Message from the Dean

Greetings from the University of Georgia Graduate School!

Thank you for taking the time to investigate our graduate programs. The University of Georgia is among the most elite institutions of higher education in the country, as recognized by our classification as a R1 institution (Doctoral University with Highest Research Activity) by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. With more than 300 graduate programs, many of which are rated among the top 50 in the nation by U.S. News & World Report, the University of Georgia can accommodate almost any interest or career path. Our graduate students are future researchers, scholars, educators, performers, and caregivers. Whether you are interested in changing careers, gaining a new credential, or simply feeding your intellect as a life-long learner, the University of Georgia likely has a graduate program that is right for you. I hope the short descriptions in these pages will be the first step to becoming a fellow bulldog and on your journey to the career of your choice!

Sincerely,
Suzanne Barbour
Dean of the Graduate School

About UGA

“To teach, to serve, and to inquire into the nature of things”

The Georgia General Assembly adopted Abraham Baldwin’s charter for a state-supported university in 1785. Baldwin would be named the first president of the University of Georgia (UGA) followed by Josiah Meigs who presided over the school’s first graduating class. UGA is the only land-grant university in the state and one of 30 sea-grant universities nationwide.

Classes at UGA started in 1801 after John Milledge purchased and gifted the Board of Trustees the desired 633 acres of land along the Oconee River in northeast Georgia. The first students met in what is now called Old College, UGA’s first building. UGA’s first school, the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, was named for Benjamin Franklin. The first class graduated in 1804.

UGA’s curriculum expanded beyond the Franklin College in its first 100 years to include law and agricultural and mechanical sciences. Expansion continued in the 1900s with the addition of pharmacy, forestry, education, social work, graduate education, business, journalism, family and consumer sciences, veterinary medicine, environment and design, and the Institute of Higher Education. Most recently, UGA added the schools of engineering, ecology, public health and public and international affairs. UGA also offers a broad selection of online degrees, courses, and certificates.

Committed to research, UGA received $198 million in awards, grants, and contracts in 2017 that funded projects that enable students and faculty to discover, innovate and promote progress through scholarship and real-world application.

The university reaches beyond Athens into the state’s capital, metro Atlanta in Gwinnett County and Griffin, Ga., and the southern part of the state in Tifton. UGA’s economic impact on the state of Georgia is estimated to be $5.25 billion. UGA annually awards 9,000 professional, graduate, and undergraduate degrees. Of those degree holders, 62% remain in the state of Georgia serving communities in all 159 counties.
Established in 1910, the Graduate School oversees all of the graduate programs offered at UGA. Our faculty and administrators coordinate world-class graduate programs so that you receive a quality education in addition to a valuable graduate degree. The Graduate School works to create a smooth transition for new students while providing support throughout the duration of the graduate student experience from recruitment to graduation.

At UGA, you experience unique research and professional development opportunities with real-world application on one of UGA’s five campuses or research centers like the Wormsloe Institute for Environmental History and the Savannah River Ecology Laboratory. The Graduate School also provides online graduate programs for students and is ranked third in online graduate education programs by U.S. News & World Report (2016). You will have access to state-of-the-art facilities such as UGA’s libraries, ranked 36th among the nation’s best research libraries, in addition to the new Science Learning Center and Miller Learning Center, which is one of the largest and most technologically advanced facilities on an American university campus. The Graduate School welcomes students of all backgrounds. Each unique story contributes to the scholarly and diverse culture offered at UGA’s Graduate School.

Visit grad.uga.edu for a list of academic programs, admissions requirements and to begin your online application.
Interested in Applying?

The University of Georgia Graduate School requires that applicants have a baccalaureate degree from an institution accredited by the appropriate regional accrediting association or its international equivalent prior to the expected semester of matriculation. Before you apply, talk to the graduate coordinator of your program of interest to gauge whether or not the program is a good fit. Be sure to verify the application deadline for the department as that date is most likely earlier than the Graduate School’s final deadline. You can find the online application on the Graduate School’s website (grad.uga.edu).

