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New Events & Announcements

Upcoming Events

Reimagining Graduate Advising in the Humanities and Social Sciences with Dr. James Van Wyck (02/24)

Join colleagues in the Graduate School's Professional Enhancement Office (GSPE) in a virtual discussion with Dr. James Van Wyck on how graduate programs in the Humanities and Social Sciences can reimagine the advisor-advisee model to better support graduate students’ needs and goals. The event will be from 12:30 until 1:45 p.m. on March 24th via Zoom.

Dr. Van Wyck is Assistant Dean for Professional Development at Princeton University Graduate School where he manages graduate student professional development programs and the GradFUTURES Fellows program. He earned a doctorate in English literature and languages/letters from Fordham University. He is a co-editor of The Reimagined PhD: Navigating 21st Century Humanities Education (Rutgers University Press, 2021). An online version of the book is available through UK Libraries.

This event is funded by The Gaines Center for the Humanities.

Spring 2023 GradScholar: A Doctoral Re-Orientation (03/31)

"A good dissertation is a done dissertation, a great dissertation is a published dissertation, a perfect dissertation is neither."
The UK Graduate School's Office of Graduate Student Professional Enhancement (GSPE) is excited to announce a brand new event for the Spring 2023 semester titled GradScholar: A Doctoral Re-Orientation. Intended for graduate students who have recently entered the candidacy stage of their doctoral degree, or those who are close to completing their qualifying/comprehensive exams, GradScholar will assist doctoral candidates in navigating the difficult transition from graduate student to independent scholar.

- **Date/Time:** Friday, March 31, 2023, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. EST
- **Registration Deadline:** Friday, March 24, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. EST
- **Eligibility Requirement:** Doctoral students who have completed, or will complete, their qualifying/comprehensive exam between May 2022 and May 2023.

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Princeton GradFUTURES Forum 2023 Virtual Events (03/27 - 04/01)
MARCH 27 - APRIL 1, 2023

Featuring engaging speakers, skill-building workshops, alumni panels, and networking sessions

REGISTER AT:
GRADFUTURES.PRINCETON.EDU/FORUM

Click Here for More Information

7 Days of Virtual Programming: March 27-April 1st

Princeton's annual professional development conference brings together graduate students, graduate alumni, post-docs, thought leaders, and experts from around the globe.

Spring 2023 GradTeachLive! In-Person Finals Competition (04/06)

GradTeach LIVE!

Teaching Philosophy in Practice

Monetary prizes, totaling over $1,700 and sponsored by The Graduate Student Congress, will be awarded to the first place, second place, third place, and people’s choice award winners!

The Office of Graduate Student Professional Enhancement (GSPE) in the Graduate School invites all graduate and professional students, graduate faculty, and graduate education support staff to come out and cheer on this year’s top submitters as they showcase their teaching philosophy and instructional skills to the university community in the 2023 UK GradTeachLive! in-person competition on Thursday, April 6, 2023, @ 5:00 p.m. in the UKFCU Esports Lounge in The Cornerstone. The event will feature people’s choice voting and an announcement of winners.

Graduate School Reminders & Guidance
The following ESL courses will be offered in-person during Fall 2023. 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**

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**

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 small group as well as roundtable discussions.

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**Graduate Certificates Processing and Administration**

1) Each student who is eligible to be awarded a certificate must be officially admitted into the certificate program (contact our admission office for assistance if needed).

2) All students will now be required to apply for certificate in MyUK, same process as when students apply for degrees: https://myuk.uky.edu/irj/portal (Click on Student Services /myRecords / Graduate Degree Application).

3) Please be aware of the deadlines for applying for degree/certificate are as follows:
   - December: November 1
   - May: April 1
   - August: April 1

4) If a student is admitted to the certificate beginning Summer Session 2023 and want to graduate in August, they will have to fill out the attached form and return to Meghan in place of the online form.

5) We are no longer using the certificate completion forms (the audit will be used to certify graduate certificates). If there are exceptions/substitutions, you will still need to seek assistance from Meghan Herschelman, meghan.duffy@uky.edu.

