

New Graduate Student Orientation



GRAND VALLEY
STATE UNIVERSITY®

Winter 2025



Graduate School Staff Introductions

- Erica Hamilton, Interim Vice Provost
- Jennifer Moore, Interim Assistant Vice Provost
- Trista Shumway, Assistant Director, Programming and Communication
- Sheri DeVries, Assistant to the Vice Provost

Getting started as a Graduate Student

- Graduate education
- The Graduate School
- Academic support services
- Research and scholarship support

Graduate Student Support & Resources

- Graduate Student Association (GSA)
- GVSU services overview
- Student support services
- Information technology

Being successful as a Graduate Student

Using Blackboard Ultra and Banner



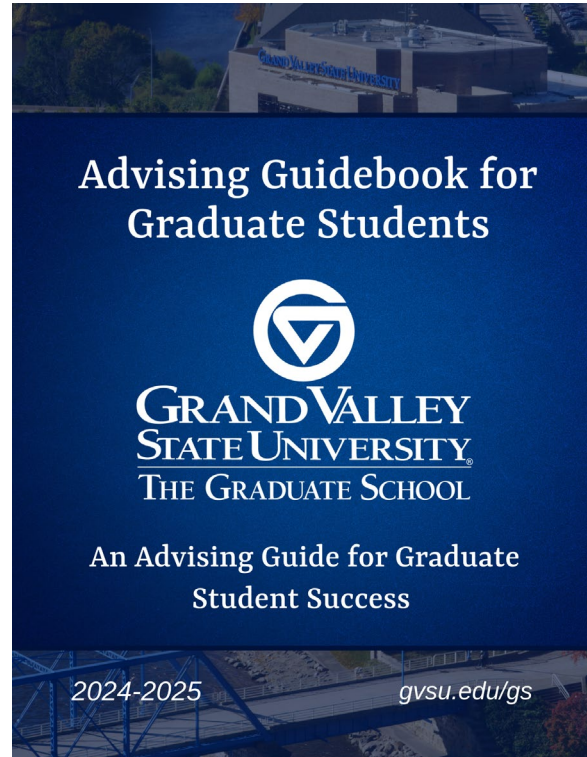
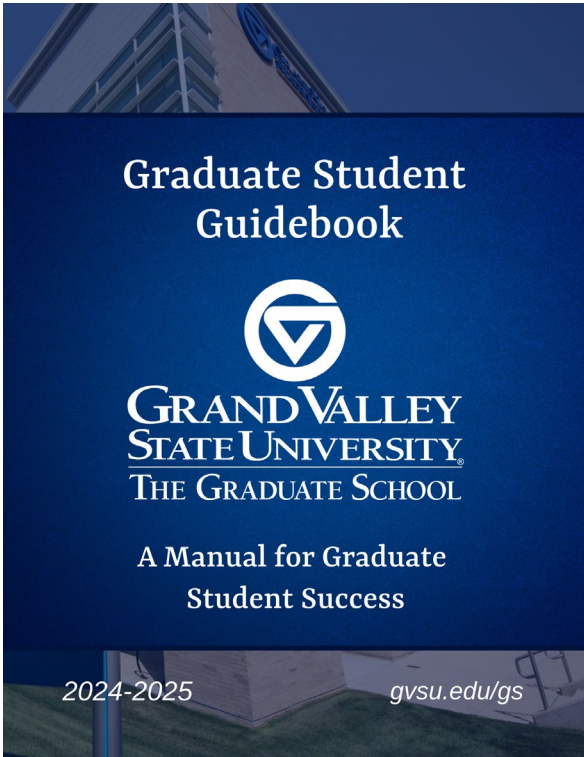
Orientation Topics

What is graduate education about?

- Acquiring deeper knowledge and developing advanced skills
- Gaining fuller and richer high impact learning experiences
- Preparing you for professional certification and licensure
- Improving your chances of starting a meaningful career related to your field of study

How can the Graduate School help you be successful?

