So You’re Thinking About Graduate School?

An Introduction to Graduate Studies

Why should I be thinking about graduate school?
Reasons to Pursue Graduate Study

1. Career aspirations.
2. Desire to learn.

Application Materials

How do I apply to graduate school?
Elements of a Graduate School Application:
1. Statement of purpose.
2. Letters of recommendation.
3. Graduate Record Exam (GRE) scores.
4. Vitae/resume.
5. Writing sample (NOT for all programs).
6. Transcripts.
7. Application fees.

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What do I need to do RIGHT NOW?!!!
Immediate Issues

1. Gather information on programs that might be of interest to you.
2. Pull together a portfolio of your work--this will help you identify potential writing samples, and possibly remind recommenders of your greatest works!
3. Talk to people who have studied what you want to study and/or earned the degree you are considering.
4. Approach faculty about letters of recommendation (but not RIGHT now--we are really busy).

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What resources are available to help me with the program selection and application process?
Resources

1. This fall we will be holding weekly workshops to help you prepare your application materials.
   1a. Time and location TBA.
   1b. If you put your name and email on the sign-up sheet, we will send you updates and materials, regardless of your ability to attend the meetings.

2. Don’t forget that every professor here has been through the process, and while we all have different experiences, we can all provide some insight to help you with your journey.

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Anything else?
1. DO NOT let financial concerns prevent you from considering graduate school—there are numerous funding sources available.
2. Prepare for the GRE, but do not sweat it too much.
3. Do not take it personally if you don’t get into a program.