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New Events & Announcements

Upcoming Events

GSC Professional Headshot Event (05/03)
Leaving academia? It's normal for PhDs and postdocs to not know where to start when it comes to non-academic job searching. What jobs are open to someone with a PhD in your field? How do you network with folks outside of academia? And how can you be sure that a non-academic job will make you happy?

Don't despair! Beyond the Prof's 10th Annual Online Career Conference for PhDs can help you answer these questions. And the conference is entirely free for you to attend.

This year's conference takes place Monday, May 1st - Saturday, May 6th, and all sessions are online.

Each weekday, a member of the Beyond the Prof team will lead a workshop that demystifies one aspect of job searching with a PhD, from resume writing to networking to job searching in uncertain times.

Then, on Saturday, you can hear from—and ask questions of—panels of PhDs who've transitioned out of academia and found well-paying work they love. If you're feeling unsure of how to proceed in a non-academic job search, these Saturday panels are your chance to hear from folks who've been where you are now. You can learn about their career transitions and get valuable advice.
This year's conference is sponsored by The Global Higher Education Division of ETS and Pfizer.

Go here to learn more about the workshops and speakers at this year’s conference: [https://institutions.beyondprof.com/conference/](https://institutions.beyondprof.com/conference/)

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**GSC International Student Concerns Committee End of the Year Event (05/09)**

*Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 12:00-2:00 PM @ the courtyard outside Bradley Hall*

Join us for a fun, year-end event hosted by the International Student Concerns Committee of the GSC! We'll be serving a delicious lunch as we reflect on the milestones we've achieved this academic year and set our sights on even bigger goals for the future.

But that's not all - we'll also dive into some critical topics that matter to every graduate student, including funding opportunities, mental wellness, and professional development. And what's a gathering of graduate students without a lively panel discussion on the ups and downs of life in graduate school?

This gathering is the perfect chance to connect with fellow graduate students, build a sense of belonging, and set yourself up for success as you pursue your academic goals.

So come join us - you won't want to miss it!

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**Summer 2023 Thesis & Dissertation Writing Camp (05/15 - 05/26)**

*Click Here to Register*

*Monday, May 15, 2023, through Friday, May 26, 2023 (weekends optional)*

**Location:** Online via Zoom

**Registration Deadline:** Friday, May 5, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. EST

The purpose of The Graduate School's [Thesis & Dissertation Writing Camps](https://institutions.beyondprof.com/conference/) is to...
provide dedicated writing time and a supportive environment for graduate students who are in the process of actively writing their master's thesis or doctoral dissertation. The Graduate School offers structure to help schedule your time as well as programming meant to motivate and encourage you as you work. The camps are intended for graduate students who have completed their research or are nearing completion and are engaged in writing their theses or dissertations, as much of the time is self-directed writing time. Since our camps are very popular and we hold two to three of them per year, we ask those students who are pre-quals or still in the data collection phase of their theses or dissertations to please consider waiting to apply for one of our future camps.

Questions?
Contact Morris Grubbs at morris.grubbs@uky.edu (859-257-9725) or Chad Gilpin at chadwick.gilpin@uky.edu (859-257-4137).

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SEC Emerging Scholars Career Preparation Workshop (10/01 - 10/04)

**Important Dates**

- **05/26** – Deadline to apply to be selected
- **06/30** – Selected scholars will be announced
- **10/01 - 10/04** - SEC Emerging Scholars Career Preparation Workshop

The SEC Emerging Scholars Career Preparation Workshop is designed to provide professional development and networking opportunities for a limited number of doctoral students and postdoctoral scholars who are considering careers in higher education. The workshop is meant to encourage top scholars to seek out employment and mentorship within SEC member universities. The workshop brings together future faculty members with a wide range of personal experiences and perspectives that they will bring to their disciplines and the classrooms of the future.

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Graduate School Reminders & Guidance

**Kroger Discount for TAs, RAs, & GAs**

10% off Kroger brands every Friday, Saturday and Sunday

In an exciting new partnership between the University of Kentucky and Kroger, university employees – including TAs, RAs, and GAs – now have access to Kroger’s employee-exclusive discount program.

