

GRADUATE HANDBOOK

Center for Gender, Sexualities, & Women's Studies Research

2021-2022

University of Florida

NOTE: Please always also consult the [Graduate School Handbook](#) and the [Graduate Catalog](#) for important details and links to more information.

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Graduate Program at the Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies Research. The Center offers an interdisciplinary forum for the study of gender and sexuality, their function in cultures and societies, and their intersections with race, class, and other sociocultural systems.

Vision

Our vision is to use the tools of gender, sexuality, and women's studies research to produce and support scholars, leaders, and social change agents who work collaboratively and build coalitions to advance knowledge, contribute to their communities, and promote equity and opportunity for all members of our global society.

Mission

- To offer University of Florida students a broad-based, interdisciplinary approach to the study of women, gender, and sexuality.
- To stimulate individual and collaborative research by UF faculty engaged in the study of women, gender, and sexuality.
- To create contexts in which students and faculty, working together, can foster multicultural skills and perspectives related to women, gender, and sexuality.
- To share the benefits of our research and knowledge for the public good, furnish services related to gender issues to the local community as well as to the State of Florida, and to increase national and international collaboration on issues pertaining to women, gender, and sexuality.
- To support a broadly diverse learning and research environment and to increase equity and efficiency in the university community.

For more information and a brief history of the center, please visit the [History link](#) on the Center website.

Current and prospective graduate students should familiarize themselves with the [Center's website](#) and the [Graduate School website](#).

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: This is an acknowledgement that for thousands of years the area now comprising the state of Florida has been and continues to be home to many Native Nations. We further recognize that the main campus of the University of Florida is in the heartland territory of two historically-known Native societies –those of the Potano and of the Alachua Seminole. As a part of our current stewardship, we acknowledge an obligation to honor the ancestral, present, and future Native residents of Florida. (Statement originally crafted by UF Libraries)

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES & CONTACT INFORMATION

Admissions Office

Phone: 352-392-1365

Counseling and Wellness Center

Phone: 352-392-1575

Disability Resource Center

Phone: Voice 352-392-8565, [FL Relay Service](#) 800-955-8770

GatorGradCare (health insurance for graduate assistants)

Phone: 352-392-2477

Graduate School

Phone: 352-392-4643

International Center

Phone: 352-392-5323

Multicultural and Diversity Affairs (MCDA)

Phone: 352-294-7850

Office of the University Registrar

Phone: 352-392-1374

Office for Student Financial Affairs (financial aid)

Phone: 352-392-1275

Student Health Care Center

Phone: 352-392-1161

UF Bookstore and Gator1 Central

Phone: 352-392-0194

U Matter We Care

Phone: 352-294-CARE (2273)

University Bursar's Office (finance and accounting)

Phone: 352-392-0181

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Affiliate Faculty

As an interdisciplinary forum, the Center is also home to over 100 affiliate faculty. For more information, please visit our listing of [Affiliate Faculty](#).

DEGREES OFFERED

The Women's Studies Program, administered by the Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies Research, is designed for students who wish to pursue a Master of Arts degree (MA, thesis or non-thesis) in Women's Studies. In addition, students may apply to pursue a Master of Arts degree while also earning their Bachelor of Arts degree (BA), professional law degree (JD), or their PhD (MA-PhD). As well, students may consider the concurrent degree program. Students admitted to other graduate programs (MA and PhD) can also pursue one of two certificates in conjunction with their primary degree: A Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies or a Graduate Certificate in Gender and Development. Students pursuing graduate work in the Center learn about feminist, intersectional, and other theoretical approaches and methodologies for examining the roles of gender, race/ethnicity, sexualities, and other sociocultural systems, and they learn about how to *transform* these systems. Gender and sexuality will be understood in intersection with other systems of power such as age, ability, class, ethnicity, nationality, race, and religion.

Note on post baccalaureate study: The graduate school has specific guidelines for students to apply for post baccalaureate enrollment to take graduate classes that are not part of a degree program: "Post baccalaureate students may enroll in graduate courses, but graduate credit is not generally accepted by the Graduate School for transfer." Click [here](#) for more details. See also the current Graduate Catalog.

Master of Arts (MA), Thesis and Non-Thesis

A *Master of Arts degree, with thesis*, requires at least 30 credits including up to 6 credits of *Research for Master's Thesis* (6971). The Graduate School rules about the composition of these credits are as follows: At least half of the required credits (not counting 6971, Research for Master's Thesis credits) must be in the major (WST courses). No more than 6 credits can be taken as S/U credits, not including WST 6971. Students are limited to 6 credits of internship credits toward their MA degree and 6 credits of independent study. However, students are limited to a combined total of 9 credits of internship/independent study overall in their MA degree coursework. Six credits of undergraduate courses (3000-4999) outside the major (not WST) may count when taken as part of an approved graduate program. Consult the Graduate Coordinator and your Committee Chair before registering. No more than 5 credits each of 6910 (Supervised Research) and 6940 (Supervised Teaching) may be taken by a graduate student at UF. Students who have taken 5 credits of 6910 cannot take 7910; the rule also applies to 6940 and 7940. Courses numbered 7979 and 7980 are not eligible to count toward a master-level degree program. All thesis students must register for an appropriate number of credits in 6971 in their final term (3 for fall/spring graduation; 2 for summer graduation). Each candidate must prepare and present a thesis, typically 50-100 pages, showing independent investigation. It must be acceptable, in form and content, to the supervisory committee and to the Graduate School. The work must be of publishable quality and must be in a form suitable for publication, guided by the Graduate School's format requirements.

