

## ***Welcome Graduate and Professional Students, and Postdoctoral Scholars!***



“Welcome to the new school year! If you are new to campus, I hope you are settling in, meeting people in your program and finding your way around campus. If you are a returning student, I hope you found some time over the summer for at least a little break. While we are all trying to have this upcoming semester be as normal as possible, we are all aware that COVID is still present and are trying to get used to what may become a “new normal” to keep ourselves and our colleagues safe. Despite not being able to see each other’s smiling faces, we are all very pleased that you are here and hope you have a happy, healthy and intellectually stimulating semester!”

*- Acting Dean, Martha L. Peterson, Ph.D.*

## **What's In This Issue?**

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## **NEW Graduate Career Advisor, Dr. Tithi Basu Mallik**

Tithi Basu Mallik, PhD serves as the Assistant Director for Graduate/Professional Students and Postdoctoral Support at the Stuckert Career Center. She is also affiliated with the Graduate School as the Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Career Advisor. In both these roles she provides career exploration and preparation

support to graduate students and postdocs. This includes developing and delivering tailored career programs, one-on-one and group advising, and outreach and advocacy for UK students and trainees. Tithi started her role at UK recently after earning her PhD in Philosophy at the University of Connecticut (UConn) at Storrs. You can schedule individual appointments with her through [Handshake](#) or reach out to her at [tithi.basu-mallik@uky.edu](mailto:tithi.basu-mallik@uky.edu) if you are looking for assistance with any career-related needs.



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## Key Dates for Fall 2021

### August

- **Sunday, August 22** – Last day a student may officially drop a course or withdraw from all classes for a full refund.
- **Monday, August 23** – First day of classes.
- **Monday, August 23 through Friday, August 27** - Late registration (includes a late fee) for returning students who did not priority register and new applicants cleared late for admission.
- **Friday, August 27** – Last day to add a class for the 2021 Fall Semester.
- **Friday, August 27** – Last day to officially withdraw from the University or reduce course load for an 80% refund.

### September

- **Monday, September 6** – Labor Day (Academic Holiday)
- **Friday, September 10** – Last day to drop without a W or change grading option.
- **Monday, September 20** – Last day for doctoral candidates for a December degree to submit a Notification of Intent to schedule a final examination in The Graduate School.
- **Wednesday, September 22** – Last day to officially withdraw from the University or reduce course load for a 50% refund.
- **Wednesday, September 22** – Payment deadline of registration fees and/or housing and dining fees or incur a late payment fee of 1.5 percent of the amount past due.

*Find more key dates for the rest of the semester on the [Registrar's website](#).*

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## Open Professional Development Courses

The following GS courses still have multiple seats available. If you are interested in taking one of these courses, you can self-register via myUK. If you have any questions about these courses, please contact [Morris Grubbs](#), Assistant Dean and Director of the Office of Graduate Student Professional Enhancement. All courses count toward the [Graduate School's Preparing Future Faculty/Professionals Program](#) and the [Graduate Certificate in College Teaching and Learning](#).

### GS 610: College Teaching Seminar

*Sec. 401; 1 credit hour. Thursday, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Jacobs Science Building, Rm 114*

**Instructor:** Dr. David Sacks

Addresses a wide range of teaching and learning issues in the college classroom. Examines pedagogical issues in a general format with opportunity for discipline-specific applications.

### **GS 640: Grant Writing**

*Sec. 001; 3 credit hours. Wednesday, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., Jacobs Science Building, Rm 347*

**Instructor:** Dr. Francisco Andrade

Prepares graduate students to identify competitive grants large and small and to craft clear and compelling grant applications. Content and skills developed in the course are useful to students across the disciplines.

### **GS 650: Preparing Future Faculty**

*Sec. 401; 2 credit hours. Monday, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., Business and Economics Building, Rm 131*

**Instructor:** Dr. Morris Grubbs

An introduction to the roles and responsibilities of faculty across the types of institutions (research universities, comprehensive master's universities, liberal arts and sciences colleges and universities, and community colleges). Through class discussions with visiting faculty and administrators, students learn the characteristics of the institutional types and the expectations of faculty across research, teaching, and service.

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## **Open ESL Courses for Graduate Students**

The following ESL courses, which meet in person, have multiple seats available. You can read more about each of these courses [here](#). If you are interested in taking one of these courses or if you have any questions, please contact [Angela Garner](#), Lecturer in the Center for English as a Second Language and Coordinator of International Graduate Student Initiatives in the Graduate School.

