GRADSTRAVAGANZA 2015
MINI-WORKSHOP SCHEDULE AND SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Capacity for the mini-workshops is limited to 55 students each. Please review the mini-workshop topics and descriptions, and select first, second, and third choices in case sessions are full.

Schedule and Room Locations

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>JC Room C</th>
<th>JC Room D</th>
<th>JC Room E</th>
<th>JC Room F</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3:30-4:00pm</td>
<td>Strategies Success in Your Master’s Degree Program</td>
<td>Managing Limited Time and Multiple Demands</td>
<td>Fellowships and Funding Opportunities during Grad School and Beyond</td>
<td>Building Your Network Now for Your Job Search Later</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00-4:30pm</td>
<td>Building an Effective Relationship with your Mentor/Advisor</td>
<td>Managing Limited Time and Multiple Demands</td>
<td>Making the Commitment to Writing</td>
<td>Building Your Network Now for Your Job Search Later</td>
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<td>4:30-5:00pm</td>
<td>Building an Effective Relationship with your Mentor/Advisor</td>
<td>Well-Being during Graduate School: Looking out for Yourself and Others</td>
<td>Advice for Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs)</td>
<td>Pathway through the PhD</td>
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Session Descriptions

(in alphabetical order by session title)

1. **Advice for Graduate Teaching Assistants**
   Presenter: Dr. Laura Lukes, Assistant Director of the Center for Teaching and Faculty Excellence
   Time and Location: 4:30-5:00pm in JC Room E
   Serving as a Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) is rich professional experience, but it can also be a daunting challenge. In this session, learn tips for classroom management, creating a teaching persona, and more.

2. **Building an Effective Relationship with Your Mentor/Advisor**
   Presenter: Dr. Cody Edwards, Associate Provost for Graduate Education and Associate Professor of Environmental Science and Policy
   Time and Locations: 4:00-4:30pm and 4:30-5:00pm in JC Room C
   Your faculty advisor or mentor is a key part of your success in your graduate program and your intended future career. Find out strategies for how to make the most of this important relationship.

3. **Building Your Network Now for Your Job Search Later**
   Presenter: Raechel Hester, Associate Director of University Career Services
   Time and Locations: 3:30-4:00pm and 4:00-4:30pm in JC Room F
   Graduate school provides an opportunity not only to build your knowledge, but also to build your network of professional contacts and colleagues. University Career Services will provide tips to help you begin preparing for your eventual job search now.
4. **Fellowships and Funding Opportunities during Grad School and Beyond**
   **Presenter:** Dr. Kay Agoston, Director of Graduate Fellowships
   **Time and Location:** 3:30-4:00pm in JC Room E
   Discover strategies and resources for identifying fellowships and external awards to fund your graduate education, research, and professional development.

5. **Making the Commitment to Writing**
   ** Presenters:** Dr. Michelle LaFrance, Director of Writing Across the Curriculum, and Dr. Susan Lawrence, Director of the Writing Center
   **Time and Location:** 4:00-4:30pm in JC Room E
   Are you faced with large writing projects (such as a paper, thesis, or dissertation), but have trouble making progress? Join our presenters to discuss frequent barriers to writing and strategies for overcoming them to achieve toward your writing goals.

6. **Managing Limited Time and Multiple Demands**
   **Presenter:** Vicki Dominick, Associate Director of Learning Services
   **Times and Locations:** 3:30-4:00pm and 4:00-4:30pm in JC Room D
   As a graduate student, you are juggling multiple academic demands along with other priorities, including work, family, wellness, and more, all within a limited schedule. In this session, find out the top ten strategies for managing your time to meet the demands of graduate student life.

7. **Pathway through the PhD**
   **Presenter:** Dr. Shannon Davis, Associate Professor of Sociology
   **Time and Location:** 4:30-5:00pm in JC Room F
   Are you wondering what to expect during a doctoral program? Although specific requirements will vary by your graduate program, this session will provide an overview of the key benchmarks of a doctoral program and will highlight available resources to help you make the most of your journey.

8. **Strategies for Success in Your Master’s Degree Program**
   **Presenters:** Sanjay Deshpande, Master’s Student in Computer Engineering, and Steven Harris-Scott, Doctoral Candidate in History and Graduate International Pathway Program Coordinator for INTO Mason
   **Time and Location:** 3:30-4:00pm in JC Room C
   How can you make the most of your master’s degree experience at Mason? Learn strategies for success from fellow graduate students who have traveled this path.

9. **Well-Being during Graduate School: Looking out for Yourself and Others**
    **Presenter:** Dr. Nick Lennon, Director of Leadership Education and Development
    **Time and Location:** 4:30-5:00pm in JC Room D
    Consider the following: You feel that you need to join a research project to help with your future career (e.g., career/financial well-being), but are concerned that it will take you away from time with your family (e.g., social/emotional well-being). How do you decide what’s best for your well-being as well as the well-being of your family? What about the well-being of those beyond ourselves and our families? During this interactive workshop you will engage in an activity designed to uncover the pros and cons of the ethical approaches you are already using. You will also learn about other helpful approaches. Resources will be provided.