FINISHING (Turning in Thesis, Setting Defense, Defense procedure)

Instructions for Turning in MA Projects and Announcing Defense:

Prior to finishing the thesis, students should set a proposed oral defense date with their Committee Chair (a date that works for all on the committee). Two weeks prior to the scheduled oral defense date, with their Chair's approval, students must submit the final copy of the thesis to their Supervisory Committee. The document should be in acceptable format as determined by the graduate school editorial office. On the same day that the thesis is submitted to the Committee, students should also send a copy to Donna Tuckey with a request for her to officially announce the defense to the faculty and graduate students of the Center. The student should include a title and abstract to be used in the announcement. There will be no digital sharing of the document to the full Center. Paper copies can be requested and made available for interested faculty. A copy of the thesis will be printed and put in the student's file.

Defense procedure: Students should check with their Chair and committee about expectations for a defense. Typically, a defense includes a short (10-15 minute) presentation about the MA project after which the candidate will answer questions from the committee about their work. It is not uncommon for a committee to suggest edits to be completed after a defense, with submission of a final revised draft. The committee chair can be the person to accept this final revised draft. A final copy should be submitted to the Center (via Donna Tuckey). At your defense Donna Tuckey will provide paperwork. After the defense the committee will sign that paperwork and turn it in to Donna Tuckey. If edits are needed on a final paper/project, a committee chair can hold that paperwork until the submission is made. If no edits are needed, then after the defense and the paperwork is submitted and the student is done with the defense. (In order to graduate, students must also finish and pass classes and file all necessary paperwork for graduation).

IMPORTANT NOTES: Graduate school rules stipulate that thesis students are required to enroll in 3 credits of MA research hours in their final term (2 credits if graduating in summer). Also, final exams (i.e., oral defense of thesis) will be considered invalid after two semesters.

A *Master of Arts, with a (non-thesis) Paper or Project* requires at least 30 credits. The Graduate School rules about the composition of these credits are as follows: Non-thesis students cannot earn credit in *Research for Master's Thesis* (WST 6971) and should not enroll in it. No more than 6 of the total 30 credits can be from S/U courses. Students are limited to 6 credits of internship toward their MA degree and 6 credits of independent study. However, students are limited to a combined total of 9 credits of internship/independent study overall in their MA degree coursework. Six credits of undergraduate courses (3000-4999) outside the major (i.e., not WST) may count when taken as part of an approved graduate program. Consult the Graduate Coordinator and your Committee Chair before registering. At least half of the required credits (not counting 6971) must be in the major (WST courses).

Each Master of Arts - non-thesis candidate must determine with their advisor by early in their second year (at the latest) whether they will write a paper (1) or present a project (2) in their final semester.

1. **Paper:** Students electing to write a paper should identify a suitable topic in the area of gender, sexuality and/or women's studies for a journal article-length work of high quality, possibly with a view toward future publication. This paper is generally shorter than a thesis and does not need to be submitted to the Graduate School but the

student's committee must judge it as a substantive and well-presented work. The work should be original in nature and should not be a reiteration of a previously submitted seminar paper.

2. Project: Students who elect to carry out a project must submit a proposal to their advisor for approval before undertaking the project. Suitable projects might include, but are not limited to, the writing of a grant proposal, development of a community-based organization, or production of a creative work. In addition to the project, students typically write an essay of approximately 15 pages detailing the project's significance to gender, sexuality, and/or women's studies.

FINISHING (Turning in MA Paper/Project, Setting Defense, Defense procedure)

Instructions for Turning in MA Projects and Announcing Defense:

Prior to finishing the Paper or Project, students should set a proposed oral defense date with their Committee Chair (a date that works for all on the committee). Two weeks prior to the scheduled oral defense date, with their Chair's approval, students must submit the final copy of the Paper or Project to their Supervisory Committee. The Project/Paper should be in acceptable format as determined by the Supervisory Committee. On the same day the Paper/Project is submitted to the Committee, students should also send a copy to Donna Tuckey with a request for her to officially announce the defense to the faculty and graduate students of the Center. The student should include a title and abstract to be used in the announcement. There will be no digital sharing of the Paper/Project to the full Center. Paper copies can be requested and made available for interested faculty. A copy of the Paper/Project (where possible) will be printed and put in the student's file.

Defense procedure: Students should check with their Chair and committee about expectations for a defense. Typically, a defense includes a short (10-15 minute) presentation about the MA project after which the candidate will answer questions from the committee about their work. It is not uncommon for a committee to suggest edits to be completed after a defense, with submission of a final revised draft. The committee chair can be the person to accept this final revised draft. A final copy should be submitted to the Center (via Donna Tuckey). At your defense Donna Tuckey will provide paperwork. After the defense the committee will sign that paperwork and turn it in to Donna Tuckey. If edits are needed on a final paper/project, a committee chair can hold that paperwork until the submission is made. If no edits are needed, then after the defense and the paperwork is submitted and the student is done with the defense. (In order to graduate, students must also finish and pass classes and file all necessary paperwork for graduation).