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**Broader Campus Initiatives**

**CELT Workshop on Creating and Structuring an Inclusive Learning Environment (03/22)**
How we begin the semester can set a lasting tone for our courses in terms of fostering inclusivity and building community. Join us for an exploration of pedagogical strategies that establish and sustain a classroom that prioritizes inclusiveness by making space for all students. Using a framework that emphasizes connections, facilitation, mindfulness, and follow-up, the group will consider next steps for their own teaching and courses. Refreshments will be provided.

**CELT Workshop on Trauma-Informed Pedagogy**

*Wednesday, March 22, 11:30-12:30 in 502 King Library (in person)*

Over the past few years, traumatic events have significantly impacted students—and instructors—in higher education. When a potentially traumatic incident occurs on or off campus, how we respond and communicate with students makes a difference in their ability to stay engaged with instructors, peers, and coursework. In this workshop we will discuss important pedagogical actions in the aftermath of an event, how to decide whether or not to devote class time to discussion, and, if so, how to facilitate a discussion of events. We will work through a case study to practice how one might approach different scenarios.

**Life in the Foreign Service: A Career Chat with UK Alumnus Paul R. Houston**

*Tuesday, April 4th, 2 - 3 p.m. in the Gatton Student Center Brockman Senate Chamber*

Next month, on **Tuesday, April 4th**, the **Stuckert Career Center** will be hosting Paul R. Houston, Deputy Assistant Secretary and Assistant Director of the Diplomatic Security Service for Threat Investigations and Analysis in the U.S. State Department. DAS Houston will be presenting from **2 - 3 p.m. in the Gatton Student Center Brockman Senate Chamber**. His presentation will detail his career in the US Foreign Service and insights on careers in public service. Students, faculty, staff, and the full campus community are encouraged to attend this presentation.

**Nietzel Visiting Distinguished Faculty Seminar**

**with Deborah Nelson**

Deborah Nelson is the Helen B. and Frank L. Sulzberger Professor of English and chair
of the department of English. Her book *Tough Enough: Arbus, Arendt, Didion, McCarthy, Sontag, Weil* won the Modern Language Association’s James Russell Lowell Prize for Best Book of 2017 and the Gordan Laing Prize in 2019 for the most distinguished contribution to the University of Chicago Press by a faculty member. Professor Nelson will be discussing her award-winning book at **2:00 p.m., Friday April 7, in room 375 of the Gatton Student Center.** This meeting is open to the public.

The Myrle E. and Verle D. *Nietzel Visiting Distinguished Faculty Endowment* was established in 2004 by UK’s former Provost Michael T. Nietzel, Ph.D. in honor of his parents. The goals of the Visiting Distinguished Faculty (VDF) program are to enrich the dissertation experience for selected doctoral candidates whose dissertations are judged to be especially meritorious, and to publicize for academic leaders at other institutions the high quality of scholarship achieved by our doctoral students. This program also serves to enhance the overall intellectual and research environment at the University of Kentucky through colloquia offered by some of the nation’s most outstanding scholars.

Emily Naser-Hall, a doctoral candidate in English, is a 2022-2023 recipient of the Nietzel Endowment. Dr. Alan Nadel, William T. Bryan Chair in American Literature and Culture at UK, and one of Emily’s mentors, says of her work:

"While teaching two courses per term and writing a dissertation, Emily has accumulated a publication record that compares favorably to junior faculty at any of the most elite institutions in America... and she won the English Department’s Ellershaw Award for Outstanding Ph.D. Candidate, along with seven other highly competitive Kentucky fellowship awards, as well as the very prestigious Provost’s Teaching Award.... Her dissertation, titled "Conceive and Control: Cultural-Legal Narratives of American Privacy and Reproductive Politics," is an important, timely, highly original, and exceptionally well-researched and well-argued project ... [that interrogates] the cultural genealogy of privacy laws in the decades following WWII."

The Nietzel endowment supports up to four awards per year. Interested doctoral candidates and their advisers will find all information about applying/nominating [here](#).

