

Jericho Lawson

Curriculum Vitae – Sept. 2026

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. in Applied Statistics – *University of California, Riverside*** **2025**
- Dissertation: ImgKnock: Knockoffs for Image Data via Latent Representation Learning (Advisor: Dr. Zhe Fei)
- M.S. in Statistics – *University of California, Riverside*** **2022**
- B.S. in Applied Mathematics; Statistics & Data Science (Honors) – *University of Arizona*** **2020**
- Thesis: “Legitimate or Unfair?: An Evaluation and Improvement of the College Football Playoff Using Logistic Regression and Adjacency Matrices” (Advisor: Dr. Joseph Watkins)
 - Minors: Sports Management, Computer Science

EMPLOYMENT

- Visiting Assistant Professor – *Dept. of Mathematics & Statistics – Vassar College*** **2026 – present**
- Lecturer (VAP) – *Dept. of Statistical & Data Sciences – Smith College*** **2025 – 2026**
- Associate Instructor – *Dept. of Statistics – University of California, Riverside*** **2023 – 2025**
- Teaching Assistant – *Dept. of Statistics – University of California, Riverside*** **2021 – 2025**
- Undergraduate Teaching Coordinator – *Dept. of Mathematics – University of Arizona*** **2018 – 2020**
- Undergraduate Teaching Assistant – *Dept. of Mathematics – University of Arizona*** **2017 – 2018**

TEACHING (* – indicates at least some redevelopment of course curriculum)

- Visiting Assistant Professor – *Dept. of Statistical & Data Sciences – Smith College*** **2026 – present**
- MATH 240: Introduction to Statistics (x1, Fall 2026)
 - MATH 241: Probability (x1, Fall 2026)
- Lecturer (VAP) – *Dept. of Statistical & Data Sciences – Smith College*** **2025 – 2026**
- SDS 192: Introduction to Data Science (x3, Fall 2025, Spring 2026)
 - SDS 270: Programming for Data Science in R (x2, Fall 2025, Spring 2026)
- Associate Instructor – *Dept. of Statistics – University of California, Riverside*** **2023 – 2025**
- STAT 011: *Introduction to Statistical Modeling (x2, Fall 2023, Spring 2024)
 - STAT 107: Statistical Computing (x2, Summer 2023, 2024)
 - STAT 127: *Quality Improvements (x2, Winter 2023, 2024)
 - STAT 130: *Sampling Surveys (x1, Fall 2024)
 - STAT 170: Regression Analysis (x1, Summer 2025)
- Teaching Assistant – *Dept. of Statistics – University of California, Riverside*** **2021 – 2025**
- STAT 008: Statistics for Business (x2, Spring 2022, Winter 2025)
 - STAT 010: Introduction to Statistics (x5, 2021 – 2025)

- STAT 011: Introduction to Statistical Modeling (x3, 2021 – 2025)
- STAT 107: Statistical Computing (x2, Summer 2022, Winter 2025)
- STAT 130: Sampling Surveys (x2, Fall 2021, 2022)
- STAT 208: Statistical Data Mining Methods (x1, Spring 2025)

Undergraduate Teaching Coordinator – Dept. of Mathematics – University of Arizona

2018 – 2020

- MATH 100/100A: Math Lab (Prep. for College Mathematics) (x4, 2018 – 2020)

Undergraduate Teaching Assistant – Dept. of Mathematics – University of Arizona

2017 – 2020

- MATH 100/100A: *Math Lab (Prep. for College Math.) (x2, Fall 2017, Spring 2018)
- MATH 223: Vector Calculus (x1, Spring 2020)
- MATH 396T/DATA 367: *Sports Analytics (x3, 2018 – 2020)

SCHOLARLY RESEARCH

Dissertation – University of California, Riverside (Advisor: Dr. Zhe Fei)

2025

- Title: ImgKnock: Knockoffs for Image Data via Latent Representation Learning
- Developed and applied a refined knockoffs procedure on image data through latent representation learning
- Applied 2nd-Order Group Knockoffs and ImgKnock approaches on fundus images for glaucoma

Thesis – Honors College – University of Arizona (Advisor: Dr. Joseph Watkins)

2020

- Title: “Legitimate or Unfair?: An Evaluation and Improvement of the College Football Playoff Using Logistic Regression and Adjacency Matrices”
- Developed and refined a ranking procedure for choosing the best college football teams through logistic regression

PUBLICATIONS

Bouris E., Levya B.K., Odugbo O.P., **Lawson J.**, Jin S., Fei Z., Morales E., Alkhalili O., Caprioli J. A Vision Transformer Model for the Detection of Glaucoma from Optic Disc Photographs. *Sci Rep* 16, 14831 (2026). Available from: <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-026-44662-7>