IMPORTANT NOTES: Graduate school rules stipulate that non-thesis students are required to take 3 credits of something that will count toward their degree in their final term (2 credits if graduating in summer). Also, final exams (oral defense of Paper/Project) will be considered invalid after two semesters.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

*** See also COURSE SELECTION and MA PLAN***

The Center offers the Master of Arts (M.A.) thesis degree option, which requires the completion and defense of a thesis (30 credit hours), and the Master of Arts non-thesis degree option, which requires completion and defense of a project or paper (30 credit hours). All Master's students take a core curriculum of 12 graduate credits (4 courses). For the thesis M.A., the remaining 18 hours consist of 12 credits of approved electives and 6 thesis credits (i.e., WST6971). It is strongly recommended that students take at least 3 additional credits in research methods or skills as an elective. For the non-thesis M.A., 18 credits of approved electives are required.

Required Core Courses (12 credits):

- ✓ WST 5933: Proseminar
- ✓ WST 6008: Feminist Methods in Research and Scholarship
- ✓ WST 6508: Advanced Feminist Theory
*or Approved 6000-level WST course in *Theory*– see below
- ✓ Approved 6000-level WST course in *Feminist Praxis/Public Scholarship* – see below

**Please note: Theory should be taken in first year*

Electives (18 Credits)

- ✓ 6 courses - Keep track of these on the working document - MA Plan of Study (If doing thesis, 6 credits must be WST 6971 MA Research)

APPROVED COURSES:

Approved 6000-level WST courses in *Theory*

WST 6935: Latinx Sexualities
 WST 6935: Race, Sex, Representation
 WST 6935: Global Women of Color
 WST 6908: Advanced Feminist theory

Approved 6000-level WST Courses in *Feminist Praxis/Public Scholarship*

WST 6935: Social Justice Praxis
 WST 6596: Intersectional Activisms
 WST 6935: Queer & Trans Movements
 WST 6935: Jobs, Gender & Justice
 WST 6935: Reproductive Health and Justice

Recommended Additional Skills/Methods Courses:

In addition to the required WST6008, it is strongly recommended that students take at 3 additional credits in research methods or skills as an elective. This can be a WST course, or a course from outside the Center, suggested by Supervisory Chair (e.g., a statistics course for a research project using statistical methods).

WST 6935: Power, Justice and Qualitative Methods
 WST 6935: Data Feminism
 ANG 6930: Gender, Sex & Ethnographic Fieldwork
 MMC 6936: Critical Cultural Studies

For some more general methods/skills courses see also:

FYC 6802, Advanced Research Methods for the Social Sciences FYC 6800, Scientific Reasoning and Research Design,
 As well, see courses in the Research and Evaluation Methodology program in the College of Education

Reminders of additional Course Information:

- At least half of the required credits (not counting 6971) must be in the major (WST courses).
- No more than 6 credits can be taken as S/U credits, not including 6971.
- Students are limited to 6 credits of internship credits toward their MA degree and 6 credits of independent study. However, students are limited to a combined total of 9 credits of internship/independent study overall in their MA degree coursework.

- Six credits of undergraduate courses (3000-4999) outside the major (not WST) may count when taken as part of an approved graduate program. Consult the Academic Unit before registering.
- No more than 5 credits each of 6910 (Supervised Research) and 6940 (Supervised Teaching) may be taken by a graduate student at UF. Students who have taken 5 credits of 6910 cannot take 7910; the rule also applies to 6940 and 7940.
- Courses numbered 7979 and 7980 are not eligible to count toward a master-level degree program.
- All thesis students must register for an appropriate number of credits in 6971 in their final term (3 for fall/spring graduation; 2 for summer graduation).
- Non-thesis students cannot earn credit in *Research for Master's Thesis* (6971) and so should not enroll in it.

BA/MA Combination Degree Program

This accelerated program provides more rapid access to research and analytical skills and allows qualified undergraduates to enroll in graduate courses and benefit from the more intense level of intellectual engagement involved in graduate training. Students admitted to the program may enroll in up to 12 hours of graduate courses toward both the BA and MA degrees during their junior and senior years. Qualified students can pursue the graduate degree while majoring in another department (i.e., even if they are not Women's Studies majors). In order to receive course credit, students must earn minimum grades of B in those courses. Students will choose either the thesis or non-thesis option for the MA. For more information on the combined degree program, please visit the undergraduate catalog webpage on [Combination Degrees](#).