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**McCracken Webinar: "Telescope, Stethoscope, Kaleidoscope: The Multivalent Art of Narrative Pedagogy" (04/13)**

[Click Here to Register]

*Thursday, April 13, 2023, @ 6:00 p.m. via Zoom*

How we see ourselves in relation to others tends to determine how we center our place in the world writ large: activist, anarchist, anthropologist, artist – the list goes on and on. But what if we chose a multivalent perspective, one that connects our art-and-science self with a through line of narrative? In this interactive webinar, Derek McCracken, a New York-based narrative activist, shows how contemporary narrative pedagogy thrives in the multiverse of art, literature, theater, medicine, social justice, music, architecture…and pasta.

*Derek McCracken* is a lecturer in Narrative Medicine at Columbia University. He earned a BA and MA in English/Creative Writing from the University of Missouri-Kansas City, and an MS in Narrative Medicine from Columbia. Since 2018, he has taught Narrative Medicine Pedagogy: Goals, Methods Contexts to students from around the world who are seeking to improve their narrative competency. He also serves on the School of Professional Studies faculty DEIA committee and is a member of the Social Justice in Narrative Medicine group. Derek is the board president of SayAh! (a New York-based health literacy non-profit) and is a member of the Clear Health Communications task force at Intellus Worldwide, a leading organization for healthcare analytics. Earlier this year,
Derek was featured in The Content Strategist article “4 Ways Storytelling Powers Health Tech and Saves Lives” in the National Patient Advocate Foundation podcast episode “Using Narrative Medicine to Have Agency Over Your Healthcare Journey” and wrote “Tell Me Your Story: How Narrative Medicine Fosters Trust” for the Society for Participatory Medicine.

Hosted by Rita Basuray, PhD, College of Arts & Sciences with support from the UK Gaines Center for the Humanities.

Fellowships & Other Funding Opportunities

SGA 2023 Academic Excellence Scholarship for a Graduate Student (04/14)

The University of Kentucky Student Government Association (SGA) wishes to recognize one graduate student who has excelled academically and contributed to the University as well. SGA will award a $1,000.00 scholarship on the basis of the academic success and involvement demonstrated while at the University.

The applicant must:
- Have attended UK one academic year prior to applying
- Have full-time status
- Be a current graduate student
- Be involved in at least one campus organization
- Not be an incoming elected or appointed member of the Student Government Association
- Submit an unofficial transcript with application
- Submit a resume or curriculum vitae with application

NOTE: this scholarship application is only applicable for one school year

SGA 2023 Constitutional Scholarship (04/14)

The University of Kentucky Student Government Association (SGA) wishes to recognize one student who has made outstanding contributions to the University. SGA will award a $1,000.00 scholarship on the basis of demonstrated service to the University through campus involvement, leadership, academic success, and financial need.

The applicant must:
- Have attended UK one academic year prior to applying
- Be graduating no earlier than May 2023
- Be a full-time undergraduate or graduate student
- Be continuing in full-time status if this scholarship is awarded
- Been involved in at least one campus organization and exhibit proven leadership capabilities
- Have a financial aid application on file at the Financial Aid Office
- Not be an incoming elected member or appointed member of the Student Government Association
- Submit an unofficial transcript

NOTE: this scholarship application is only applicable for one school year
PhRMA Foundation – Predoctoral Fellowships for Drug Delivery and Drug Discovery Targets and Pathways (05/15)

Description

Drug Delivery

Successful proposals in Drug Delivery emphasize the quantitative understanding of the principles, pathways, and/or mechanisms underlying improved or optimized:

- formulation composition and delivery modalities/technologies that enable more favorable transport (absorption, targeting, elimination) of drugs; and/or
- drug dosage forms that can be manufactured to achieve higher quality, lower cost, and greater stability or flexibility.

Today’s drugs include biologics, small molecules, and cell and gene therapy. Delivering increasingly complex drugs demands thorough understanding of technologies and formulation approaches.

Research that focuses on findings that can be generalized to other systems will be prioritized. Testing the delivery of a single drug by one approach is less preferred.