### **ESL 095: Academic Writing for International Graduate Students**

*Mondays and Wednesdays, 3:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.*

This class is designed to assist international students prepare for academic writing at the graduate level. Particular attention is given to writing conventions in the United States, and there is an emphasis on learning and applying the process of writing (drafting, revision, editing, and proofreading). Students will also learn about the importance of academic honesty at the American University, including how to avoid plagiarism as well as how to evaluate and cite sources in their specific disciplines. Assignments in the class will allow students to investigate writing in their disciplines and then apply what they learn to their own field-specific writing. Sample assignments include an annotated bibliography and a proposal/problem-solution paper.

### **ESL 093: Academic Speaking/Listening for International Graduate Students**

*Tuesdays and Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.*

This class is designed to help international students develop their oral and aural English skills in a practical environment. Students' pronunciation patterns are analyzed at the beginning of the semester and time is spent developing a sense of American English sounds, rhythms, and intonation patterns. Course time will also be devoted to helping students develop communication strategies, prepare for and present short presentations, and lead group as well as roundtable discussions.

### **ESL 090: English for International Teaching Assistants**

*Mondays and Wednesdays, 5:00 p.m. - 5:50 p.m. OR Thursdays, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.*

This course is designed for non-native English-speaking graduate assistants who either

placed into or were recommended to take the course during ITA Language Screening conducted by the Graduate School. This course focuses on skills needed for international graduate teaching assistants to be successful in classroom teaching at the university level. Instruction in the course focuses on improving the communication and pronunciation skills of students with special emphases on listening/speaking skills, presentation skills, negotiation skills, and other classroom management tools such as interactive and pedagogical communication.

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## Presentation on US Immigration and Visas in the Age of COVID

**Thursday, August 26th, 2021 @ 12:00 p.m. EST**

Online (Zoom) and In-Person (Gillis Building, Rm. 104)

**Contact Person: [Dr. Joseph Lutz](#)**

[Register Here](#)



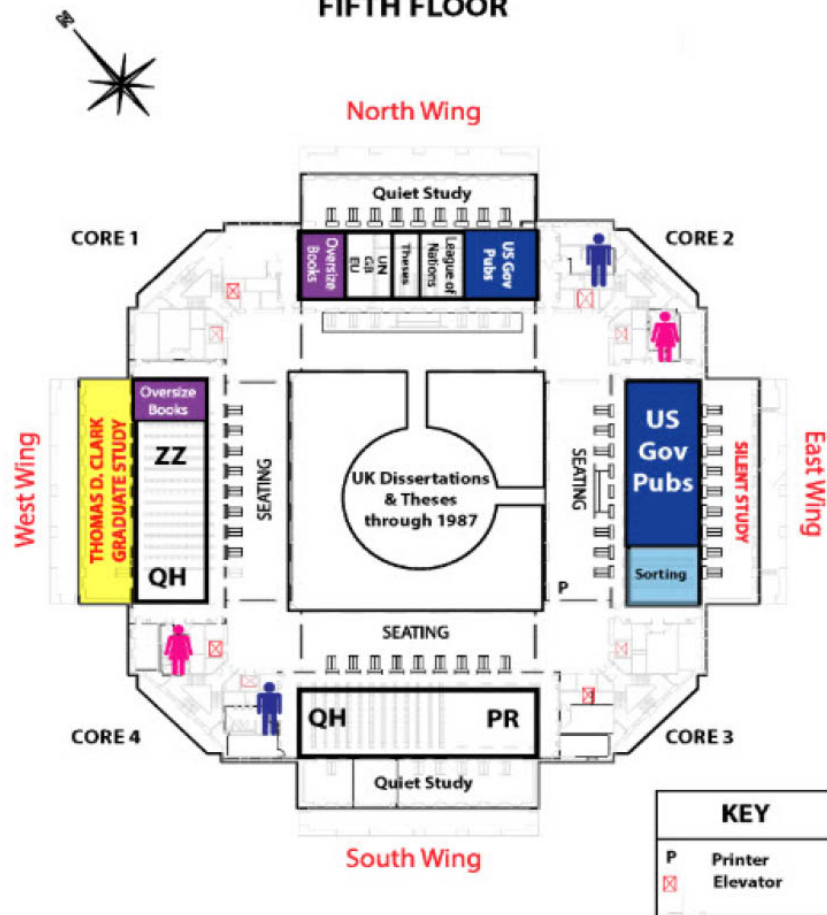
The Office of Postdoctoral Affairs in the Graduate School invites all graduate and professional students and postdocs to attend an informal presentation by Brendan Delaney, J.D., about visa and immigration options for international postdocs and researchers. Brendan is a partner at the law firm of Frank & Delaney Immigration Law, LLC, an immigration law firm based in Bethesda, MD. He will also touch on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic had had on the current immigration landscape in the US. If you choose to attend in person, keep in mind that seating is limited and will be provided first-come-first-served.