2026

Lawson J.B., Fei Z. *ImgKnock: Knockoffs Feature Selection for Image Data via Latent Representation Learning*. UC Riverside. ProQuest ID: <https://www.proquest.com/LegacyDocView/DISSNUM/32238972>. Retrieved from <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/77403004>

2025

Lawson J., Watkins J. *Legitimate or Unfair?: An Evaluation and Improvement of the College Football Playoff Using Logistic Regression and Adjacency Matrices*. University of Arizona Campus Repository. Available from: <https://repository.arizona.edu/handle/10150/651357>

2020

STUDENT RESEARCH PAPERS & PROJECTS

Student – Dept. of Statistics – University of California, Riverside

2020 – 2025

- Statistical Applications in Crime Mapping: Exploring the Impacts of Weather on the Occurrence and Location of Car Thefts in the City of Phoenix (2023)
- Winning Time: The Rise of Stochastic Processes in Tennis (2022)

- A Classification Study on Rafael Nadal's Match Results (2022)
- Boston Housing: Incorporating Spatial Dependency to Understand Housing Values (2022)
- An Introduction into Elo Ratings (RShiny App) (2022)
- Analyzing Hypertension Risk among the Population through Survival Analysis (2021)

Student – Dept. of Mathematics – University of Arizona

2016 – 2020

- Inhibition of Non-Homologous End-Joining for DNA Repair: A Modeling Approach (2020)
- Real-Time Classification of Atrial Fibrillation using RR Intervals and Transition States (2019)
- Investigation into a New, Reliable Estimator for the Survival Function (2018)
- Statistical Research on UA Men's Golf Team (2018)
- Statistical Analysis on UA Women's Soccer Team (2017)

SCHOLARLY PROGRAMS & INTERNSHIPS

Participant – University Teaching Certificate (UTC) Program – UC Riverside

2025

- Learned and developed useful pedagogical techniques for use in statistics classes

Participant – JumpStart – UC Riverside (Advisor: Dr. Subir Ghosh)

2020

- Investigated the usefulness of the sufficient statistic and its usage in sampling

Participant – REU@UNCW – UNC Wilmington (Advisor: Dr. Yishi Wang)

2019

- Implemented classification methods to detect onset of atrial fibrillation with ECG data

Participant – RUSIS (REU) – Oregon State University (Advisor: Dr. Javier Rojo)

2018

- Investigated usefulness of a new estimator for the empirical survival function

Student – MATH 396T (Sports Analytics) – University of Arizona

2017

- Ran statistical analyses on soccer passing patterns; correlations between scoring

Intern – KinetX Aerospace – Tempe, AZ

2017

- Developed several Python scripts to project trajectories in diff. coordinate planes

KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS

Research Interests

- Knockoffs, high-dimensional variable selection, signal and image processing, sports analytics, machine learning, artificial intelligence, environmental/ecological statistics

Mathematics & Statistics Knowledge

- Autoencoders, machine learning, classification methods, generalized linear and mixed effects models, Monte Carlo methods, probability theory, knockoffs

Coding and Technology Skills

- R, Python, GitHub, MATLAB, LaTeX, Bash, HTML, SQL, Quarto

MENTORING

Mentor – SMART Program – University of California, Riverside

2023 – 2025

- Topics: Insurance premiums, sports analytics, dentistry
- Students: Cameron Fong (2023), James Liao (2024), Shawn Hwang (2025)

Mentor, TA – MATH 396T, DATA 375 (Sports Analytics) – University of Arizona

2018 – 2020

- Topics: Regression modeling with golf, serve data in tennis, strength and conditioning
- Students: Edwy Cai (2018), various students (2019 – 2020)

Team Leader – *Blue Chip Leadership Program – University of Arizona*

2018 – 2019

- Provided guidance for up to 15 freshmen while discussing basics of social leadership

PATH – *UA Honors College – University of Arizona*

2017 – 2018

- Advised first-year mentees on academic/social situations during fall semester

SERVICE

Committees

- Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) Committee – Stat. Department, UCR (2022 – 2024)
- Women in Data Science (WiDS) Event Committee – UCR (2023)
- Southwestern Undergrad. Mathematics Research Committee (SUnMaRC, 2018 – 2019)
- Blue Chip Serves – Blue Chip Leadership Program – University of Arizona (2017)

Clubs & Associations

- Statistics Mini-Graduate Student Association – UCR (multiple positions; 2020 – 2025)
- MathCats – UofA (multiple positions; 2016 – 2020)
- Blue Chip Leadership Program – UofA (2016 – 2020)
- Blue Chip Serves – Blue Chip Leadership Program, University of Arizona (2017)

Volunteering

- Tutor: K-12 Refugee Ed. Services – Lutheran Social Services of Southwest (2016 – 2020)