Amount: $30,000 per year in stipend support for up to 2 years

Drug Discovery Targets and Pathways

Successful drug discovery involves the innovative application and integration of multiple scientific disciplines to create efficacious, safe, and differentiated treatment options for patients. The PhRMA Foundation seeks to fund novel early-stage, exploratory drug discovery research with the potential for translation to humans, including biological validation of potential drug targets, signaling pathways, or mechanisms of disease. Research topics could include, but are not limited to:

- Cellular and Molecular Biology
- Design and Generation of Pharmacological Tools
- In Vitro and/or In Vivo Pharmacology
- Protein Biochemistry
- Molecular Modelling
- Structural Biology
- Cell Imaging
- Single Cell Analysis
- Artificial Intelligence and Computational Approaches

Projects that focus exclusively on single aspects such as identification of and development of assays for single targets, chemical probes, biomarkers, chemical library screening, or diagnostics will not be considered for review. Project aims should have a high likelihood of completion in the award timeframe.

Amount: provides $30,000 in stipend support per year for 12, 18, or 24 months

Closing Date:
- Letter of Intent due May 15, 2023
- Full Application due September 1, 2023 (by invitation only)

Link to Full Announcement
- https://www.phrmafoundation.org/awards/pre-doctoral-fellowship-awards/drug-delivery/
Encore News

Beyond the Professoriate March Webinar Series: Find YOUR Optimal Career

When: Every Wednesday in March from 12 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. ET

Where: Inside Beyond the Prof’s PhD Career Training Platform.

Format: The virtual webinar will include instruction, reflective prompts and exercises, and opportunities for participants to ask questions directly to the Beyond Prof team.

Who should attend: This webinar series is designed for doctoral students, PhDs, and postdocs from all academic disciplines who are wondering:

- What career options are available to PhDs in my discipline?
- How do I identify career pathways that are right for me?
- What are my most marketable skills for careers outside of academia?
- What can I do with my PhD?

These webinars are free for Beyond Prof members to attend. That said, you will need to register ahead of time, which you can do here: https://institutions.beyondprof.com/march-2023-webinar-series-registration/

Replays will be emailed to registered attendees and available for 30 days. Please note that replays of each Wednesday’s session will be available starting the next Friday at noon.

About your instructor: Dr. Harry Thomas earned his PhD from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and joined the Beyond Prof team in 2022 as a Learning Engagement Strategist. Previously, Dr. Thomas taught at Durham Academy where he also served as head of the department. Having navigated his own career transition from teaching into the private sector, Dr. Thomas is passionate about helping graduate students and PhDs explore career options and learn how to job search in today’s creative economy.

Feitong Lei Presents at Regional 3MT in Tampa, FL Thanks to GSC Sponsorship
Feitong Lei, Doctoral Candidate in Public Health, and first-place winner of the Late-Stage Research Track in UK's Fall 2022 GradResearchLive! 3MT Competition, was able to present over the weekend at the Conference of Southern Graduate School (CSGS) Regional 3MT Competition in Tampa, FL, thanks to sponsorship from the Graduate Student Congress, which also funds the monetary prizes for GradResearchLive!. The CSGS Regional 3MT Competition was fierce with 52 universities and only two participants from each of the four heats advancing to the finals competition. While Feitong did not advance to the finals competition, she gave an excellent presentation and we are extremely proud of her efforts! Click here to watch a recording of Feitong's presentation from the Fall 2022 GradResearchLive! Competition.

Winning Universities at the 2023 CSGSS Regional 3MT Competition:

- **First Place**: Auburn
- **Second Place**: University of Florida
- **People’s Choice**: University of Alabama

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**IGEN Emotional Intelligence Workshops (04/12)**
The Inclusive Graduate Education Network (IGEN) will be holding a workshop series that focuses on the development of social-emotional competencies that are essential for success in graduate education and future career performance. Emotional Intelligence (EI) is critical for professional success, these workshops will address professional development for students, and help them develop the skills to aid persistence in graduate school. Workshops are also suitable for faculty and staff. All sessions will be offered from 12:00pm-1:00pm Eastern Time (9:00am-10:00am Pacific Time) OR 5:00pm-6:00pm Eastern Time (2:00pm-3:00pm Pacific Time).

Click here for more information and registration details

Social Awareness Session - January 11, 2023
Relationship Management Session - April 12, 2023

These workshops are open to all, please feel free to forward the information to your colleagues. For any questions/concerns regarding these workshops, please email IPHub@igenetwork.org

University of Louisville's Graduate Student Regional Research Conference (03/22 - 03/23)

The University of Louisville Graduate Student Council (GSC) invites all graduate students from University of Kentucky to the 16th annual Graduate Student Regional Research Conference (GSRRC) happening from March 22 - 23 2023.

