NEW GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION

SPRING 2020

Office of Graduate Studies & Graduate Resource Center
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Coordinator, Graduate Resource Center
Meet Our Team

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Thesis Reviewers
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Writing Consultants
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Office of Graduate Studies and Graduate Resource Center

The Office of Graduate Studies provides leadership and service to promote graduate education and support graduate student success. We offer funding opportunities, host professional development events, and oversee the thesis, project and dissertation submission process.

We are home to the Graduate Resource Center. The GRC provides educational and community-building opportunities in a space dedicated exclusively to graduate students.
Our Services

- Workshops and panels
- Writing support
- Thesis and dissertation support
- Networking opportunities
- Meeting and study space
- Coffee/fridge/microwave
- Lockers

www.calstatela.edu/grc
Graduate Writing Support Program

- Seminar papers
- Grant applications
- Personal statements
- Journal articles
- Theses and dissertations
- Comp exam prep
- Presentations and public speaking
Graduate Studies Student Support Programs

- Graduate Equity Fellowship
- International and Non-Resident Graduate Student Tuition Waiver Program
- Travel Support for Conferences (Presenting and Attending)
- Culminating Project Fund
- California Pre-Doctoral Scholars Program (“Sally Casanova”)
- Chancellor’s Doctoral Incentive Program
www.calstatela.edu/graduatestudies
STEPS TO SUCCESS
Step 1: Get Connected with the GRC

Sign up to receive weekly announcements:

• Major deadline reminders (university)
• Events on campus and in the GRC
• Job opportunities
• Changes in policies or university requirements
Step 2: Know your Program of Study

University Catalog

Index of Academic Degrees

• Program requirements

• University policies for graduate study
Departmental Requirements

- Check the catalog and department website, and follow up with your graduate advisor.
- Schedule appointment with department graduate advisor to review your study plan.
University Requirements (Master’s)

- At least half your units must be graduate level (5000)
- Must have 3.0 GPA, all courses C grade or higher, in order to be awarded degree
- Residence requirement: 21 semester units
- Select culminating experience: Comp. exam, thesis, or project
- Maintain continuing status; leave of absence - 2 semesters
- Meet Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR)
Step 3: Advancement to Candidacy

- University prerequisite to enroll in thesis, project, or comprehensive exam units

Requirements:
- Completion of 12 semester units, 3.0 GPA
- Satisfaction of GWAR
- Approved study plan on file with your college
- Recommendation of department and approval of college Associate Dean
Step 4: Complete your Culminating Experience

- Comprehensive exams
- Thesis/project/dissertation
- Once enrolled, you cannot change your culminating experience

Consult with your department about requirements and expectations!
Prepare Yourself for the Thesis

- Deadlines in fall, spring, and summer
- Electronic submission — online repository
- Your style manual is your new best friend!
- Template and sample pages will save your life!
- Library Reference Liaisons are great resource
- Use citation manager (e.g., RefWorks)
Step 5: Apply for Graduation

- Deadline during term prior to graduation. Late app, late fee.
- Graduation check triggered. Meet with Graduate Advisor in your department to submit graduation check paperwork no later than the beginning of your last semester — find out department deadlines.

Visit Graduation Office website for more info.

www.calstatela.edu/graduation
OTHER CAMPUS RESOURCES

Elevator Pitch Introductions
Other On-Campus Resources

- **Funding**
  - Center for Student Financial Aid and Scholarships
  - ASI Book Vouchers

- **Employment**
  - Handshake, Career Center
  - University Student Union (U-SU)
  - University Auxiliary Services (UAS)
  - ASI
  - Graduate Studies and GRC
Health and Wellness

- Student Health Center
- Counseling and Psychological Services
- Xtreme Fitness Center
- The Pit (games by the hour)
- Swimming Pool
- Farmers markets
Student Services

- Office for Students with Disabilities
- Glazer Family Dreamers Resource Center
- Cross Cultural Centers
- Center for Student Involvement
- Veterans Resource Center
- International Office
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Tips for Getting Ahead

- Seek out a faculty mentor
- Connect with peers
- Join professional organizations
- Subscribe to professional publications
- Present at conferences
- Attend talks, lectures, exhibits, and performances
Getting to Know You
BINGO

1\textsuperscript{st} and 2\textsuperscript{nd} student to complete a vertical, horizontal, or diagonal line will win a Cal State LA prize.
Contact Us

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