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS for BA/MA:

- Overall GPA of 3.2 or higher
- Completion of WST 3015
- At least 12 credit hours in undergraduate courses that count for Women's Studies credit, including courses taken in the semester of application
- Completed Combined BA/MA degree [form](#) and BA/MA application to Center (see below). NOTE: Upon graduating with a BA, students in the program must still apply for the MA program officially in the graduate school and in the Center (see below)

Important note about finances:

As stated in the Undergraduate Catalog, there are a number of financial considerations to keep in mind in relation to pursuing the BA/MA degree. Students are responsible for paying the difference between undergraduate and graduate tuitions. Bright Futures and/or the Florida Prepaid Tuition Program will pay the undergraduate tuition rate for the graduate courses students take; each student will have to pay the difference between undergraduate and graduate course costs. If a student continues to graduate school, they will save on the undergraduate portion of tuition costs for the 12 taken while still classified as an undergraduate. See [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more detail. Within the Center, while funding is not guaranteed, should funding be available, BA/MA students can be considered for it once the BA is earned. However, stand-alone MA students receive priority in funding

APPLICATION SEQUENCE:

Please note there are multiple layers to the application/completion of the combined BA/MA. As outlined below, first you complete the [Combined BA/MA Request form](#) and the Center BA/MA application to the Center (see details below). This is to let your BA and potential MA advisors know your intentions, to approve you to enter the program, and to inform the Registrar's office so they can track your graduate work ahead of time. When you finish and graduate with your BA, you then need to submit an official application to the Graduate School (officially submitting your transcripts, etc.). At that time, you also submit an MA application to the Center (elements of BA/MA application may be resubmitted – statement, letters, etc.). Once that is reviewed and if approved, then you are formally a graduate student. At that time, you must meet with the Graduate Coordinator and request they file a Transfer of Credit petition to the graduate school (to have the graduate courses you took as an undergraduate transferred to your graduate degree record – these are the courses listed on your Combined Degree form). The process looks something like this:

1. Submit the [Combined BA/MA Request form](#) – see directions at the bottom of the form for submitting it (Make sure this form is completely filled out and received by the Graduate School such that your combined degree status is approved and recorded – Please be sure to contact Toby Shorey, tshorey@ufl.edu, as noted at the bottom of the Combined BA/MA Request form, at the end of the process to double-check that the form has been received)
2. Submit a Center BA/MA Application (see next page for further steps)
3. Finish BA and apply for BA graduation
4. Apply to [Graduate School](#), and submit [MA Graduate Application](#) materials for Center
5. If approved, contact the Graduate Coordinator to file a Transfer of Credit petition form to the Graduate School (This is to have undergraduate course work officially entered into student's graduate record. These are the courses listed on your Combined Degree form). NOTE: The Combined Degree form does not automatically notify the graduate school that the courses should count toward the MA degree work. The Transfer of Credit petition does so.
6. Finish MA coursework and MA Degree project and defense.
7. File for graduation with the Graduate School.

CENTER BA/MA APPLICATION (to be completed while an undergraduate)

Students may apply as early as the second semester of their sophomore year or as late as the first semester of their senior year. The application ideally occurs in the junior year. Please submit the following materials to the Undergraduate Coordinator after meeting with her.

- Letters of recommendation from three faculty members, including at least one who is a member of the core Center faculty
- 2-4-page statement of purpose describing the student's academic goals, long-term career goals, and how these relate to the MA in Women's Studies
- [Combined BA/MA Request form](#)

CENTER MA APPLICATION (to be completed as soon as you graduate with BA):

When you finish and graduate with your BA, immediately complete the Graduate School and Center MA Application, following the [application procedures](#) (ignoring the deadline) as outlined on the Center website.

***Please do not forget to file a Transfer of Credit form (see # 5 in Application sequence above) ***

MA/PhD Non-Traditional Degree Program

If you are already in a PhD program at UF, you may apply to our MA program also. If you are presently a Certificate student, once you have applied and been accepted to the MA, as a PhD/MA student, we will have to de-enroll you from the Certificate program and re-enroll you in the MA program. Up to nine credits from the doctoral degree program may be counted toward the master's degree program. It is the student's responsibility to review this program of study one semester before the student's graduating term. The student must then inform the UF Graduate School and both departments (doctoral and master's) of any discrepancies between this program of study and course work actually taken. If there are discrepancies, the student must submit an accurate, updated program of study to the UF Graduate School before the midpoint deadline (published in the graduate catalog) for the term in which the student is applying for graduation. Please note: *Graduation from the MA program does not have to be the same term as the student finishes the PhD. In the final term, the student must fulfill requirements for final term registration and final exam for the MA degree (PhD credits do not count toward final term registration).*

****** Please note that students receiving funding from their PhD departments will not be eligible for funding from the Center. In addition, please know that little funding for PhD/MA students is available presently.

****** Please note that you will need an advisor for your MA degree as well. Please see guidelines about committee selection under MA degree guidelines. The MA Chair should not be same as your PhD advisor.

MA/PhD APPLICATION:

Please submit the following to the Center to be considered for the MA program (if you are currently getting a PhD in another unit on campus). Once these materials have been received by the Center (you may submit them directly to the Graduate Coordinator), the Graduate Admissions committee will review them and decide on your admission to the program:

- * Statement of intellectual purpose
- * Draft of [Nontraditional Doctoral/Master's Degree Program form 1](#) and [Nontraditional Doctoral/Master's Degree Program form 2](#). Please note: *Once approved by the Center to pursue the MA, these forms will need to be officially completed and signed. The student cannot fill out the final forms (see instructions on forms).*
- * Letter of approval from PhD department, approving you to pursue the MA and granting you permission to count the overlapping credits.
- * Letter of recommendation from PhD advisor.
- * UF transcripts
- * a writing sample of up to 25 pages.
- * **NOTE:** *If you are admitted into the program, you will then also need to formally apply for admission to the MA in Women's Studies through the Office of Admissions Graduate Application (<https://admissions.ufl.edu/apply/graduate/>) in order to be officially enrolled.*

Please also be aware that graduate school rules stipulate that non-thesis students are required to take 3 credits of something that will count toward their degree in their final term (2 credits if the final term is summer). Also, final exams (oral defenses) will be considered invalid after two semesters.