The conference features graduate student research and creative activities from across the region through oral talks and poster presentations. In addition, there are workshops for students focused on leadership and leveraging their graduate degree to employers.

Please email Ayodeji Adeniran at ayodeji.adeniran@louisville.edu with any questions, and visit our website at: https://louisville.edu/graduate/gsc/research-conference.

Policy on Oral Graduate Committee-Based Defenses and Exams

All members of a student’s graduate committee are expected to attend and participate in
any oral examination as part of the student’s graduate (Master’s or Doctoral) degree program. Traditionally, oral examinations are conducted with the student meeting with their committee while gathered in one physical location on campus. However, the need occasionally arises for virtual participation in the oral examination.

If a department or program chooses to allow virtual participation in oral examinations, in addition to the exam policy guidelines described under the degree requirement sections, they must also ensure adherence to the following technical requirements. Departments or programs may enforce stricter guidelines than those outlined, including an on-campus-only policy if deemed necessary and appropriate.

It is the responsibility of the Director of Graduate Studies for each program to ensure that the student and their full committee all agree on any type of exam format other than the standard in-person exam.

The Graduate School must be notified of the modality by which the oral exam will be conducted: in-person, virtual or hybrid. This information must be included in the Comment field of the request for the QE or Final exam form and does not need to be approved in advance of the exam.

**Technical Requirements**

In cases where departments or programs allow any level of virtual participation, from one virtual member to a fully virtual event, they must adhere to the following requirements:

1. Prior to any oral exam, the student and Committee Chair coordinate with other committee members regarding the protocol for the exam.
2. All participants must join using university-adopted videoconferencing tools that allow for fully interactive audio and video communications along with screen-sharing capabilities, which must be maintained throughout the examination and any related discussion.
3. The use of audio-only communications is not permitted.
4. Participation merely by viewing a recording of the oral examination is specifically prohibited.
5. All members of the committee, on- or off-site, must participate in the final evaluation of the examination or defense; provisions must be made to record their votes and collect their signatures as necessary using the system approved by the Graduate School. This must be submitted to the Graduate School as soon as possible, but within 7 days of the exam.
6. The Committee Chair, or another non-student designee, shall be the host of the virtual meeting. A co-host may be assigned so that the event will not be interrupted by technical difficulties. The host should mute all participants (or ask participants to mute themselves) and ask the student to share their screen, if a presentation is involved, in order to make the presentation visible to all attendees. The host must also ensure that appropriate security precautions are taken to prevent any interruptions of the event.
7. Following any public portion of the defense, the host shall ask all non-committee members to leave the meeting, or the host may manually remove them. In programs where the defense has both a public and a private portion, the committee may then continue the event as outlined in their program protocols.
8. Once the committee has completed the examination of the student, the host shall place the student into the waiting room (or have the committee members use a breakout room) so the committee can conduct their deliberations in private.
9. The Committee Chair must have a secondary videoconferencing system available as a back-up in in the case of technical difficulties. Cancellation of the examination should only occur in the case where both the primary and secondary back-up systems fail. If an examination must be rescheduled, it will be done without prejudice to the student. Since committee deliberations are an essential aspect of the examination, completing the examination and final discussion via email or other non-audiovisual means is not an option.
10. If the student or any committee member(s) have a disability that will be impacted by virtual participation, accommodations for participation must be provided.
Online Form Submissions for Doctoral Students

Click Here to Submit a Form

A web-based process is used for submitting the following forms required for doctoral students:

- Advisory committee formation.
- Modifications to advisory committee composition.
- Request to schedule the Qualifying Examination.
- Notification of Intent to Schedule the Final Examination.
- Request for Final Examination**.

Form submission is initiated by the student. Pressing the “Submit” button sends the form to the DGS for review. If changes are required, pressing the “Reject” button will send an e-mail to the student asking them to consult with the DGS. Pressing the “Submit” button forwards the form to the Graduate School for review. All subsequent correspondence from the Graduate School will then be via e-mail. Students can access the forms through a password-protected portal. Please contact the Assistant Dean for Graduate Academic Services with any questions regarding this process.