Outreach

- Panelist: Alumni Panel, F. Nightingale David Symposium – Stats. Dept., UCR (2026)
- Panelist: Statistics Graduate School Panel – MST, Smith (2026)
- Panelist: Data Science Program Recruit. Event – CNAS, UCR (2025)
- Panelist: Data Science Program Recruit. Event – CNAS, UCR (2025)
- Panelist: Graduate Student Panel for Recruit. Day – Stats. Dept., UCR (x3, 2023 – 2025)
- Host: Booth for UCR Statistics at Highlander Day (x4, 2023 – 2025)
- Moderator: NISS Graduate Student Panel (2023)
- Panelist: DS-PATH Summer Fellowship Program, UCR (2023)

AWARDS, HONORS, & ENDORSEMENTS

Student – *Dept. of Statistics – University of California, Riverside*

2020 – 2025

- Graduate Student Travel Award: Departmental (x1, 2025)
- F.N. David Rising Scholar Award: Departmental (x1, 2025)
- SMART Mentor Award: Departmental (x3, 2023 – 2025)
- DEI Student Committee Member: Departmental (x2, 2023, 2024)
- Outstanding TA Award: Departmental (x1, 2023)
- Chancellor’s Distinguished Fellowship: University-wide (x1, 2020)

Student – *Dept. of Mathematics – University of Arizona*

2016 – 2020

- Academic Year Academic Distinction: University-wide (x3, 2017 – 2020)
- Dean’s List: University-wide (x7, 2017 – 2020)
- Best Poster: MATH 485 Poster Session (x1, 2020)
- UArizona Leadership Endorsement: University-wide (x1, 2020)

- 3rd Best Undergraduate Oral Presentation: RMSC at UNCG Greensboro (x1, 2019)
- The Richard Pierce Memorial Scholarship Endowment: (x1, 2019)
- Galileo Circle Scholar: College-wide (x1, 2019)
- Academic Year Highest Academic Distinction: University-wide (x1, 2019)
- Dean's List with Distinction: University-wide (x2, 2018, 2019)
- McLean First Generation Scholarship Award: (x1, 2018)
- Wildcat Excellence Award: (x1, 2016)

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

Joint Statistical Meetings – Boston, MA	2026
Electronic Conference on Teaching Statistics (eCOTS) – online	2026
Joint Statistical Meetings – Nashville, TN	2025
• <u>Speed Talk & Poster</u>: ImgKnock: Novel Knockoff Generation and Feature Selection for Image Data via Latent Representation Learning	
Data Science in the Classroom Conference – Riverside, CA	2025
Graduate Student Symposium – University of California, Riverside	2025
• <u>Poster</u>: ImgKnock: Novel Knockoff Generation and Feature Selection for Image Data via Latent Representation Learning	
Orange County Biostatistics Symposium – Irvine, CA	2022
NISS Graduate Student Research Conference – online	2021
• <u>Presentation</u>: Real-Time Classification of Atrial Fibrillation using RR Intervals/Transition States	
Joint Statistical Meetings – online, originally for Philadelphia, PA	2020
• <u>Poster</u>: Real-Time Classification of Atrial Fibrillation using RR Intervals/Transition States	
15th UNC Greensboro Regional Mathematics & Statistics Conference – Greensboro, NC	2019
• <u>Presentation</u>: Real-Time Classification of Atrial Fibrillation using RR Intervals/Transition States	
MATH REU Conference – Clemson, SC	2019
• <u>Presentation</u>: Real-Time Classification of Atrial Fibrillation using RR Intervals/Transition States	
Southwestern Undergraduate Mathematics Research Conference – Tucson, AZ	2019
• <u>Presentation</u>: Investigation of Estimators for the Case of Non-Decreasing Ratio of Cumulative Hazards	
Southwestern Undergraduate Mathematics Research Conference – Albuquerque, NM	2018

OTHER POSTERS & TALKS

ImgKnock: Novel Knockoff Generation and Feature Selection for Image Data via Latent Representation Learning	(x3) 2025
Statistical Applications in Crime Mapping: Exploring the Impacts of Weather	2023

on the Occurrence and Location of Car Thefts in the City of Phoenix

Real-Time Classification of Atrial Fibrillation using RR Intervals and Transition States *(x3) 2020 – 2021*

- Locations: UNC Wilmington Poster Session; Graduate Student Seminar (x2)

Inhibition of Non-Homologous End-Joining for DNA Repair: A Modeling *2020*

Investigation of Estimators for the Case of Non-Decreasing Ratio of Cumulative Hazards *2018*

Statistical Research on the University of Arizona's Men's Golf Team *2018*

The University of Arizona Women's Soccer Presentation *2017*

MEMBERSHIPS

American Statistical Association *2024 – present*

Mu Sigma Rho – *University of California, Riverside* *2023 – present*

American Mathematical Society *2018 – 2019*