Click Here to Read More

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Fall 2023 ESL Courses

The following ESL courses will be offered in-person during Fall 2023. You can read more

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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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**Fall 2023 Graduate and Postdoctoral Professional Development Courses**

In partnership with [CELT](#) and [Educational Policy Studies and Evaluation (EPE)](#), the Office of Graduate Student Professional Enhancement (GSPE) offers the following professional development courses for fall 2023. Courses may be taken as individual stand-alones or as a set leading to a Graduate Certificate in College Teaching and Learning. You may register for these courses as you do for your degree courses. Click [here](#) for a brochure of The Graduate School’s Preparing Future Faculty/Professionals Program. Full information about the 12-credit hour Graduate Certificate in College Teaching and Learning is [here](#). If you have questions, please contact Dr. Morris Grubbs (morris.grubbs@uky.edu), Dr. Jeffery Bieber (jpbieb01@uky.edu) or any of the instructors teaching the courses below.

#### GS 610: College Teaching Seminar

Sec. 401; 1 credit hour. Thursday, 5:30-6:30 p.m. (location TBD)

**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. This course can serve to augment any department-based pedagogy programs. Intended primarily for graduate students preparing for future academic careers and seeking to enhance current teaching activities. No prerequisite other than graduate student standing. Also open to Postdocs.

#### GS 620: Teaching in the 21st Century: Universal Design for Learning

Section 001; 1 credit hour. Tuesday, 4:00-5:00 p.m. (location TBD)

**Instructor:** Dr. Jennifer Pusateri

Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is an evidence-based educational framework that seeks to address learner variability by removing barriers during the planning process. This course prepares graduate students to use design thinking to plan courses and activities that create an inclusive classroom environment. The course is framed within an inclusion-based, pedagogical lens and is designed to meet the needs of interdisciplinary graduate students. No prerequisite other than graduate student standing. Also open to Postdocs.
**GS 640: Grant Writing**  
Sec. 001; 3 credit hours. Wednesday, 4:00 – 6:30 p.m. (location TBD)  
**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. No prerequisite other than graduate student standing. Also open to Postdocs.

**GS 650: Preparing Future Faculty**  
Sec. 401; 2 credit hours. Monday, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. (location TBD)  
**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. Applying effectively to positions and achieving early and lasting success in faculty appointments will be addressed. No prerequisite other than graduate student standing. Also open to Postdocs.

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**Broader Campus Initiatives**

**AAPI Luncheon & Mixer (05/01)**
Fellowships & Other Funding Opportunities

Yale University Virtual Postdoc Recruitment Event (05/05)

Yale University’s Office for Postdoctoral Affairs is hosting its Virtual Postdoc Recruitment Event on May 5 at 12pm Eastern Time on Zoom and engages scholars interested in pursuing postdoctoral training at Yale University. Our goals are to support potential postdocs in their career exploration and identifying next steps, engage with potential postdocs from underrepresented and historically excluded groups, and increase awareness of the experience of and resources supporting Yale postdocs.

Participants will have the opportunity to:
- Hear about postdoctoral research at Yale in an information session
- Connect with current Yale postdocs
- Learn about Yale’s postdoc programs and support services

RSVP at here or QR code.
Engage with current Yale postdocs and available resources in a virtual meet and greet
Hear from and ask questions of current Yale faculty
Participate in a mini-mentoring workshop

As part of the event, we will highlight current and future postdoctoral opportunities at Yale and how to follow up with the corresponding hiring departments and faculty. All participants will receive a Grubhub voucher to express our thanks for participating.

Please find full details on our webpage, including the registration form. A pdf version of the registration form (for reference) can be found linked here.

Eligibility: We recommend participation by: current PhD, MD or MD-PhD students who are nearing completion of their degree and recent doctoral graduates (within 1-2 years of doctoral degree completion). While there is no citizenship requirement to participate, please note that some postdoctoral positions, because of the nature of their funding sources, are limited to those holding US citizenship.