Interstrdie Connects UK Students to a Global Workforce

All currently enrolled students have access to Interstrdie and can sign up to create a unique profile by using their myUK login credentials.

The University of Kentucky is partnering with Interstrdie, a market leader in technology that supports student navigation of industry-related visa processes and options and expands global career opportunities for international students, offering them the resources to have successful careers and providing domestic students the opportunity to discover resources for living and working abroad.

Click Here to Read More

Thesis/Non-Thesis Options (Master’s Degree)

The Graduate Faculty authorizes graduate programs to satisfy requirements for the master’s degree by either of two options, thesis (Plan A) or non-thesis, (Plan B). Both options require a minimum of 30 credit hours.

The thesis option (Plan A) requires a minimum of 24 hours of course work plus a thesis, which is produced under the direction of a full or associate member of the Graduate Faculty. While working on the thesis, master’s candidates should register for 6 credits of XXX-768 (Residence Credit for Master’s Degree) in the appropriate department. After meeting coursework and 768 requirements, Plan A master’s degree candidates who are in residence and receiving financial support from the University and/or utilizing University resources while working on the thesis must be enrolled in their departments XXX-768 or XXX-748 (Master’s Thesis Research; 0 credit hours) each semester through to the
defense. Registration in 748 guarantees that a student is in full-time status for the purposes of student financial aid and loan deferments. The DGS must certify that the student is working at least halftime (i.e., 20 hours per week) on the thesis. Registration in 748 is limited to a maximum of six semesters (not counting the summer semester).

The Graduate School processes all 748 registrations. The non-thesis option (Plan B) requires six or more graduate credit hours of course work in lieu of a thesis.

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**Beyond the Professoriate Quick Tips: Video Interviews**

Given the now-widespread use of video conferencing, it’s not unusual for job interviews to take place online these days, via Zoom or Teams or some other platform. On the academic job market, first-round interviews are increasingly done via video conferencing, and many non-academic jobs use the format as well.

So here are some tips for creating a good impression of yourself on a video interview:

- Elevate your webcam so that it’s looking at you straight on (and not shooting you from underneath, an angle that looks flattering on exactly no one).

- Think about lighting! You want to be illuminated from the front and/or the side, not from behind (which will turn you into a shadow).

- Dress like yourself, but the most professional version of yourself (think about your favorite politician: they convey who they are while also navigating professional dress codes).

- And yes, dress the lower half of your body as well! Something unexpected might happen, causing you to need to stand, and no one needs to see your pajamas (no matter how comfortable they might be)! Plus, fully dressing the part will help you come off like you deserve the part.

- Double- and triple-check your tech. Do a test call with a friend or partner. Make sure you know how to use the particular video conferencing platform your interview will take place on, and make sure automatic updates on your computer are turned off.

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**Pass-Fail Policy for Graduate Classes**

Graduate students are **not** allowed to take classes P/F per Graduate School Policy, which states: “Graduate courses (400G-799) may not be taken Pass/ Fail.”

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**For Graduating Master (Plan A & Plan B) and Specialist Students: Degree Audit**

Conducting a **degree audit** is critically important during the semester you intend to graduate. Checking at the start of the semester gives you a view of the requirements you have satisfied and those that are remaining. If you discover a course that was wrongly assigned to a requirement, or not credited, you should bring this to the attention of your DGS (Director of Graduate Studies) or your program advisor. The program should contact the student affairs officer for the area/discipline well in advance of the final examination to resolve. If there are requirements that have not been met, then you and your program will need to decide if there are substitutions that will fulfill that requirement.
Request for Degree Certification Letter

There are 3 requirements that must be fulfilled to receive a degree certification letter:

1) Current Degree Application

2) The Final Examination card returned to GS and the exam is noted on the transcript

3) A final approved copy of the thesis or dissertation (where applicable)

Check Sheet for Master's Thesis (Plan A)

Check Sheet for Master's Non-Thesis (Plan B)

Notification of Intent to Schedule a Final Doctoral Examination (NOTIF)

There are times candidates change the possible defense date, which impacts the advisory committee, especially, the Outside Examiner (OE). If this occurs, the candidate should communicate with the Outside Examiner to insure the ‘new’ final examination date is viable. If the Outside Examiner can’t participate due to the new exam date, then the candidate should re-submit the NOTIF which informs the Graduate School to begin the search for another faculty to serve as OE.