MA/JD Degree Program

The faculties of the [Levin College of Law](#) and of the Women's Studies program in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences have approved a combined degree program culminating in both a JD degree, awarded by the College of Law, and an MA in Women's Studies (thesis or non- thesis), awarded by the Women's Studies program. Under this combined degree program, a student can obtain both degrees in approximately one year less than it would take to obtain both degrees if pursued consecutively. Please note: Essential criteria relating to the joint degree program are as follows:

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Candidates for the program must meet the entrance requirements for and be accepted by both the College of Law and Women's Studies. The student must inform both programs at the time of application to the second program that she/they/he intends to pursue the joint degree. A Change of Degree program form is submitted to the Graduate School. The joint degree program is not open to students who have already earned one degree. NOTE: Since law students are professional students, not graduate students, they have to apply for graduate admission through the Office of Admissions website if they wish to pursue a joint degree program (JD - professional degree + MA - graduate degree).

- *Timing:* Admission to the second program is required no later than the end of the third consecutive semester after beginning one degree of the joint degree program. A summer term is counted as a single semester.
- *Requirements:* A student must satisfy the curriculum requirements for each degree before either degree is awarded. In each case, no fewer than 12 credits must be taken in each program. The graduate program in Women's Studies will accept 12 credits of appropriate professional courses toward the Women's Studies degree. The 12 credits selected from the professional curriculum must be approved by the Women's Studies Graduate Coordinator upon the recommendation of the student's graduate supervisory committee. Reciprocally, the College of Law will accept 12 credits of appropriate Women's Studies courses toward the satisfaction of the JD degree.
- *Enrollment Classification:* A student enrolled in the joint degree program may spend the first year in either the College of Law or the Women's Studies program (in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences). Students admitted to one College but electing to spend the first academic year in the other College under the joint degree program may enter the second College thereafter without once again qualifying for admission so long as she/they/he has notified the second College before the end of the first week of the first semester in the joint degree program and are in good academic standing when the studies commence in the second College. Students must carry the minimum number of credits required by either college.
- *Eligible Grades:* Women's Studies courses which are to be credited toward the JD degree must carry a grade of "B" or higher and will not be counted in the College of Law grade point average. College of Law courses which are to be credited toward the M.A. (thesis or nonthesis) degree must carry a grade of "C" or higher and will not be counted in the grade point average of Women's Studies.
- *Degree Award:* A student enrolled in the joint degree program will not receive either degree until she/they/he has satisfied all of the requirements for both degrees, or in cases of withdrawal from the joint degree program, until she/they/he has satisfied the requirements of one of the degrees (as if she/they/he had not been a joint degree candidate).
- *Withdrawal:* Students who enroll in the joint degree program but do not complete the joint

program may receive up to 6 course credits taken in the Law School toward the MA provided she/they/he completes these courses with a grade of “C” or better. These courses will be treated as “electives” for purposes of the MA. Students may receive JD credit for 2 Women’s Studies courses, up to a total of 6 semester credits, and the credits will be treated as the two graduate courses ordinarily allowed outside of the College of Law for credit toward the JD.

- *Appointments:* Within the Center, while funding is not guaranteed, should funding be available, JD/MA students will be eligible for consideration of it while enrolled in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (however, stand-alone MA students receive priority in funding).
- *Supervisory Committee:* To facilitate student progress in the joint program to the fullest extent possible given the availability and consent of appropriate law school faculty, the student’s graduate supervisory committee will be comprised of 2 graduate faculty members from CLAS (at least one of whom is on the Women’s Studies graduate faculty), and 1 law school faculty member. Whether a law school faculty member serves on the supervisory committee or not, MA Degree projects will focus on a topic related to law and women’s or gender issues.

Graduate Certificates (in Women’s Studies or Gender and Development)

As stated by the Graduate School [page](#) on Graduate Certificates, “A Graduate Certificate program is a formal collection of courses that together form a coherent program of study offered through an academic unit. A Graduate Certificate is recognition of the acquisition of knowledge and skills in a given field of study. A Graduate Certificate is an academic credential granted by the University of Florida. As such, all Graduate Certificates must follow the requirements of admission, successful completion of approved graduate level coursework, application to receive the credential, and enrollment during the term in which the certificate is awarded and posted to the transcript.” See also the [Graduate Certificate page](#) in the Graduate Catalog about general information about Graduate Certificates. Students pursuing graduate certificate work in the Center for Gender, Sexualities and Women’s Studies Research will become acquainted with various feminist (and other appropriate) theoretical approaches and methodologies for examining the roles and intersections of gender, race/ethnicity, sexuality and other sociocultural systems. Students may earn a [Graduate Certificate in Women’s Studies](#) or a [Graduate Certificate in Gender and Development](#). All graduate students in an MA or PhD program from all colleges at UF are eligible to enroll in these programs. Students must be registered during the term in which they receive the Graduate Certificate. Students must apply to receive a Graduate Certificate by the mid-point of the term in which they plan to complete the certificate program requirements. If a student decides to pursue BOTH Certificates, different coursework for each Certificate is required. (In other words, courses for one Certificate may not count for the other). *Presently the Center does not accept Certificate applications from those not already enrolled at UF.* We recommend that the student’s committee include one Core or Affiliate faculty member of the Center for Gender, Sexualities and Women’s Studies Research.