- Support all aspects of Graduate Education
- Enforce the Graduate Education Policies
- Produce materials for success
- Fund opportunities for graduate students
 - Graduate Assistantships (stipend + tuition remission)
 - Presidential Research Grants
 - Academic Conference Fund
- Support the Graduate Student Association



Academic Expectations

Complete all requirements for your graduate program

Maintain at least a 3.0 grade point average

Credit at the graduate level will be awarded for grades of C or better

Credit for a research project, thesis or dissertation will be awarded for a grade of pass or pass with distinction

Academic Support Services



Statistical Consulting Center

- Offers advice with projects for research or instruction
- Provides assistance with:
 - Designing a study and research questions
 - Developing questionnaires
 - Selecting samples
 - Managing and analyzing data
 - Interpreting results
 - Creating tables, figures, and graphs

Contact –
Statistical Consulting
Center

www.gvsu.edu/scc

A1-178 Mackinaw

331-3355,

scc@gvsu.edu

GVSU WRITING CENTER



Services

- One-to-One Consultations
 - In-person, Online
 - 30 or 50-minute appointments
- Weekly Appointments
- Email Consultations

Events

- Writing Center Open House
- Writing Retreats
- Thesis Boost

Additional Opportunities

- Accountability Document
- Graduate Writing Groups
- Become a Writing Consultant

Contact –
Fred Meijer Center for
Writing and Michigan
Authors
www.gvsu.edu/wc
120 Lake Ontario Hall
331-2922
johpatri@gvsu.edu

Writing Center Consultants

- A group of 60+ undergraduate and graduate GVSU students

- Variety of majors, disciplines, and experiences

- Lengthy application and interview process
- Passionate about writing

- Hours of training & a one-credit course
- Professional development seminars

GVSU Speech Lab

- Consultants work with you on all elements of the oral presentation: topic selection, organization, supporting materials, and most importantly, practicing delivery
- Locations to serve students
 - Allendale Campus - 154 Lake Michigan Hall
 - DeVos Campus - Steelcase Library
 - Evening consultations - Knowledge Market in Pew Library

Contact –
GVSU Speech Lab
www.gvsu.edu/speechlab/
154 Lake Michigan Hall
331-8115

GVSU Libraries

Your Research
Question

Copyright And
Author Rights

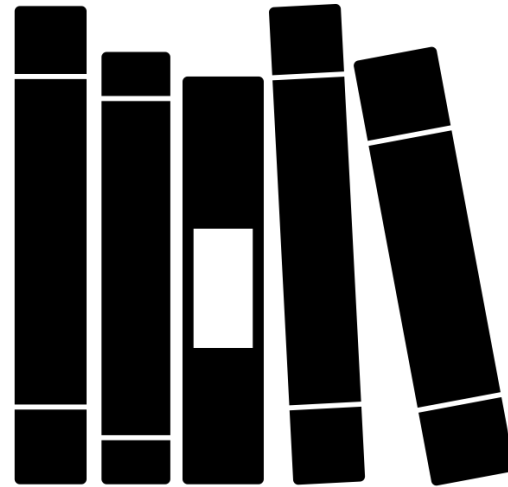
Subject Liaison Librarians
provide assistance with:

Data Reference

Citation
Management Help

Library Collections

- From rare books to the latest research across disciplines
- If the library does not have it, staff can get it for you through
 - document delivery
 - interlibrary loan



Created by vicentnova
from Noun Project

Research and Scholarly Activity



Support for Research and Scholarship

- Funding to initiate, maintain, and disseminate your research, scholarship, and creative activities
- Graduate Student Programs
 - Presidential Research Grants (Graduate School)
 - Academic Conference Fund (Graduate School)
 - Open Access Publishing Fund (Library)
- Programs for Faculty to support students

*Contact –
Center for Scholarly
and Creative
Excellence
www.gvsu.edu/csce
049 James H.
Zumberge
331-2281,
csce@gvsu.edu*



The GSA wants to support YOU!

Funds are available for:

- Professional Conferences
- On Campus Events
- Transportation
- Bringing Speakers to Campus
- Academic Conferences
- Professional Development
- Virtual Conferences
- Lodging

Up to \$1,000 per student and \$10,000 per registered student organization

Join GSA on LakerLink to request funding



What Questions Do You Have?



Graduate Student Support & Resources



GVSU Alert! Emergency Notification System

- All GVSU students are automatically registered to receive email notifications to their email address.
- To receive GVSUAlert! Text messages, register your phone number. This step ensures you will be notified as quickly as possible: www.gvsu.edu/gvsualert
- GVSUAlert! will notify you of:
 - Power outages
 - Weather hazards (tornado watch/warning)
 - Hazardous material incident
 - Closings or cancelations
 - Criminal activity on or near a GVSU campus



Open, Remote, Cancelled, Closed

- **Open:** The University's normal operating condition. Students, faculty and staff should assume the university is open unless advised otherwise.
- **Remote:** The most common reason to shift to remote status would be for weather related reasons. Classes will shift to remote delivery whenever feasible. Classes that cannot be delivered remotely will not be held.
- **Classes Cancelled:** Only classes are cancelled. The remainder of the University is open as normal.
- **Closed:** Classes and campus events will not be held. The university would normally only close for significant and unanticipated events. It is not anticipated the university would close for weather related events.
 - During inclement weather, faculty **may** notify students of a class cancellation or tell students that anyone choosing not to attend due to the weather and road conditions will not be penalized. **These notifications are typically sent via email.**

