2010, Spring 2010

## Invited Talks

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1. *Beyond the Buzzword: A Look at Data Science in Practice and How You Can Be a Part of It.* Diversity in Data Science and Machine Learning Conference. Washington, DC. October 2019.

2. *Panel on Women in Machine Learning and Data Science*, Duke Machine Learning Day. Durham, NC. March 2019.
3. *Panel on Women in Industry*. Duke University Business Oriented Women Meeting. Durham, NC. September 2018.

## Presentations & Posters

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1. *Using GitHub and RStudio to Facilitate Authentic Learning Experiences in a Regression Analysis Course*. Women in Statistics and Data Science Conference. Bellevue, WA. October 2019.
2. *Using GitHub and RStudio to Facilitate Authentic Learning Experiences in a Regression Analysis Course*. Joint Statistical Meeting. Denver, CO. July 2019.
3. *Using GitHub and RStudio to Facilitate Authentic Learning Experiences in a Regression Analysis Course*. United States Conference on Teaching Statistics. State College, PA. May 2019. (Poster)
4. *Panel on Teaching Large Classes in Statistics Using Active Learning Spaces*. Innovation in Pedagogy Summit. Charlottesville, VA. May 2016.
5. *Clustering High-Dimensional Categorical Data Using a Bayesian Finite Mixture Model*. Quantitative Collaborative Fellows Poster Session. Charlottesville, VA. April 2017. (Poster)
6. *Understanding Variability Between Groups of Sequences Using a Bayesian Object-Oriented Data Model*. Joint Statistical Meeting. Seattle, WA. August 2016.
7. *Understanding Object-Oriented Data Using Optimal Matching*. Quantitative Collaborative Fellows Poster Session. Charlottesville, VA. April 2015. (Poster)

## University & Department Service

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ASA [DataFest@Duke](#) Organizer, 2019 - present

Statistical Science Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, 2019 - present

Statistical Science Master's Student Advisor, 2019 - present

Statistical Science Undergraduate Major Advisor, 2018 - present

Statistical Science Committee on Departmental Code of Conduct, 2019

Females Excelling More in Math, Engineering, & Science (FEMMES) Capstone, 2019

Statistical Science Master's Program Admissions Committee, 2019

Duke Datathon Judge, 2018

## Service to Profession

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ASA Section on Statistics and Data Science Education, Communications Officer Elect, 2019 (Term: 2020 - 2022)

Reviewer for *Journal of Statistics Education*, 2019 - present

CAUSE Undergraduate Statistics Research Project Competition Judge, 2019

ASA Section on Bayesian Statistical Science Student Paper Competition Review Committee, 2019

## Mentoring

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1. Karen Jin, Undergraduate Thesis Advisee, 2019 - 2020
2. Caroline Levenson, Independent Study, 2019

## Grants & Fellowships

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Jump Start Grant, Learning Innovation, Duke University, 2019

National Science Foundation. *Collaborative Research: Accelerating the Pace of Research and Implementation of Writing-to-Learn Pedagogies Across STEM Disciplines* Role: Key Faculty, 2018 - 2020

Active Learning Fellows, Learning Innovation, Duke University, 2019 - 2020

Course Design Institute Fellowship, University of Virginia, 2016

## Professional Experience

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### Senior Statistician

2013

*Capital One*, Richmond, VA

Developed the first generation of statistical models to perform deposit forecasts for Capital One Bank.

### Statistician

2011 - 2012

*Capital One*, Richmond, VA

Designed experiments for mail marketing campaigns in Capital One Bank.

## Professional Memberships

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American Statistical Association

Center for Statistics and Applications in Forensic Evidence

National Math Alliance Mentor