Sanford Burnham Prebys Virtual Postdoc Recruitment Open House (05/15)

Sanford Burnham Prebys regularly holds Open House events to offer prospective postdocs an opportunity to meet our scientists and learn more about the outstanding training opportunities at our Institute.

As an Open House participant, you will hear from Sanford Burnham Prebys’s scientific leaders about the cutting-edge research in their labs, as well as have an opportunity to meet 1:1 with potential postdoctoral training mentors. You will also hear from current postdocs about their training experiences and opportunities to get involved with the postdoc association or other leadership roles. Finally, the Office of Education, Training, & International Services will invite you to learn about the vast array of career and professional development seminars and workshops available to Sanford Burnham Prebys postdocs.

NASA- NSPIRES: Advanced Air Vehicles Program (AAVP) Fellowship Opportunities (05/31)

Description: The fellowship opportunity is designed to provide US academic institutions the ability to enhance graduate-level learning and development. Institutions are provided funds that support graduate students at a level that allows the students to fully concentrate on academic and research proficiency without the need to seek employment.

The goals are to:
- Enhance research and development capacity of institutions and promote greater diversity in addressing AAVP priorities;
- Recruit a diverse set of students through by partnering with academia, nonprofit organizations, and institutions;
- Expand connections with institutions by enhancing their research capabilities through NASA’s unique people, facilities, and content.

The fellowship opportunity provides financial awards to institutions to support development and training of graduate researchers. Furthermore, this activity leverages the capabilities
of academic research at institutions of higher education and includes professional
development components, designed to provide experiences that enhance the Fellows with
NASA's best and promising practices for STEM workforce development. The candidate
and the faculty advisor are encouraged to connect with the NASA Technical Advisor in
advance to discuss the scope of proposed work. NASA Technical Advisor Points of
Contact (POCs) are listed in the Program Elements of this NOFO. The institution's
candidate will independently conceive a research hypothesis or an engineering design
project concept in response to one of the graduate research opportunities listed in the
NOFO. The institution's candidate, guided by a Faculty Advisor, shall develop a proposal
in coordination with the NASA Technical Advisor in order to assure institutional capability
and capacity, ensure relevance to AAVP priorities, and secure NASA’s technical support
for use of its unique facilities, content and/or subject matter experts (SMEs). The
institution shall submit the proposal on behalf of a graduate student. If a NASA research
training grant is awarded, the Faculty Advisor shall serve as the Principal Investigator (PI)
under the awarded grant. An institution may submit proposals on behalf of multiple
candidates; however, each individual candidate is permitted to have only one proposal
submitted on his or her behalf.

Announcement Number: NNH23ZEA001N-AAVP

Closing Date: May 31, 2023

Link to Full Announcement
https://nspires.nasaprs.com/external/solicitations/summary!init.do?
solId=%7b798836C2-2865-BE1B-3721-E0530D130DEA%7d&path=open

Contact Information
Steven C. Linn
steven.c.linn@nasa.gov

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DoE - Vehicle Technologies Office:
Electrification Technology Development
Opportunity

Description: The Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) Science, Technology
and Policy (STP) Program serves as a next step in the educational and professional
development of scientists and engineers by providing opportunities to participate in policy-
related projects at DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in
Washington, D.C. Participants will become part of a group of highly trained scientists and
engineers with the education, background, and experience to be part of the workforce that
supports the DOE's mission in the future.

Each year in the U.S., vehicles transport 18 billion tons of freight – about $55 billion worth
of goods each day – and move people more than 3 trillion vehicle-miles. The
transportation sector has historically relied heavily on petroleum, which supports over 90
percent of the sector’s energy needs today and, as a result, has surpassed electricity
generation to become the largest source of CO2 emissions in the country. Transportation
sector decarbonization is therefore critical to achieving the goal of economy-wide
decarbonization by 2050. The U.S. Department of Energy's Vehicle Technologies Office
(VTO) funds research, development, and deployment of low cost, secure, and clean
vehicles to move people and goods across America. For more information, please visit