CERTIFICATE APPLICATIONS:

To apply to either of the Certificate programs, you must turn in **two** applications. All graduate students in an MA or PhD program from all colleges at UF are eligible to enroll in these programs. Presently, *the Center does not accept Certificate applications from those not already enrolled at UF.*

1. First, please apply through the graduate school admissions [here](#).

(Note: “The Office of Admissions cannot forward an application to a certificate

program to the department until all materials and transcript(s) have been received”)

2. Second, once all the materials have been submitted and approved by Admissions, please also fill out the appropriate Center Certificate Form – [Graduate Certificate in Women’s Studies Form](#) or [Graduate Certificate in Gender and Development Form](#) (filling in the courses completed and courses you plan to complete) and turn it in by email to the Graduate Coordinator with the subject line: Graduate Certificate Application and marked as high priority. See below for important dates.

It is *STRONGLY RECOMMENDED* that you complete Step 2 -- turning in the second application to the Center -- by the mid-point of the semester (around October 15th for Fall and February 15th for Spring). In effect, this means that it is recommended you start step 1 of the application process at the beginning of the semester.

Once the application is approved, by both the Admissions office and the Center, the Graduate Coordinator will notify you by email. At that time, you will also be added to the Center Certificate listserv to receive updates and information about Center activities. (If you have questions about the listserv, please contact Donna Tuckey at tuckey@ufl.edu). If, at any point, you decide to no longer pursue your Certificate, please notify both Donna Tuckey (tuckey@ufl.edu) and the Graduate Coordinator.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN WOMEN’S STUDIES REQUIREMENTS

The *Graduate Certificate in Women’s Studies* is designed for graduate students from any discipline who wish to focus on interdisciplinary issues related to feminist theory and practice.

For the Certificate, students are required to earn 12 credit hours that include the following courses:

- 3 credit hours of Theory/methods course with WST designation—Choose from a core set of courses which includes:
 - WST 5933 Proseminar
 - WST 6008 Feminist Methods in Research and Scholarship
 - WST 6508 Advanced Feminist Theory (or Approved 6000-level WST course in *Theory*– see Course Selection)
 - WST 6935 Special Topics (Varies)
- 9 credits of graduate level electives (Chosen in consultation with student’s primary advisor). Certificate students may take any additional course above as an elective. Please also consult [Courses lists](#) on Center webpage – electives may be from either [Courses in the Center - Graduate](#) or [Approved Graduate Electives](#). (Please click on the appropriate semester). On occasion, courses not on these lists may be petitioned to count – see Center Course Petitions section below to see further details on how to petition to have a graduate seminar count for Center credit.

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN GENDER & DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS

The *Graduate Certificate in Gender and Development* (GAD) is designed for graduate students from any disciplines who wish to focus on issues related to gender and development. As demonstrated by research, publications, conference/seminars, and institutional participation, the field of gender and development (GAD) continues to grow. Gender is a critical variable in the analysis of (labor/economic) development processes at both the micro and macro levels. Today, government and non-governmental organizations are paying increasing attention to the role of

gender in (labor/economic) development for reasons of equity and efficiency.

For the GAD Certificate, students are required to earn 12 credit hours that include the following courses:

- 3 credit hours of Theory/methods course with WST designation —Choose from a core set of courses which includes:
 - WST 5933 Proseminar
 - WST 6008 Feminist Methods in Research and Scholarship
 - WST 6508 Advanced Feminist Theory (or Approved 6000-level WST course in *Theory*— see Course Selection)
 - WST 6935 Special Topics (Varies)
- 3 credit hours of a graduate level “SKILLS” course.
(Chosen in consultation with student’s primary advisor. Skills courses should provide training in the tasks related to the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of development initiatives and/or planning and utilization of participatory methodologies.)
- 6 credits of graduate level electives (Chosen in consultation with student’s primary advisor). Certificate students may take any additional course above as an elective. Please also consult [Courses lists](#) on Center webpage – electives may be from either [Courses in the Center - Graduate](#) or [Approved Graduate Electives](#). On occasion, courses not on these lists may be petitioned to count – see Center Course Petitions section below to see further details on how to petition to have a graduate seminar count for Center credit.

FINISHING CERTIFICATES

At the beginning of your graduating semester, you should update your Graduate Certificate form. When doing so please list all the courses you took for your Certificate. Please note, at this time you should also apply to graduate (this is a separate process than applying for your other degrees). Students must be registered during the term in which they receive the Graduate Certificate. Students must apply to receive a Graduate Certificate by the mid-point of the term in which they plan to graduate (this is a separate process than applying for their other PhD or MA degree). Please also be sure to complete the final step before graduation: Completing the Learning Outcome Assessment (LOA) form (PDF on Center website). Please have your Committee Chair fill out this form and submit it to the Graduate Coordinator by the mid-point of the semester of graduation. Remember: *In the semester you plan to graduate you must submit a [degree application](#) to be certified for graduation (separate from your degree application for other degrees).*

Concurrent Degrees

University of Florida provides a concurrent degree program allowing for simultaneous study on an individualized basis that leads to two master’s degrees in two different graduate programs. Such a program is initiated by the student and requires prior approval of each academic unit and the Graduate School. If the student is approved to pursue two master’s degrees, up to 9 credits of course work from one degree program may be applied toward the second master’s degree, thereby allowing both degrees to be completed in less time. The [Graduate School Concurrent Degree forms](#) (3) are required for approval of the concurrent program.