Doctoral Advisory Committee

When faculty members retire or leave the University, they may continue their service on previously established doctoral Advisory Committees but cannot be appointed to new committees. Requests to continue service should be made by the DGS to the Graduate School Dean (gsdean@uky.edu), and include the names of all students affected.

Spring 2023 WRD Writing Workshops
Dr. Karida Brown Talk on "Gone Home: Race and Roots Through Appalachia" (03/30)
Dr. Karida L. Brown
Author of *Gone Home: Race and Roots Through Appalachia*
Professor of Sociology, Emory University
March 30, 2023 at 5:00 pm
Kincaid Auditorium, Gatton College of Business and Economics
Dr. Karida L. Brown, Professor of Sociology at Emory University, will visit the University of Kentucky campus to discuss her book, *Gone Home: Race and Roots Through Appalachia*, on Thursday, March 30th at 5:00 pm in Kincaid Auditorium, Gatton College of Business and Economics.

Dr. Brown’s visit is made possible through the Miriam Jane Van Dyke Berenger Endowment for Diversity and Inclusion at the UK Martin School of Public Policy and Administration, and through co-sponsors the Appalachian Center; the Commonwealth Institute for Black Studies; the College of Agriculture, Food, and Environment Office of Diversity; the College of Arts & Sciences Department of Sociology; and the Graduate School Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

*The event is free and open to the public.*

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**2023 UNITE Research Showcase (04/18)**

The UNited In True racial Equity (UNITE) Research Priority Area was established as part of the University of Kentucky’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Master Plan to bring together diverse groups of investigators, trainees, colleges, and research groups with a focus on research surrounding racial equity. Since its inception, UNITE has centered its efforts on promoting impactful research on racial equity.
On Tuesday, April 18, 2023, UNITE will host the 2023 UNITE Research Showcase - centered around elevating and promoting the importance of racial equity research at the University of Kentucky, across the Commonwealth, and beyond. This event is free and open to faculty, staff, students, and community members - registration is required to attend.

Join the UNITE RPA as we:
• Host keynote addresses from national leaders in their fields
• Conduct breakout sessions presented by local researchers
• Highlight the impactful work of our faculty and students through a poster session

Call for Participants: UK Sleep Study

Researchers led by Dr. Lauren Whitehurst in the Dept. of Psychology at the University of Kentucky are conducting a study to examine how sleep impacts cognition.

In this study, you will:
• Complete surveys and computer-based learning tasks
• Visit the UK Sleep Research Lab
  ○ Address: 1509 Bull Lea Rd, Lexington, KY 40511
• Be involved in the study for 2 weeks total
  ○ This will include spending 2 nights in the sleep lab.
• Be compensated for your time and effort

If interested, please contact: uksleepstudy@gmail.com
Income Tax Webinars for International Students

International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS) at UK is pleased to announce the following webinars for J-1 scholars and F-1/J-1 international students to learn more about filing a tax return for federal, state tax income or other tax filing forms (1040NR, 8843, W-7 etc.). Webinars will be hosted by our provider Sprintax. Sprintax is a tax preparation service used only for F and J visas who cannot use other tax services for U.S. residents. All F and J students and scholars must file a tax form 8843 even if you didn’t work in 2022 but were physically present in 2022.

These tax webinars will provide general information and explain how to file your tax forms using a free tax discount code or embedded link. UK provides tax preparation software to help you file one federal for FREE. International students and scholars are responsible to pay for any additional forms such as state tax forms, ITIN or other tax related forms, if applicable. A discount will apply for J-2/F-2 dependents when filing the Form 8843 together as a family. For these additional services you may also choose to use the services of UK’s Legal Tax Clinic offered through the law school which opens on February 21st.