With their immense potential for increasing the country's energy security, economic
vitality, and quality of life, plug-in electric vehicles (PEVs) – including plug-in hybrid electric
and all-electric vehicles – will play a key role in the country's transportation future. VTO
supports a diverse portfolio to lower the cost and increase the convenience of Plug-In
Electric Vehicles. VTO is collaborating with National Laboratories and industry to improve
electric drive systems and enable vehicle-grid integration. Read more about the Batteries
and Electrification Program here: https://www.energy.gov/eere/vehicles/batteries-
VTO seeks a talented and committed individual who will learn and engage in the following:

- Building relationships to engage programs and public-private partnerships to increase the speed of transitioning to EVs and deploying the supporting infrastructure.
- Participate in and organize meetings, workshops, and conferences with key community stakeholders and federal staff to augment R&D portfolio and suggest new initiatives to further the state of the art in transportation electrification and vehicle-grid integration.
- Collect and analyze the latest science and engineering technological advances in state-of-the-art applications pertaining to electrification. Under the guidance of a mentor, consolidate knowledge and complete reporting for active technology R&D projects regarding technologies such as wireless charging, smart charging, extreme fast charging, vehicle-grid interfacing, cybersecurity, and electric drive systems.
- Under the guidance of a mentor, conduct technical reviews of projects funded by VTO.
- Collaborate and link research efforts supporting increased electric vehicle charging and electrification with broader initiatives such as increased generation from renewables and grid modernization.
- Collaborate and direct the modeling and analysis of vehicle charging infrastructure and electric grid integration.
- Under the guidance of a mentor, write and publish technical reports documenting the data, analysis, and resulting insights of work/projects performed.
- Research requirements and perform analysis, interpret technical reports and papers related to electric vehicles, the electric grid, and electric vehicle supply equipment.
- Collaborate with National Laboratory experts and DOE Headquarters contractors, project principal investigators, other Fellows, government, and industry representatives.
- Participate with other members of the Vehicle Technologies Office in the development of related documentation and reporting for assigned activities.

These activities may be carried out in collaboration with teams of multi-level federal employees, other participants, support service contractors, and experts from national laboratories.

**Preferred qualifications:**

- Currently pursuing or have completed requirements for a Masters or PhD in Electrical/Chemical/Mechanical Engineering, Materials Science & Engineering, Physics, Chemistry, and/or related sciences.
- Confidence and curiosity to learn, ask questions, and engage with top electric vehicle experts at the national labs, industry, and academia.
- Strong written and oral communication skills to present technical results and briefings to audiences of all levels.
- Knowledge of engineering principles, concepts, standards, and methods.
- Lab, application, or analysis experience in fabrication, testing, and diagnostics for vehicle systems and/or power electronics.
- Experience in developing, managing, and evaluating projects and programs.

**You must meet the following criteria to participate in the program**

- Be a U.S. Citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident.
- Be currently pursuing or have completed requirements for a Master’s or PhD within the last three years, or complete all the requirements for the degree by the anticipated start date of the appointment.
- Applicants with education or professional experience in Engineering and Physical Sciences are encouraged to apply.
- Must be 18 years of age.

Selected participants will receive a stipend as support for their living and other expenses during this appointment. Stipend rates are determined by EERE officials and are based on the candidate’s academic and professional background. Relocation expenses, not to exceed $5,000, incurred in relocating from the participant's current address to Washington, D.C. (if more than 50 miles from the address shown on the application), may be reimbursed. Participants will receive a travel allowance of $10,000 per appointment.
BrightFocus Foundation – Macular Degeneration Research Grants (07/31)

Description: BrightFocus provides research funds for U.S. domestic as well as international researchers pursuing pioneering research leading to greater understanding, prevention, and treatment of age-related macular degeneration. BrightFocus is committed to supporting scientists from diverse backgrounds to foster creativity and innovation in addressing complex scientific challenges. We strongly encourage applications from individuals who are from groups underrepresented in the field of age-related macular degeneration research. The MDR program offers three types of awards:

- **Postdoctoral Fellowship Program:** This fellowship program is intended to support young postdoctoral researchers during their final stages of mentored training. The award provides salary support for a young scientist to conduct postdoctoral studies in an established laboratory focused on research contributing to understanding the biological causes and/or new clinical treatment of macular degeneration and should also serve as the basis for the applicant's own independent research career. This award is for $100,000 per year for 2 years (total value $200,000).