Student Services Center

- Student ID cards
- Registration
- Payments
- In-school loan deferment
- Enrollment verification
- Transcripts
- DEVOS CENTER & ALLENDALE

Check [Registrar](#) to plan your trip or email regdept@gvsu.edu



Financial Aid

- Fill out your FAFSA – Applies to domestic students only
- Federal Direct or Grad-PLUS Loans: Requires FAFSA & half-time status
- Check Scholarships
- Financial Hardship Grants
- Contact via email or phone 616-331-3234
- Financial Aid Office is located in Allendale in the Student Services Building

GVSU Career Center

- Located on Allendale and Pew Campuses
- Consultations (Virtual Career Lab)
- Career Fairs and Events
- Internship and Job Searches
- Resumes and Cover Letters
- On-Campus Jobs and graduate assistantships are found on Workday
- Off-Campus Jobs are found on Handshake



University Counseling Center

- Free Services – No insurance required
- Clinical Services:
 - One-on-one counseling
 - Crisis intervention
 - Referrals
- Mental Health Prevention and Education
- Substance Abuse Education and Recovery Services



GVSU Student Health Insurance Plan

PPO or HMO plans available through Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan.

Other options are available through GVSU's Private Health Insurance Exchange

GVSU Health Hub

Student Accessibility Resources

- Contact Student Accessibility Resources (SAR) to request resources and accommodations related to disabilities: [email](#)
- SAR will contact your instructor(s) to inform them of your accommodations but not your diagnosis.
- [Links U](#): Supporting students with autism spectrum disorder
- Examples of accommodations may include:
 - Extended test-taking time
 - Readers/scribes for tests
 - Electronic enlarged print materials
 - Permission to record lectures
 - Assistive technology
 - Preferential seating



Childcare - David D. Hunting YMCA

- Childcare services to GVSU students and employees
- Children ages 6 weeks to 5 years old
- Children ages 6-12 years
- Monday through Thursday 5:30 pm – 9:30 pm
- Heavy snack for all children
- Semester-long contract
- Registration and payment made to the YMCA

Resources for Military-Connected Students

Peter Secchia Military and Veterans Resource Center

- Military and Veterans Resource Manager
- Highly-trained GI Bill Certifying Officials (150 STU)
- PAVE - Peer advising program
- Veteran specific job coaching and networking
- Veterans' Lounge – Kirkhof Center & Center for Interprofessional Health
- Deployment and reentry accommodations
- Vocational Rehabilitation Program (Chapter 31)
- Participate in federal and state tuition assistance programs



1133 Kirkhof, 616-331-2369

GI Bill Certifying Officials: 150 STU, 616-331-3327

MING-STAP, Military TA, VOC-REHAB: 616-331-2209

Veterans Upward Bound: 708 Eberhard (Pew) 616-331-8387

Information Technology

- Computer Lab Access and Printing
- Blackboard Ultra and Zoom Support
- Gmail/Student Email Accounts
- Password Reset
- Submit a Help Request
- Software, hardware, and student discounts
- Cybersecurity
- Phone, Email, and Chat Support
- Phone: 616-331-2101
- Email
- Website for chat and to check hours of operation

Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)

- MFA is mandatory for all GVSU students to access university services and systems
- MFA adds more security to accounts by requiring two or more verification methods:
 - Something you know (your password)
 - Something you receive (a code)
- With MFA, if someone guesses or steals your password, they still need the second factor to access your account making unauthorized access more difficult
- GVSU uses the MFA application called Okta Verify.
- Learn more about MFA at: www.gvsu.edu/it/studentmfa
- Questions about MFA: email it@gvsu.edu or call 616-331-2101.

myName

- Students may use the myName process to update Banner and some related systems
- The myName process will allow students to have the chosen name appear anywhere a legal name is not required
- Legal Name Change

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility, and Belonging

- The University strives to provide all members of its community an inclusive environment and equitable opportunities for success
- Division of Inclusion and Equity
 - Title IX: Sexual Misconduct
 - Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action
 - Anti-Harassment Policies
 - Bias Incident Protocol
- [Website](#)

Social Justice Centers

- [Office of Multicultural Affairs](#)
- [Gayle R. Davis Center for Women and Gender Equity](#)
- [Milton E. Ford LGBT Center](#)
- [Peter Secchia Military and Veterans Resource Center](#)



What Questions Do You Have?