ISSS Spring 2023 Tax Webinar Schedule

- Monday, March 27 @ 3:00 p.m. EST – Webinar 3 – [Register Here]
- Friday, April 7 @ 12:00 p.m. EST – Webinar 4 – [Register Here]

Other PUBLIC Webinar Dates for Spring 2023

Public webinars offer general information but will not explain how to obtain access using the special discount codes which are made available to you by ISSS. However, they can be useful to understand how to use Sprintax software and complete the forms properly. Students may be unable to ask individual questions as it’s open to anyone.

- Wednesday, March 22 @ 2:00 p.m. EST – [Register Here]
- Wednesday, March 29 @ 1:00 p.m. EST – [Register Here]
- Thursday, April 6 @ 3:00 p.m. EST – [Register Here]
- Wednesday, April 12 @ 12:00 p.m. EST – [Register Here]
- Friday, April 14 @ 2:00 p.m. EST – [Register Here]

Optional Practical Training Workshops for F-1 International Students

Are you an F-1 student looking for training or work experience towards your degree? You may want to consider Optional Practical Training (OPT). OPT allows you to receive 12 months of training towards your degree program before or after you graduate. OPT is a benefit granted to F-1 students who have been lawfully enrolled on a full-time basis for at least one academic year. If you are interested in applying or would like to find out more information about OPT, please join us for one of the workshops below:

- OPT Workshop #4 - Monday, 4/10/23 at 2:00 p.m. - Bradley Hall 207
- OPT Workshop #5 - Tuesday, 5/1/23 at 3:00 p.m. - Bradley Hall 207

Find more information about OPT [here](#).

Call for Participants: FeMALE Mentorship Survey
Graduate-Level Fellowship & Funding Opportunities Webpage

Click Here to Visit Webpage

To streamline the length of the GS Newsletter, only NEW fellowships and funding opportunities will be included each issue. All fellowship and funding opportunities from previous issues will now be listed on a dedicated webpage.

Recurring Reminders
Responsible Conduct of Research

Required for ALL Faculty and Graduate Students

An introductory video about the courses, why they are required and how the system works can be found [here](#).

The RCR Page to get started with your training is [here](#).

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**Thomas D. Clark Graduate Study**

**EXCLUSIVELY for Graduate Students and Postdocs**

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.

If your ID does not work or you have any trouble accessing the study, please contact Melissa Barlow with UK Libraries for assistance.

[Click Here for More Information](#)

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**Graduate Student Success Pathways**

**Chart Your Path to Success!**

This initiative is designed for students in all stages of graduate study to optimize their educational experience by taking full advantage of the spectrum of professional enhancement and wellness assistance available to them. To help you along your path, we have created an online portal with resources, initiatives, and actionable steps you can take in each of these four dimensions, at any stage of study, to optimize your graduate experience.

[Click here to get started!](#)
Key Dates for Spring 2023

March

- **W 03/22** - Monthly payment deadline. If the total amount due is not paid, a late payment fee of 1.5% of the amount past due will be assessed.
- **M 03/27** - Last day to fully withdraw or reduce course load for full-term classes. After this date students are only permitted to withdraw for urgent non-academic reasons.
- **M 03/27 - T 04/18** - Priority registration for the Fall 2023 and Summer 2023 semesters. Please make sure to meet with your advisor to remove your advisor hold before priority registration begins. Check the registration webpage for more information about steps you should take to ensure a smooth registration process.

April

- **Sa 04/01** - Last day to apply for a May 2023 or August 2023 undergraduate or graduate degree in myUK.
- **R 04/06** - Last day candidates for a May 2023 graduate degree can schedule a final examination in the Graduate School.
- **Sa 04/15** - Deadline for applications to be submitted to The Graduate School
- **Sa 04/15** - Deadline for international applications to be submitted to The Graduate School.
- **W 04/19 - F 05/12** - Summer 2023 registration and add/drop continues for students enrolled in Spring 2023.

Find more key dates for the rest of the semester on the Registrar's website.

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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 Government Association
- Student Organizations & Activities
- UK Healthcare COVID-19
- UK Libraries Graduate Student Survival Kit
- University Health Services (UHS)
- Veterans Resource Center
- VIP Center
- Wildcat Wardrobe

Check us out on social media!