- **New Investigator Grant Program:** This research grant is intended to support investigators during their early years as an independent investigator involved in studies that have an impact on the causes and/or treatment of macular degeneration. This award is for $150,000 per year for 3 years (total value $450,000).

- **Innovative Research Grants:** This program is intended to provide support for high-risk/high-gain age-related macular degeneration research. We hope to attract established investigators to apply for this support, but the aims of the application must contain outside-the-box ideas that are novel in the field. Applicants who are experts in another field are encouraged to apply their talents to proposing innovative research in the macular degeneration field. This award is for $200,000 per year for 3 years (total value $600,000).

Closing Date:
Letter of Intent due: July 31, 2023
Invited full proposal due: December 5, 2023

Link to Full Announcement
[https://science.brightfocus.org/research/macular-degeneration-research-program/rfp](https://science.brightfocus.org/research/macular-degeneration-research-program/rfp)

Contact Information
Research Grants
800-437-2423
researchgrants@brightfocus.org
Description: Bright Focus provides research funds for Standard Awards and Fellowship Awards to U.S. domestic as well as international researchers pursuing pioneering research leading to greater understanding, prevention, and treatment of Alzheimer's disease. The goal of the program is to accelerate our understanding of the biological mechanisms underlying Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias as well as innovative approaches to better diagnose, prevent or delay the progress of the disease. The ADR program offers two types of awards:

- **Standard Awards** are $300,000 and can be up to 3 years. The standard award provides significant funding for researchers who have already generated some amount of preliminary data, but are often required to demonstrate additional, significant progress before they can apply to governmental or industrial funding agencies.

- **Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards** are $200,000 and can be up to 2 years. Postdoctoral fellowship awards are intended for young researchers in their final stages of mentored training. These awards fund projects in an established laboratory that will serve as the basis for the applicant's own independent research career.

Closing Date: October 27, 2023

Link to Full Announcement: [https://science.brightfocus.org/research/alzheimers-disease-research/rfp](https://science.brightfocus.org/research/alzheimers-disease-research/rfp)

Contact Information
Research Grants
800-437-2423
researchgrants@brightfocus.org

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Description: BrightFocus provides research funds for U.S. and international researchers pursuing pioneering research leading to greater understanding, prevention, and treatment of glaucoma. BrightFocus is committed to supporting scientists from diverse backgrounds to foster creativity and innovation in addressing complex scientific challenges. We strongly encourage applications from individuals who are from groups underrepresented in the field of glaucoma research. The NGR program offers two types of awards:

- **Standard Awards** - The standard award provides significant funding for researchers who have already generated some amount of preliminary data, but are often required to demonstrate additional, significant progress before they can apply to governmental or industrial funding agencies. Award is for $200,000 over two years.

- **Postdoctoral Fellowship Awards** - Postdoctoral fellowship awards are intended for young researchers in their final stages of mentored training. These awards fund projects in an established laboratory that will serve as the basis for the applicant's own independent research career. Award is for $150,000 over two years.

Closing Date: October 31, 2023

Link to Full Announcement: [https://science.brightfocus.org/research/national-glaucoma-research-program/rfp](https://science.brightfocus.org/research/national-glaucoma-research-program/rfp)

Contact Information
2023 GradTeachLive! Winners

*Congratulations to the following winners of the 2022 GradTeachLive! competition at UK!*

*Left to Right: Jovita Ogechi Daraezinwa, Ray Celeste Tanner, and Daria Goncharova*

**First Place Winner:** Daria Goncharova, "Dream Teams: Teaching Effective Communication Through Group Contract and Reflection"

**Second Place Winner:** Ray Celeste Tanner, "A Question a Day"

**Third Place & People's Choice Winner:** Jovita Ogechi Daraezinwa, "Leading with the Human Element in Chemistry Labs"

Video recordings of the winning presentations are available on the [GSPE website](https://www.gspe.org).