Title IX Anti-Harassment Policies

- Sexual or gender-based harassment is prohibited conduct at GVSU
- No employee, student or other person at the University shall engage in sexual or gender-based harassment
 - **Sexual Harassment:** any unwelcome sexual advance, request for sexual favors, or other unwanted conduct of a sexual nature, whether verbal, non-verbal, graphic, physical, or otherwise
 - **Gender-Based Harassment:** includes gender, sexual orientation, transgender, gender non-conforming, transitioning, gender identity, or gender expression
 - A “**Hostile Environment**” exists when the sexual or gender-based conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent, and/or pervasive

Sexual Misconduct

- **Sexual Misconduct** includes sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, stalking and sexual exploitation and is prohibited by the University
- Resources and Reporting Options:
 - In an emergency or to report sexual violence call 9-1-1
 - YWCA Grand Rapids, Free Nurse Examiner Program and resources
 - 24-Hour Confidential Helpline 616-454-YWCA (616-454-9922)
 - Website
 - Free confidential counseling is available from the University Counseling Center
- **Victim Advocate:** any student can seek support, options, and advocacy. Rachel Dziabuda at 616-331-2748 or email. For more information visit Victim's Rights and Options
- **Title IX Coordinator:** to report sexual or gender-based harassment or sexual misconduct, call 616-331-9530 or visit Office of Civil Rights and Title IX

Personal and Campus Safety

For any emergency Call 9-1-1

- Always lock your doors (residence and vehicle) and stow your valuables
- Be aware of your property such as backpacks, laptops, tablets, phones, and textbooks
- Be an alert pedestrian; watch for cars, trains, and scooters
- GVPS Safe walks: Call 616-331-6677
- Register your bike
- Protect your property - use a U-lock!
- Victim's Rights and Options



Student Parking 2024-25

- Parking has gone paperless – no physical permits
- Students cannot park in faculty/staff spaces
- ParkMobile App accepted at GV meters
- Overnight parking prohibited 3 - 6 am unless you live on campus
- Limited Temporary Passes for \$10/day:
 - Allendale: 616-331-7275
 - Grand Rapids: 616-331-6601
- ADA Parking Information
- Questions? Visit Parking Services

GVSU Laker Line and RAPID Bus System



- The Laker Line connects Grand Valley State University's main campus in Allendale with its downtown campuses on Fulton (Robert C. Pew Campus) and the Health Campus on the Medical Mile.
- Ride any RAPID bus route for free by showing ID

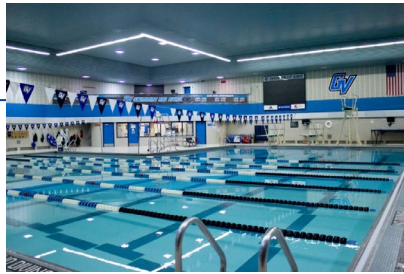
Textbook Information



- Textbooks ordered online can be shipped to you or a [GVSU Laker Store](#) for pick-up
- Online ordering will also show you comparative pricing for textbook rentals and purchases from online retailers
- For courses taught in Grand Rapids, go to the GVSU Laker Store in DeVos Building C
- For courses taught in Allendale, Holland, Muskegon, all online, or any other location, go to the GVSU Laker Store in Allendale
- Textbooks can be transferred between the Allendale and Grand Rapids locations for free

GVSU Recreation Center

- Student access is **FREE** with a valid GVSU student ID.
- Hours of operation and current access to equipment see [Athletic and Recreation Facilities](#)
- Exercise Classes, Intermural Sports, Nutrition Guidance, and more through [Recreation and Wellness](#)
- [Grand Rapids YMCA](#) – now **FREE**
- Meadows Golf Course – student discount



Life in Grand Rapids

Events and Activities in
Grand Rapids:

www.downtowngr.org

www.experiencegr.com

www.MLive.com

(Grand Rapids Press for
local news and events)



Housing and Residence Life

Off-Campus Housing Marketplace

****GVSU does not operate Rent College Pad's website. The properties on Rent College Pads do not constitute approved housing or endorsed housing by GVSU.***

Being Successful as a Graduate Student



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

- Motivation
- Perseverance
- Resilience
- Good time management
- Financial support
- Encouragement
- Emotional & intellectual support
- Leading a balanced life
- Building a mentor team

Graduate School Communications

- Graduate Student Blackboard Ultra Organization
- 6 in 60 Newsletter – Sent out monthly
- Emails
- Social Media Accounts
- Survey at graduation



GRAD.STUDENTS.ULTRA
Graduate Students

Open

[Multiple Leaders](#)



Raffle





What Questions Do You Have?





Please complete the brief
emailed survey about New
Graduate Student Orientation!