Commitment to Diversity

While striving to increase overall enrollment, the Graduate School also seeks to promote diversity by encouraging the enrollment of students from historically underrepresented groups. The Graduate School’s definition of underrepresented includes race/ethnicity, gender within discipline, first generation, non-traditional age, and/or a self-identified aspect of a uniquely diverse background. As part of the Graduate School’s over-arching recruitment programming, we offer several programs targeted to students from under-represented backgrounds under the banner of the “Pathways Program”. Through the Pathways Program, the Graduate School sponsors academic, social, and professional workshops and activities.

Graduate School 101

This workshop is specifically designed to introduce college freshman and sophomores to the world of graduate education. Through interactive presentations, faculty panels, and candid discussions with current graduate students, those in attendance will be inspired to begin planning a future with graduate school in mind.

Preparing Diverse Populations for Graduate Admission

Using interactive presentations and discussion, this workshop provides helpful information for students to navigate the successful completion of the graduate school application. The event is open to undergraduate students in their junior year or seniors planning to take a gap year. Applicants must be affiliated with one of the following programs: Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program, UGA Graduate Feeder Program, the Gates Millennium Scholars Program, RISE, or the Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation Program.

Future Scholars Visitation Program

Through this three-day intensive program, prospective graduate students visit the UGA campus and their specific department of interest to learn more about the academic, professional, and financial opportunities available when pursuing a graduate degree at UGA. The Future Scholars Visitation Program is held during the fall semester and includes a UGA application fee waiver and travel stipend for selected participants.

Gateway to Graduate School Bridge Program

The Bridge Program is for incoming first-year graduate students who are awarded a Graduate School or departmental assistantship for the fall and offers participants the opportunity to begin graduate study in the summer. The Bridge Program provides students an enriching and supportive transition into graduate education at UGA through professional development workshops. Each participant is given a stipend from the Graduate School during the summer program.

UGA Graduate Feeder Program

This partnership program provides an avenue for students and alumni from Albany State University, Florida A&M University, Fort Valley State University, and Spelman College to transition into graduate studies at UGA. Prospective students receive an application fee waiver and are offered multiple opportunities to enhance their portfolio. Admitted students are automatically considered for a graduate school assistantship and structured mentorship.

Funding Opportunities

Continuing your education can come at a large cost to students and their families. Students in need of financial assistance during their graduate study at UGA have several avenues for funding:

- **Assistantships**
  - awarded competitively to qualified graduate students
  - require research, part-time teaching, or other academic duties
  - full-time enrollment
  - reduced tuition ($25)
  - paid monthly stipend

- **Scholarships and Fellowships**
  - grant-in-aid to a student
  - specific area of study
  - based on academic achievement, teaching, or financial need
  - internal to the university or external (private & government sponsorships)

- **Awards**
  - emphasize specific areas of study
  - recognize outstanding research
  - acknowledge quality students already in a program

For more information, visit the UGA Office of Financial Aid’s website: osfa.uga.edu.

Step 1 Create & Maintain Your Account

Create a username and password to access the online application service. Check the Graduate School’s website to determine if you qualify for an application fee waiver.

Step 2 Read Admissions Policies & Procedures on the Graduate School’s Website

You are responsible for submitting required admission materials, including, but not limited to: application, application fee, transcripts, entrance test scores, letters of recommendation, and any supplemental materials required by the department.

Step 3 Apply!

The Graduate School and academic department review application materials. The Graduate School makes the final admissions decision based on the department’s recommendation.
Diversity by the Numbers

- In 5th position, in doctoral degrees in health professions & related programs conferred upon students that identify with two or more races.
- In 11th position, in doctoral degrees in psychology conferred upon African American students.
- In 13th position, in doctoral degrees conferred upon African American students.
- In 15th position, in doctoral degrees in education conferred upon minority students.
- In 22nd position, in doctoral degrees in visual and performing arts conferred upon minority students.
- In 23rd position, in master’s degrees in parks, recreation, leisure, and fitness studies conferred upon African American students.

Source: Diverse Issues in Higher Education (2017)

International Students

The department of International Student Life (ISL, isl.uga.edu) focuses on assisting students in the following three areas: transition and support, programming and outreach, and leadership and engagement. ISL hosts a week-long orientation for international students each August. Please check their website for specific dates.