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## Thomas D. Clark Graduate Study Open

The Thomas D. Clark Graduate Study is ***a dedicated study space exclusively for graduate students (master's and PhD/EdD) and postdoctoral fellows/scholars!*** The study includes six desktop computers, sixteen study bays, and twelve private study "pods" with outlets for your personal devices, along with eight lounge chairs for reading, a large table for group work, and a stunning view looking west over the campus. Visit the Clark Study on the fifth floor of William T. Young Library, in the west wing. The Clark Study is accessible via UK ID card tap. All graduate students' and postdocs' IDs should be programed to grant access. If your ID does not work or you have any trouble accessing the study, please contact [Melissa Barlow](#) with UK Libraries for assistance.

## YOUNG LIBRARY FIFTH FLOOR



## Essential Campus Resources

Below are links to some essential campus resources for graduate and professional students and postdocs:

- [Academic Ombud](#)
- [Admissions Officers](#)
- [Big Blue Pantry](#)
- [Center for Graduate and Professional Diversity Initiatives \(CGPDI\)](#)
- [Center for Support and Intervention](#)
- [Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching \(CELT\)](#)
- [Counseling Center](#)
- [Disability Resource Center](#)
- [Graduate Student Congress](#)
- [International Student & Scholar Services](#)
- [Main UK COVID-19 Page](#)
- [Office of Diversity and Inclusion](#)
- [Office of Graduate Student Professional Enhancement](#)
- [Office of Institutional Equity & Equal Opportunity](#)
- [Office of Postdoctoral Affairs](#)
- [Office of Student Conduct](#)
- [Stuckert Career Center](#)
- [Student Organizations & Activities](#)
- [UK Healthcare COVID-19](#)
- [UK Libraries Graduate Student Survival Kit](#)
- [University Health Services \(UHS\)](#)
- [Veterans Resource Center](#)
- [VIP Center](#)
- [Wildcat Wardrobe](#)

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## New Students Admitted with Conditions

Students who need to provide official transcripts to remove conditions on admission may choose one of the following methods:

1. Students may send transcripts through the National Student Clearinghouse, or electronically from the sending institution to [gradtranscripts@uky.edu](mailto:gradtranscripts@uky.edu)
2. Students may mail physical transcripts to:

Graduate Admissions  
202 Gillis Building  
Lexington, KY 40506-0033

\*If you are mailing your transcripts please include a cover sheet with your name, mailing address, and Student ID and if you need your hard copy transcripts returned to you.

3. If you wish to drop off your transcripts, please set up an appointment with your assigned [admission officer](#).

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## Aurora Feature: "Applying for Non-Academic Jobs"

For those who are thinking about transitioning into exploring non-academic careers, here are some resources and tips that will help you get started:

### 1. Free Event: "3 Common Mistakes PhDs Make When Starting Their Non-Academic Job Search"

Over the past four years, the Beyond Prof team has interviewed hundreds of Ph.Ds. about how to make a successful career transition. In this webinar, L. Maren Wood, Ph.D. (Founder of Beyond the Professoriate) will share with you what makes, and breaks, a non-academic job search. After attending this webinar, you'll be able to identify common mistakes PhDs make when applying for non-academic jobs, apply proven strategies so that you can avoid making these mistakes, recognize the most critical piece of a non-academic job search, and identify resources in Aurora that can help you in your job search. To register, click this [link](#).

### 2. Know Your Options

Through the University of Kentucky, you have access to self-paced courses and workbooks to help you build a strong foundation for your job search after your degree or postdoc. To help you move through the curriculum available to you in Aurora, you are invited to join a cohort led by a member of the Beyond Prof team. Each week, you'll receive emails guiding you through the curriculum and an invitation to attend office hours with a member of the Beyond Prof team. Cohorts start on September 1st and registration is required. Login to [Aurora](#) to learn more.