Important details to keep in mind:

- The student will be classified by the first program’s college and major until that degree is awarded. When the student meets all degree requirements, the student must apply for graduation. Once the first degree is conferred, the student’s classification will change to

the second college and major

- These are two separate degree programs. Therefore, one thesis or terminal project for both is *not* acceptable. The student must have individual supervisory committees for each degree program. The chair of each committee must be from the major department of that particular master's degree program. All courses taken by the student since admission to the University of Florida as a graduate student must be accounted for on these forms. At the department's discretion, up to *nine* credits may be shared between the two degrees. Any changes to these programs of study must be submitted to the UF Graduate School as soon as possible — no later than the midpoint deadline published in the graduate catalog for the term during which the student has applied for graduation.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM DETAILS

The Graduate Coordinator, First-Year Advisor, and Committee Chair

During their first year in the MA program, students will be assigned a First-Year Advisor. The Graduate Coordinator will advise incoming students for their first year, in concert with the student's First-Year Advisor, until the student formally designates a supervisory Committee Chair (which could be their First-Year Advisor but does not have to be). By the mid-point of the spring semester of their first year in the program, students should select a Committee Chair and form a committee, appropriate to the thesis/non-thesis requirements of the graduate school (see section below on Supervisory Committee). The Graduate Coordinator will still be available to help the student navigate the intricacies of the program, but the student's Chair will guide the student in decisions about their individualized program of study and professional development beginning in the middle of the spring term of their first year in the program.

Course Selection

In selecting courses to take each semester, students should review the details about requirements (in this Handbook and relevant online Center and Graduate School resources). See also MA Plans of Study. Next the student should review the courses that are approved to count for credit for Center degrees. These are listed before each semester on the [Courses lists](#) on Center webpage. Courses may be selected from either [Courses in the Center - Graduate](#) or [Approved Graduate Electives](#). See also lists of Approved courses below. Students should consult with their First-Year Advisor or Chair, as well as the Graduate Coordinator when selecting appropriate courses. On occasion, students may identify courses not on these lists which are relevant to their course of study. After consulting with their First-Year Advisor or Chair, students may petition to count such courses for Center degree credit. See *Center Course Petitions* below for details.

The Center offers the Master of Arts (M.A.) thesis degree option, which requires the completion and defense of a thesis (30 credit hours), and the Master of Arts non-thesis degree option, which requires completion and defense of a project or paper (30 credit hours). All Master's students take a core curriculum of 12 graduate credits (4 courses). For the thesis M.A., the remaining 18 hours consist of 12 credits of approved electives and 6 thesis credits. It is strongly recommended that students take at least 3 additional credits in research methods or skills as an elective. For the non-thesis M.A., 18 credits of approved electives are required.

Required Core Courses (12 credits):

- ✓ WST 5933: Proseminar
- ✓ WST 6008: Feminist Methods in Research and Scholarship
- ✓ WST 6508: Advanced Feminist Theory
*or Approved 6000-level WST course in *Theory*– see below
- ✓ Approved 6000-level WST course in *Feminist Praxis/Public Scholarship* – see below

**Please note: Theory should be taken in first year*

Electives (18 Credits)

- ✓ 6 courses - Keep track of these on the working document - MA Plan of Study (If doing thesis, 6 credits must be WST 6971 MA Research)

APPROVED COURSES:

Approved 6000-level WST courses in *Theory*

WST 6935: Latinx Sexualities
 WST 6935: Race, Sex, Representation
 WST 6935: Global Women of Color
 WST 6908: Advanced Feminist theory

Approved 6000-level WST Courses in *Feminist Praxis/Public Scholarship*

WST 6935: Social Justice Praxis
 WST 6596: Intersectional Activisms
 WST 6935: Queer & Trans Movements
 WST 6935: Jobs, Gender & Justice
 WST 6935: Reproductive Health and Justice

Recommended Additional Skills/Methods Courses:

In addition to the required WST6008, it is strongly recommended that students take at 3 additional credits in research methods or skills as an elective. This can be a WST course, or a course from outside the Center, suggested by Supervisory Chair (e.g., a statistics course for a research project using statistical methods).

WST 6935: Power, Justice and Qualitative Methods
 WST 6935: Data Feminism
 ANG 6930: Gender, Sex & Ethnographic Fieldwork
 MMC 6936: Critical Cultural Studies

For some more general methods/skills courses see also:

FYC 6802, Advanced Research Methods for the Social Sciences FYC 6800, Scientific Reasoning and Research Design,
 As well, see courses in the Research and Evaluation Methodology program in the College of Education

Reminders of additional Course Information:

- At least half of the required credits (not counting 6971) must be in the major (WST courses).
- No more than 6 credits can be taken as S/U credits, not including 6971.
- Students are limited to 6 credits of internship credits toward their MA degree and 6 credits of independent study. However, students are limited to a combined total of 9 credits of internship/independent study overall in their MA degree coursework.