**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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**Outside Examiner, Doctoral Final Examination**

The Graduate School assigns a UK faculty member to serve as the Outside Examiner (required by GS regulations) for the Doctoral Final Examination. It is the responsibility of the candidate to coordinate with the entire advisory committee (which includes the Outside Examiner) to find an agreed upon date and time in which the examination will be held.

It is suggested that the candidate send a ‘save the date’ to each of the advisory committee members, especially the Outside Examiner. Additionally, it is recommended the candidate communicate (via phone, text, or email) with the Outside Examiner the week leading up to the final examination to ensure that person is still available to serve.

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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 a certificate program. If you are a graduate student and not familiar with the certificate programs offered, please contact the Graduate Admissions Office to determine your eligibility.

2) After the candidate has been formally admitted into the certificate program, they should contact the department coordinator to begin the certificate application process.

3) Once the application is complete, the candidate should submit it to the Graduate Admissions Office along with all necessary supporting documentation.

4) The Graduate Admissions Office will review the application and confirm the candidate's eligibility for the certificate. If approved, the candidate will be notified and the certificate will be awarded.
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](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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**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
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.

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**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.

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**Interstride Connects UK Students to a Global Workforce**

All currently enrolled students have access to Interstride and can sign up to create a unique profile by using their myUK login.
The University of Kentucky is partnering with Interstride, 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

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**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 coursework 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 coursework 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
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.”

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.

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**Markey Cancer Center Research Day (05/12)**

**MARKEY CANCER CENTER RESEARCH DAY**

**PRESENTED BY THE MARKEY CANCER FOUNDATION**

*Discover the Latest Advances in Cancer Research*

**May 12, 2023 | 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

UK Singletary Center for the Arts

- Poster Sessions
- Oral Presentations
- Exhibit Hall/Lunch

Scan the QR code or visit ukhealthcare.uky.edu/mccrd for more information and to register.

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**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

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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 #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

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY RESEARCH

FeMALE MENTORSHIP SURVEY

University of Kentucky is interested in understanding the impact of female mentorship on trainees in the health care and science professions.

You are eligible to participate if you:

- Are a current faculty, trainee, or student in a health care or science department
- Are an adult between 18-100 years of age
- Have access to a smartphone, tablet, or computer

Participants will complete a 20-30 minute online survey and can enter to receive a $50 gift card.

For more information, contact Amanda Glueck, PhD amanda.glueck@uky.edu

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.

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

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.
Key Dates for Spring 2023

May

- **M 05/01 - R 05/04** - Final examination week for all classes.
- **M 05/01 - R 06/15** - Registration is open for new post-baccalaureate students.
- **F 05/05 - Sa 05/06** - Commencement ceremonies held for May 2023 graduates.
- **F 05/05** - Official end of the semester.
- **F 05/05** - Last day for May 2023 degree candidates to submit a final revised thesis/dissertation (EDT) for acceptance by the Graduate School (for those students who first submitted April 28).
- **Su 05/14** - Last day a student may officially drop a course or withdraw from all Summer classes with the Office of the University Registrar for a full refund.
- **M 05/15** - Summer classes begin for all undergraduate and graduate students.
- **M 05/05 - T 05/16** - Late registration for Summer classes begins for returning students and applicants cleared for late admission. A late fee is assessed for students who register late.
- **W 05/17** - Last day for employees to submit EEP forms to Human Resource Services to confirm Summer 2023 registration and tuition waiver.
- **M 05/22** - First Summer 2023 payment deadline. If the total amount due is not paid, a late payment fee of 1.5% of the amount due will be assessed.

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
past due will be assessed.
- **M 05/29** - University of Kentucky offices will be closed for Memorial Day. Classes do not meet.

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

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**Icon Glossary**

- Fulfilling Profession
- Impactful Research
- Transformative Teaching
- Holistic Wellness

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The Graduate School | Gillis Building, 502 Administration Drive, Lexington, KY 40506

Unsubscribe chadwick.gilpin@uky.edu

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Sent by amanda.slone@uky.edu