### 3. More Information You Should Know

Graduates and PhDs in the early stages of their career transition from the academy express frustration about finding a non-academic career. A common misconception is that submitting cover letters and resumes to online portals is the most important step in applying to non-ac careers, but most jobs are filled through networking and referrals. Therefore, starting your non-academic job search with informational interviews is a better strategy. These brief conversations can help you explore career fields, develop an understanding of organizations, and grow your professional network. To learn more about how informational interviews can help you during your non-academic career search, click [here](#).

#### 4. What energizes you about academia?

What energizes most graduates about their academic experiences are the very same values, priorities, and interests that motivate their non-academic career search. This week, spend 30 – 60 minutes reflecting on what aspects of academia you really enjoy. Go beyond your subject matter expertise, or your love of teaching. What activities do you find rewarding or energizing? Is it mentoring students, applying solutions to solve problems, designing curriculum, or being part of a planning committee for an upcoming conference? Write down your top three picks with an explanation about why these things inspire you. Also, think about what your listed activities mean to you personally. What do they mean to your daily life, or your future goals? Why are they so integral to who you are? What purpose will they help you serve, not just in the academy, but beyond? Keep this list and make sure to revisit it as you get closer to exploring industry job markets. After all, the most important part of a successful non-academic career search is you: your values, your interests, and your priorities.

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## News & Updates from the



## UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY GRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

### September General Assembly Meeting

**Thursday, September 2, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. EST**

**Location:** Seay Auditorium in Ag. North

**Interim President:** Staci McGill

The Graduate Student Congress's (GSC's) General Assembly Meetings take place on the first Thursday of the month during the academic year. The purpose of the General Assembly Meetings is to bring together the GSC Executive Board and Leadership Team members with all GSC Representatives from across UK to discuss matters affecting our quality of life, and to provide updates and seek feedback from our constituents on the GSC's outreach programming, advocacy, and community enhancement efforts. All graduate and professional students, postdoctoral scholars, and graduate faculty are invited to attend. Visit the GSC's [website](#) for a copy of the agenda.

***\*During this first meeting the GSC will be electing a President, Vice President, External Affairs Officer, and Institutional Affairs Officer. If you are interested in running for one of these positions or have any questions, please email [gsc@uky.edu](mailto:gsc@uky.edu).***

### Fall Ice Cream Social

**Thursday, September 16, 2021**

**Location:** TBD

**Time:** TBD

All new graduate students, professional students, and postdoctoral scholars are invited to attend the Graduate Student Congress's (GSC) Fall Ice Cream Social, which is a great opportunity to meet and network with other new graduate and professional students and postdocs across campus. Check out the GSC's [website](#) for more information.

### Seeking Mentors for Start-to-Finish Mentoring Program

The Start to Finish mentoring program is a joint effort between the Graduate Student Congress (GC), the Center for Graduate and Professional Diversity Initiatives (CGPDI) and the Graduate School (GS) as a multi-tiered intervention and support strategy for the

University of Kentucky's historically underrepresented populations in undergraduate, graduate, and professional fields of study. The first tier of the mentoring program includes graduate and professional students paired in either a small group with a faculty fellow or partnered with a faculty member for a one-to-one experience. The second tier of the program affords graduate and professional students the opportunity to practice mentorship by mentoring undergraduate URM students. If you are interested in being a faculty or graduate/professional student mentor, please email [Edward Lo](#) and [David Robinson](#) for more information.

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## Important COVID-19 Guidelines

### Vaccines

Vaccines are our best defense against the virus. **Vaccines are strongly encouraged for all UK community members, but not mandated for non-UK HealthCare employees.** The COVID-19 vaccination will be required, however, for UK HealthCare health care providers, staff, trainees, learners and those who work in UK HealthCare facilities by September 15. Also, on Monday, Aug. 23, UK HealthCare will open registration for appointments for third-dose booster shots of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines for solid-organ transplant recipients and other immunocompromised individuals, in accordance with guidance from the FDA and the CDC. Community members can [schedule a vaccine appointment here](#). UK has vaccination records for individuals who were vaccinated at the UK's Kroger Field Clinic. Those who have been vaccinated through non-UK providers should verify that status with the university so that requirements for steps such as testing and screening can be modified. [Upload vaccination documentation here, via UK's self-report tool](#).

