

Graduate Student Orientation

August 24, 2016



Educating students to shape their lives, their
professions, and their societies.



New Graduate Student Orientation Fall 2016

Getting the Most Out of Your Graduate Education



Jeffrey Potteiger, PhD, FACSM
Dean of The Graduate School



GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY
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Responsible Conduct of Research Training for Graduate Students (RCR)

Beginning with the Fall 2016 semester, all GVSU graduate students are required to complete Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) training prior to engaging in any research activities. Please check with your research mentor or graduate program director to determine which RCR Training program is required. Only graduate students who complete all of their degree requirements and graduate at the end of the Fall 2016 semester are exempt from this requirement. GVSU supports the online Epigeum RCR training program. [Additional information about RCR Training can be found online here.](#)

The Graduate School at GVSU

The Graduate School (TGS) provides leadership and support for graduate education.

We offer programming and advising to assist masters and doctoral students through transitions from prospective, to enrolled, and to graduating.

We oversee graduate assistantships, including appointments and orientations. TGS administers university policies that apply to graduate education.

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Presidential Research Grants

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Graduate Student Resources



Getting Started

- [Apply Now!](#)
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Current Students

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- [Graduate Student Blueprint](#)
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- [The Graduate School Forms Library](#)
- [Registrar's Office Forms Library](#)
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- [Thesis and Dissertation Information](#)
- [Michigan Intercollegiate Program for Graduate Students](#)

Career and Development Opportunities

- [Student Employment Opportunities](#)
- [PACES](#) (Professional Development for Graduate Students)
- [Career Center](#)
- [Alumni Association](#)
- [Graduate Dean Citation awards](#)
- [Graduate Showcase Event](#)

Student Support Centers

- [Veteran's Network](#)
- [Women's Center](#)
- [LGBT Resource Center](#)
- [Multicultural Affairs](#)
- [Writing Center](#)
- [Speech Lab \(watch video here\)](#)
- [Data Inquiry Lab](#)

Financial Support

- [Graduate Assistantships](#)
- [Academic Conference Fund](#)
- [Presidential Research Grants](#)
- [GVSU Financial Aid Website](#)
- [Company Deferment Plan](#)
- [FAFSA application](#)
- [Scholarships](#)

Welcome to Grand Rapids

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Best Wishes for a Successful
Graduate Education Experience
at Grand Valley!



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Getting the Most Out of Your Graduate Education



Mark Luttenton, PhD
Associate Dean



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What does it take to be successful as a graduate student?

- * Motivation
- * Perseverance
- * Drive to learn
- * Good time management 
- * Leading a balanced life
- * Financial support
- * Emotional & intellectual support
- * Encouragement
- * Valuable, useful feedback
- * Resilience

What graduate students expect of faculty

- * Faculty are well trained
 - * Current in their discipline
 - * Deep knowledge of their area(s) of scholarship
 - * Are active in professional organizations
- * Share an 'insider's knowledge' with their students
- * Facilitate deep learning
- * Provide appropriate critical appraisal and meaningful feedback
- * Foster professional development

What faculty expect of graduate students

- * Greater initiative and self-directed learning
- * More professional behaviors (in and out of class)
 - * Communication
 - * Time management
 - * Feedback
 - * Responsibility
 - * Collegiality/cooperation with peers and faculty
- * Integrity and honest effort
- * Build on previous learning & experience



What *really* makes graduate education work?

* A STRONG MENTOR/MENTEE
COLLABORATION




What really makes graduate education work?

- * Good mentoring by a graduate faculty member makes the graduate program
- * What is a mentor?
 - * Individual committed to help others achieve
 - * Motivator
 - * Constructive critic
 - * Friendly guide – help navigate a path
- * A mentor should not be just a “coach” or “advisor.”
 - * A coach is someone who generally helps us acquire skills
 - * An advisor is someone who may provide sound guidance but may remain removed or aloof from the individual



Characteristics of a Good Mentor

- * Respects students
- * Never compromises the student's dignity
- * Commitment to excellence in process and outcome
- * Demands quality work 
- * Available (within reason) to students
 - * Students feel welcome to appts; but clear boundaries
- * Encouraging
- * Ethical – faculty are beyond reproach
- * Philosophical – have the big picture
- * Openness – discovery, new ideas, new possibilities

Characteristics of a Good Mentee

- * Respectful - without respect relationships deteriorate into mistrust and abuse
- * Committed - personal academic standards that exceed the ordinary
- * Passionate - a “fire in the belly” to learn and achieve
- * Philosophical openness to discovery - take chances; open to challenges to perspectives
- * Ethical – in scholarship and interaction with mentor(s)

Mentor/Mentee Synergy

- * The characteristics are nearly the same for both mentor and mentee...
 - * Both parties are part of a collaboration
 - * Both parties should be 'on the same page'
 - * Both parties mutually benefit from the collaboration

Graduate Students as Mentors

- * Cohort and part-time students
 - * 2nd-yr students 'adopt' first years
- * Students with professional experience have insight
- * Students mentoring students helps grow a graduate culture within the degree program
 - * Builds camaraderie, provides feedback/guidance

How do you find a mentor?

- * Read faculty bios for your degree program
 - * Graduate program website & Student Handbook
- * Meet your program faculty at degree program orientations
- * Talk with students already in the program
- * Talk with your program director & faculty
- * Talk with program alumni



Enriching Your Success and Professional Development



www.gvsu.edu/gs

<http://www.gvsu.edu/paces/register>

Best Wishes for a Rewarding
and Successful Graduate
Experience at Grand Valley!



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