

**Clinical Assistant Professor**

Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science  
 University of Illinois at Chicago  
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**Employment**

Clinical Assistant Professor, University of Illinois at Chicago	August 2020 - present
Lecturer, University of Illinois at Chicago	August 2016 - August 2020
Teaching Assistant, University of Illinois at Chicago	January 2012 - May 2016
Senior Analyst, AON, Chicago	August 2009 - November 2011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleaned and modeled thousands of lines of data for potential catastrophic loss using SQL Server, Microsoft Access, and various modeling software packages, including RMS RiskLink, AIR CLASIC/2, IF Elements, and EQE WorldCAT.</li> <li>• Analyzed results and developed exhibits for presentation to clients.</li> </ul>	
Graduate Assistant, Southeast Missouri State University	August 2007 - May 2009

**Education**

Ph.D., Mathematics, University of Illinois at Chicago Concentration: Probability & Statistics Dissertation Advisor: Cheng Ouyang	May 2016
M.N.S., Mathematics, Southeast Missouri State University	May 2009
B.S., Applied Mathematics and Statistics, Southeast Missouri State University	May 2007
B.S., Economics, Southeast Missouri State University	May 2007

**Research Interests**

Random walks, survey sampling, metapopulation models, and ecological applications.

**Awards**

2015-2016 Graduate Student Service Award (Statistics)  
 2014-2015 Graduate Student Service Award (Statistics)

**Teaching**

Clinical Assistant Professor / Lecturer  
University of Illinois at Chicago

August 2016 - present

- MATH 118 – Mathematical Reasoning (4 semesters)
- STAT 101 – Introduction to Statistics (2 semesters)
- STAT 361 – Elements of Statistical Methods (3 semesters)
- STAT 362 – Elements of Statistical Computing
- STAT 381 – Applied Statistical Methods I (9 semesters)
- STAT 382 – Statistical Methods and Computing (4 semesters)
- STAT 401 – Introduction to Probability
- STAT 431 – Introduction to Sampling
- STAT 481 – Applied Statistical Methods II (4 semesters)
- STAT 496 – Independent Study
  - Spring 2019: Shaina H. – R Code Project
  - Fall 2019: Jason G. – Reading Course on Clinical Trials
  - Fall 2020: Keenan R. – Reading Course on Clinical Trials
  - Fall 2020: Amanda Q.M. – SQL
  - Spring 2021: Amanda Q.M. – SQL Projects with Real Datasets
  - Fall 2021 – Spring 2022: Tom H. – Reading Course on the Lebesgue Integral for Undergraduates
- Honors College Activity Supervision:
  - Fall / Winter 2019: Jay S. (Stat 481: 2-way ANOVA Mixed Effects Models)
  - Spring 2020: Aryan T. (Stat 381: R Coding, Visualization, and Statistics)
  - Fall 2020: Ayden Y. (Stat 381: SQL)
  - Spring 2021: Michael Y. (Stat 381: Mental Health Data Analysis)
  - Spring 2021: Teddy Z. (Stat 381: Building an Earthquake Prediction Program)
  - Spring 2022: Malik N. (Stat 381: Learning More about R)
- Honors Capstone Project Supervisor
  - Fall 2021: Sara A. (Optimizing Ecological Distance Measurements)  
Research started Spring 2021  
Received Independent Study Credit Fall 2021 / Spring 2022 (Stat 496)

Teaching Assistant

January 2012 - May 2016

University of Illinois at Chicago

- STAT 381 – Applied Statistical Methods I (SP 2016) - Lecturer
- MATH 090 – Intermediate Algebra (FA 2014)
- MATH 121 – Precalculus Mathematics (SP 2015)
- MATH 165 – Business Calculus (SP 2012)
- MATH 170 – Calculus for the Life Sciences (FA 2015)
- STAT 101 — Introduction to Statistics (FA 2013, SP 2014)

Graduate Assistant (with Responsibilities of a Full Instructor)

August 2007 - May 2009

Southeast Missouri State University

- MA095 - Intermediate Algebra (FA 2007, SP 2008, FA 2008, SP 2009)

### Curriculum Development

#### Syllabi Developed / Revised

- Spring 2021 – Fall 2021: STAT 382 (revised with Dale Embers)
- Spring 2020: STAT 381 (revised)
- Spring 2018 / Spring 2019: STAT 361 (developed / revised)
- Spring 2018: STAT 362 (developed)

#### Course Materials Development

- Fall 2021: Developed lecture sheets for STAT 431
- Fall 2020 / Spring 2021: Provided all course materials for STAT 481 instructors
- Fall 2020: Created videos for STAT 361 / STAT 381
- Summer 2020: Develop online MATH 118 and created videos (requested by AHI before COVID)
- Fall 2019: Developed lecture sheets for STAT 361 / STAT 381; STAT 481
- Summer 2018: Wrote Supplemental Notes for MATH 118

### Community Outreach

Data Science: Summer of a Lifetime Program

- June 21 – June 25, 2021
- Collaboration with UIC Clinical Assistant Professor Gonzalo Bello (Computer Science).
- Summary: Noble Networks Summer of a Lifetime is collaborating with the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) to offer a week-long summer enrichment program exclusively for rising Noble [high school] juniors and seniors. You'll learn about a new major being offered through UICs computer science department: data science.
- Website: <https://cs.uic.edu/undergraduate/data-science-major/summer/>