### Masks

**All individuals, regardless of vaccination status, must wear masks in indoor spaces on campus where people gather** — including, but not limited to, classrooms, the Gatton Student Center, shared office spaces, recreational facilities, hallways and common spaces like the lobby of a residence hall. Masks are not required for any individuals while utilizing recreational equipment or while exercising in recreational spaces such as basketball courts. Masks are also not required for anyone alone in indoor spaces, but individuals in their own offices should instruct others to wear masks before entering their private offices. Moreover, masks are not required for vaccinated individuals outside, but unvaccinated individuals should wear masks outside when around other people. When possible, everyone (particularly unvaccinated individuals) is encouraged to eat outside, to avoid crowding, and to make personal distancing decisions in the best interest of the health and safety of our community.

### Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

All personal protective equipment, including hand sanitizer and plexiglass dividers, are being **monitored and replenished as necessary**. If you have requests for personal protective equipment in specific spaces, contact [Environmental Health and Safety](#).

### Screening

The daily screener, a tool utilized by Health Corps to support the UK community, remains available to all students, faculty and staff. **Students and employees who have not been vaccinated are expected to complete the daily screener seven days a week.** Students and employees who have been vaccinated are no longer expected to complete the university's daily screener. If vaccinated individuals are still receiving reminders to complete the screener, it is possible that the institution does not have their vaccination documentation on file. [Upload that information here, via UK's self-report tool](#).

### Testing



**Unvaccinated students are required to complete an entry test during the entry testing window: August 16-27.** There are two options for entry testing:

1. Students can complete an approved PCR test at no cost through UK
2. Students can upload an approved PCR test, administered during the entry testing window, from a non-UK provider via the UK self-report tool.

**Students who are vaccinated are not required to complete a COVID-19 entry test, but they should make sure UK has their vaccination information on file.** UK has the vaccine information for students who were vaccinated at UK's Kroger Field. Students who were vaccinated at a non-UK provider should make sure they upload their vaccination documentation via [the UK self-report tool](#). If UK doesn't have a student's vaccine on record, they will be expected to complete an entry test.

**Unvaccinated students who physically come to campus are also required to complete testing on a regular basis.** They will be placed on one of four "testing teams," and contacted via text and email at regular intervals when it is their time to complete their required test. These PCR tests will be provided at no cost on UK's campus. Non-compliant students will be referred to the [Office of Student Conduct](#).

**PCR tests are available at no cost to all students and employees.** Asymptomatic students and employees can utilize on-campus testing locations, if they wish, above and beyond ongoing testing requirements for unvaccinated students. If students develop symptoms, irrespective of vaccination status, they should [schedule a test at University Health Service](#) and wear a mask to their testing appointment. Employees, if they develop COVID-19 symptoms, should avoid public spaces and contact their health care provider to schedule a COVID-19 test. Irrespective of vaccination status, any student who tests positive for COVID-19 at a non-UK site is required by the Code of Student Conduct to report that to Health Corps via [the self-report tool](#). Students who do not report a positive COVID-19 test result to Health Corps will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.

## Contract Tracing

**Vaccinated individuals will not be required to quarantine or participate in contact tracing, unless they test positive for COVID-19 or develop symptoms.** All contact tracing protocols will remain in place for individuals who are not vaccinated. If an unvaccinated individual is identified through contact tracing to be a CDC-defined close contact exposure (within 6 feet of a positive case for 15 minutes or more), they will be required to quarantine irrespective of whether they show symptoms. If a vaccinated individual tests positive for COVID-19, they will be subject to standard contact tracing and isolation protocols.

## Facilities

**Offices and classrooms have returned to normal configurations,** in accordance with CDC guidelines. Everyone is encouraged to assume the best in their colleague, employee or student; they may have forgotten to put their mask on, or they may not have realized they would be around others. Kind support is one of the best ways to help establish new habits. Here are some ideas on what you can say to support healthy behaviors on campus:

*"Don't forget your mask."*

*"Let's make sure we follow the mask requirements."*

*"Please wear a mask when you come to into the classroom."*

At the same time, **noncompliant students will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct.** If an employee refuses to wear a mask after they have been asked to do so, refer them to their supervisor.

## Academic Course Delivery

As always, faculty retain the right to set attendance policies for their classes. University

approved “excused absences” policies will be honored. Health Corps will be providing verifiable documentation of a student’s quarantine/isolation status. **Student absences due to quarantine/isolation are considered excused under university policy, meaning faculty may not penalize a student for missing class and must accept assignments late that are a result of those excused absences.** Faculty may assign make-up work in a manner that best fits the nature of the course as they have designed it.