- The Office of International Education (international.uga.edu) is your top resource for questions about U.S. legal status, academic, and employment opportunities.
- Free access to UGA and Athens Transit (transit.uga.edu & athenstransit.com)
- University Village Community - Student Housing (https://housing.uga.edu/site/housing__residence_universityvillage)

Veterans

To position students for success, UGA’s Student Veterans Resource Center (SVRC, svrc.uga.edu) serves as the go-to-location for sensemaking, wayfinding, and entry into an array of services provided by the university and community, while offering wide-ranging support and advocacy. SVRC also provides:

- A point of contact for veterans
- A service desk staffed by veterans
- An evolving network of partnerships working to improve campus services and programs
- A dedicated veteran’s lounge with a 72-inch TV, adjacent conference room, study kiosks, computers, printers, microwave oven, and refrigerator.
- A range of diverse opportunities to meaningfully engage with the university
- Opportunities for graduate students to serve as peer-to-peer mentors

Tuition and Fees

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* Non-Resident- Residency status is used to determine the cost of attendance. It does not impact your admission decision to the Graduate School.

^ These are estimated costs and vary based on the student’s program, choice of housing and meal plan, etc.

About Athens, Ga.

Athens boasts more than Georgia’s flagship university and its beloved Bulldogs. The city offers unique local restaurants, art and cultural centers, businesses, and of course, a thriving music scene. Students can study in local coffee shops or take a short drive from campus and walk through the State Botanical Gardens. Athens experiences mild winters with warm weather spring through fall. The weather creates the perfect environment to line the streets for the Twilight Criterium, an 80-km cycling race through the streets of downtown Athens each spring. This event attracts cyclists from around the world. Atlantic is only a 60-mile drive from the Athens campus so trips to the airport or to see any of the state capital’s many attractions are easy to make any day of the week. Graduate students can also quickly escape to the hiking trails, campgrounds, and lakes located in the Northeast Georgia Mountains.

Headliners like R.E.M., Widespread Panic, and the B-52’s started their careers on the stages surrounding Rolling Stone’s (2005) “8 Schools That Rock.” Music aficionados flock to the 40 Watt and the Georgia Theater to see local musicians and popular bands play any night of the week. Rolling Stone named Athens’ 40 Watt as one of the Best Clubs in America in 2013. 40 Watt was also named one of America’s Coolest Music Venues by Travel + Leisure in 2014. The touted music scene thrives in the spring and summer. AthFest and the Slingshot Festival welcome musicians to play in venues throughout downtown Athens. The Classic Center and the Foundry also welcome locally and nationally renowned acts in addition to UGA’s Performing Arts Center, Fine Arts Department, and the Hugh Hodgson School of Music.

Beyond UGA’s award-winning dining halls, local restaurants serve unique cuisine in the vibrant Athens atmosphere. Thrillist named Athens one of their Best College Towns for Food & Drink in 2015. Southern Living dubbed town staple Mama’s Boy one of “The South’s Best Biscuit Joints” in 2014. Athens is also home to two of Chef Hugh Acheson’s restaurants, The National and 5&10. Chef Acheson was featured in GQ magazine in 2012 and claimed two James Beard Awards in 2012 for Best Chef Southeast and Best Cookbook for “A New Turn in the South.”

Plan a visit to see what else the Classic City has in store.
Resources

The Graduate School
grad.uga.edu

Recruitment & Diversity Initiatives
http://grad.uga.edu/index.php/prospective-students/connect-with-us/

Graduate School Admissions
http://grad.uga.edu/index.php/prospective-students/domestic-application-information/requirements/

Funding Opportunities
http://grad.uga.edu/index.php/current-students/financial-information/

Enrolled Student Services
http://grad.uga.edu/index.php/current-students/enrolled-students-faq/

Professional Development
http://grad.uga.edu/index.php/current-students/professional-development/

Interdisciplinary Graduate Studies
http://grad.uga.edu/index.php/prospective-students/academics/interdisciplinary-graduate-programs/

Other UGA Resources
http://grad.uga.edu/index.php/current-students/resources