**Departmental Service**

## Current Activities

- Spring 2022 – current: Coordinator for STAT 382
- Fall 2021 – current: Member of the Undergraduate Studies Committee
- Fall 2020 – current: Assisted DUS with Course Articulations for Statistics Courses
- Fall 2020 – current: Group Administrator for MyOpenMath
- Spring 2020 – current: Coordinator for STAT 361, STAT 362 (spring only), STAT 381
- Fall 2016 – current: Support the Statistics Graduate Student Committee (SGSC)

## Previous Activities

- Spring 2021 – Fall 2021: Co-Coordinator for STAT 382 with Dale Embers
- Spring 2021: Participated in Acadly pilot with STAT 381
- Spring 2019 – Fall 2019: Coordinator for STAT 361, STAT 381
- Fall 2017 – Spring 2019: Member of the Pre-Calculus Committee
- Fall 2017 – Fall 2018: Coordinator for MATH 118
- Spring 2017: Substitute Taught STAT 401 (Introduction to Probability) from February 3 – March 8
- Spring 2017: Substitute Taught STAT 381 (Applied Statistical Methods I) from February 8 – February 27

**Preprints and Publications**

5. A.S. Hedayat and J. Pajda-De La O. Median-Unbiasedness and the Gauss-Markov Property in Finite Population Survey Sampling. *Sankhya A* (volume 83, issue 2, 2021), pp 696–713. <http://doi.org/10.1007/s13171-020-00221-4>
4. N. Bielinski, J. Pajda-De La O, A. Gorniak, and D. Wise. Improving Automated Detection of Frog Calls in Noisy Urban Habitats Using Narrow-Banded Recognizers. *Herpetological Conservation and Biology* (volume 15, issue 1, 2020), pp 1–15.
3. A.S. Hedayat, H. Cheng, and J. Pajda-De La O. Existence of Unbiased Estimation for the Minimum, Maximum, and Median in Finite Population Sampling. *Statistics and Probability Letters* (volume 153, 2019), pp 192–195.
2. C. Ouyang and J. Pajda-De La O. On the Law of the Iterated Logarithm for Brownian Motion on Compact Manifolds. *Science China Mathematics* (volume 62, issue 8, 2019), pp 1511–1518.
1. J. Pajda-De La O, P. Singh, and J. Scheibe. Persistence of a Swamp Rabbit Metapopulation: The Incidence Function Model Approach. *International Journal of Ecology and Development* (volume 25, issue 2, 2013), pp 1–20.

**Conference Presentations and Seminar Talks**

15. IISA 2021 Virtual Conference, May 20–23, 2021  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
Session Organizer (Survey Sampling and Small Area Estimation) and Participant
14. Wise Lab Meeting, University of Illinois at Chicago November 5 and 12, 2020
13. Statistics and Data Science Seminar, November 13, 2019  
University of Illinois at Chicago
12. Undergraduate Colloquium, Loyola University Chicago March 27, 2019
11. Graduate Statistics Seminar, University of Illinois at Chicago March 6, 2017
10. Wise Lab Meeting, University of Illinois at Chicago September 19, 2017
9. MAA Illinois Section Meeting, Illinois College April 8, 2016
8. Colloquium, Roosevelt University October 30, 2015
7. MAA Indiana Section Meeting, Purdue North Central October 17, 2015
6. Summer School on Stochastic Analysis and Geometry August 30, 2014
5. Wise Lab Meeting University of Illinois at Chicago March 19 and April 2, 2013
4. Statistics Seminar, University of Illinois at Chicago February 29, 2012
3. Catastrophe Analysis, presented at an AON client meeting September 2010, 2011  
Presented completed book of results to executives of an insurance company
2. MAA Missouri Section Meeting, Truman State University April 18, 2009
1. Math Club, Southeast Missouri State University December 2008, February 2009

**Professional Activities**

Refereed for:

- Kuwait Journal of Science
- Scientia Iranica

**Memberships/Honor Societies**

American Statistical Association	April 2015 - present
Mathematical Association of America	November 2009 - present
Omicron Delta Epsilon	inducted 2007
International Honor Society for Economics	
Phi Kappa Phi	inducted 2006, lifetime member
Honor Society for all academic disciplines	
Phi Eta Sigma	inducted 2005
Freshman Honor Society	

**Other Activities**

Honorary Member of the Wise Lab	August 2015 - present
Statistics Graduate Student Committee (Chair)	August 2014 - May 2016

**Problem Solving Submissions - Solved****Dates in parentheses indicate issue original problem was published in**

Crux Mathematicorum with Mathematical Mayhem

Problem Numbers: 3350 (Apr. 2008), 3390 (Dec. 2008)

College Math Journal

Problem Numbers: 888 (Nov. 2008), 898 (Mar. 2009), 960 (Sept. 2011),  
998 (Mar. 2013)

Mathematics Magazine

Problem Numbers: 2003 (Oct. 2008), 1816 (Apr. 2009), 1829 (Oct. 2009)