

Mahtash Esfandiari

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Cognitive Science, Statistics, Measurement, and Evaluation, University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign:

B.S. in Chemistry and Teaching Diploma, American University of Beirut

APPOINTMENT

2009 to present	Director, Statistical Consulting Center, Department of Statistics, UCLA
1998 to present	Assistant Director, Center for the Teaching of Statistics, Department of Statistics, UCLA
1998 to present	Continuing Senior Lecturer, Department of Statistics, UCLA
1994 to 1998	Statistical and Evaluation Consultant for Educational Institutions and Industry
1989 to 1994	Lecturer and Director of Research, Teacher Education Laboratory, UCLA
1984-1989	Visiting Associate Professor, Graduate School of Education, UCLA

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Statistics education
- Statistical consulting
- Experimental design
- Survey design
- Evaluation of interventions

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- Esfandiari, M. (July 2018). Statistics: A Window to Understanding Diversity. Presented in ICOTS Conference on Statistics Education in Kyoto Japan.
- Esfandiari, M. (July 2018). Application of Generalizability Theory to Analysis of Vision Data, Presented the UCLA Department of Statistics Seminar Series.
- Esfandiari, M. (December 2014). Hard Skills and Soft Skills that Underlie Teaching a Successful Statistics Course. Presented at California Mathematics Community College Conference, Monterey, CA.
- Esfandiari, M. , Sorenson, K. Zes, D. and Nichols, K. (July 2014) Enhancing Statistical Literacy and Thinking Through Analysis of Scientific Journal Articles. Presented in ICOTS (International Conference on the Teaching of Statistics), Flagstaff, Arizona.
- Esfandiari, M, and Nakamura, M. (May 2014) Power Analysis and Determination of Sample Size . Western University of Medical Sciences.
- Esfandiari, M. Sorenson, K. Zes, D. and Nichlos, K (October 2011). Designing a "Cyber-Based" Article Bank to Enhance Statistics Education. Paper presented in the Department of Statistics Seminar Series.
- Esfandiari, M, Nguyen, H. Yaglovskaya, Y. and Gould, R. (July 2010). Enhancing Statistical Literacy Through Open-Ended Questions that Involve, Context, Data, and Upper Level Thinking. Presented in ICOTS Conference on Statistics Education in Yugoslavia.

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Helping UCLA community and the community at large with design of studies, data collection, data analysis, and preparation of final reports through the consulting class.

Designed and taught two workshops on power analysis and sample size determination to medical community.

Created three videos on experimental and quasi-experimental design that could be used in teaching, research, and design of experiments.

President for the southern chapter of the American Statistical Association (2005-2007)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- LouLou Kobeissi, Goleen Samari, Donatello Telesca, Mahtash Esfandiari, and Osman Galal (December 2014). The Impact of Breast Cancer Knowledge and Attitude on screening and early detection among an Immigrant Iranian population in Southern California, *Journal of Religion and Health*.
- Dixie Mills, Eva J Gordon, Ashley Casano, Sarah Michelle Lahti, Tinh Nguyen, Alex Preston, Julie Tondre, Kuan Wu, Tiffany Yanase, Henry Chan, David Chia, Mahtash Esfandiari, Tiffany Himmel, Susan M Love, The physiology of the normal human breast: an exploratory study (2011), volume 67, issue 4, pages 621-627.
- Esfandiari, M. & Kourilsky, M. (2000). Bridging the gap between the act of invention and creating a business venture: an empirical investigation. *Children's Social and Economic Education: An International Journal*, vol. 4:2, pp. 65-75
- Kourilsky, M. & Esfandiari, M. (1997). Entrepreneurship Education and Lower Socio-Economic Black Youth: An empirical Investigation. *Urban Review*, vol. 29, No. 3, pp. 205-215
- Kourilsky, M., Esfandiari, M. & Wittrock, M. (1996). Generative teaching and personality characteristics of student teachers. *Teaching and Teacher Education*, vol. 23, Number 4, pp. 355-365.

SELECTED HONORS AND AWARDS

- Study on “blended instruction” was presented as a successful case study using technology in the 2010 WASC review of UCLA.
- Professional Development award UCLA (2007)
- Award for the best academic book of the year by Ministry of Science and Higher Education (1980 and 1984). Books include “Statistical Inference” and “Experimental Design”.
- Fulbright Fellow
- Winner of the AID (Agency for International Development) fellowship

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Pioneer in research and teaching on application of “active learning” and “constructivism” in teaching and learning in the College of Physical Science.
- Close collaboration with the UCLA Office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion,
- Helping UCLA students learn more about diversity initiative and our campus climate by using the data collected on 5000 undergraduates in designing lectures, homeworks, labs, and exams for lower division, upper division, and graduate classes taught in statistics.
- Statistical and evaluation consultant for multiple educational, civic, entrepreneurial, medical, industrial, non-profit, and research organizations such as UCLA medical school, law school, School of Public Health, Kaplan University, LAUSD, Kauffman Foundation, JPL, and IBM.
- Pioneered a blended instruction case study that led to the redesign of our introductory statistics course that serves as a GE requirement. This redesign involved innovative pedagogy including design of an automated essay grading system and an online multiple-choice test bank with 2000 questions that assess upper level thinking and problem solving.
- Designed a cyber-based article bank with assessment tools that demonstrate the application of simple and advanced statistical methods in answering real world questions in different disciplines.
- Designed an upper division statistics course aligned with the UCLA Diversity Initiative. Lectures, labs, homework, and exams will be designed based on diversity literature and diversity data collected on UCLA community.
- Active member of American Statistical Association, American Association for Advancement of Science, and American Educational Research Association.
- Serving on the editorial board of the *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*, and *Technology Innovations in Statistics Education*. Reviewer for publishers such as sage.