- Six credits of undergraduate courses (3000-4999) outside the major (not WST) may count when taken as part of an approved graduate program. Consult the Academic Unit before registering.
- No more than 5 credits each of 6910 (Supervised Research) and 6940 (Supervised Teaching) may be taken by a graduate student at UF. Students who have taken 5 credits of 6910 cannot take 7910; the rule also applies to 6940 and 7940.
- Courses numbered 7979 and 7980 are not eligible to count toward a master-level degree program.
- All thesis students must register for an appropriate number of credits in 6971 in their final term (3 for fall/spring graduation; 2 for summer graduation).
- Non-thesis students cannot earn credit in *Research for Master's Thesis* (6971) and so should not enroll in it.

Center Course Petitions

On occasion, students may identify courses not on Approved lists of courses that count toward Center degrees, but which are relevant to their course of study. After consulting with their First-Year Advisor or Chair, students may petition to count such courses for Center degree credit. See below for details:

- Courses taken before Fall 2020: Graduate courses with 50% feminist/queer/intersectional course content and/or courses with significant (at least 50%) course assignments completed with feminist/queer/intersectional focus.
- Courses taken as from Fall 2020 on: Only graduate courses that have 50% feminist/queer/intersectional course content can be petitioned. Courses where course content is general and student does independent final projects related to feminist/queer/intersectional content do not qualify to be petitioned for credit.

To Petition: Please complete the [Course Petition form](#) (also available on Forms webpage) and submit it to the Graduate Coordinator.

M.A. Plans of Study

Regular planning of coursework for the MA is required by completing and updating the [MA Plan of Study form](#) (also located on the “forms” webpage on Center website) and turning it in to the Graduate Coordinator *before* registration each semester.

First Year Advisors/Mentee Guidelines

The first-year advisor and mentee are expected to work together to facilitate the mentee's successful transition to the program, establish a research project area, and identify a committee chair and committee members. In some cases, the first-year advisor may become the mentee's committee chair and, in some cases, they may facilitate a transition to another committee chair.

In addition, several structures are in place to help students make progress toward identifying their project area, committee chair, and committee members during their first semester. These include orientation and ongoing mentoring by the Graduate Coordinator along with focused instruction and assignments in Proseminar and Feminist Methods during the first semester. Students can also contact the Graduate Advisory Committee to discuss any issues or concerns they may have.

Key deadlines:

By end of semester (1 st semester)	Student works with first-year advisor to develop a list of potential committee chairs and members and a written document with the preliminary title of their MA degree project, a short description of the project, and how it aligns with faculty areas of expertise to present in meetings with potential committee members.
By March 1 of year 1	Student sends email to Graduate Coordinator, cc's chair and first-year advisor, identifying their committee chair.

Guidelines for First-Year Advisor/Mentee Goals and Meetings

Student mentee and their first-year advisor should **meet at least once a month** to address the following topics and goals. There is no need to submit reports of meetings to the Graduate Coordinator, although follow-up emails between advisor and mentee summarizing meetings are encouraged.

FIRST SEMESTER, Year 1:

GOAL: A list of potential committee chairs and members; A written document with the preliminary title of MA degree project, a short description of the project, and how it aligns with faculty areas of expertise to present in meetings with potential committee members. Due: *By last day of classes of semester*

1. Discuss adjustments to program and check in about student wellbeing – e.g., check in about balancing workload, adjusting to employment/TA responsibilities, understanding expectations and requirements and any difficulties student raises. Troubleshoot – identify strategies for potential solutions to any challenges (setting study schedules, discussing workload balance with supervisor, etc.). Advisor and student review Center's research and travel support and related procedures (see Center Graduate Handbook) as well as support resources available at UF (e.g., CWC, U Matter WeCare, Disability Resource Center, Career Connections Center).

Here are links to some of these resources:

[CWC \(Counseling and Wellness Services\)](#)

[Online Group Counseling](#) available for Black Graduate students, Women, Spanish speaking students, etc.

[Group counseling](#) for LGB empowerment, Trans empowerment, Black womxn magic, International students, sexual assault survivors

[UMatterWeCare](#)

[Disability Resource Center](#)

[Career Connections Center](#)

[Graduate Student Diversity Organizations](#)

[Anti-Racism Repository](#)

In addition, a working list of resources are listed here:

[Resources – Center for Gender, Sexualities and Women's Studies Research\(ufl.edu\)](#)

As well, the Graduate Advisory Committee is available as a collective. Any member of the committee can be contacted to work out questions, how to access resources, or address concerns.

2. Discuss concrete plans for degree progress and completion (e.g., classes student can take develop interests, thesis/nonthesis options, areas of interest, faculty with similar interests).
3. Draft mini-prospectus paragraph describing MA project ideas and how they align with faculty areas of expertise – to use in emails to set meetings with potential chair and committee members and to practice how to discuss research interests and their alignment with faculty areas of expertise, briefly and professionally (“elevator speech”) with faculty.
4. Draft a tentative title for MA degree project and a list of potential chairs and committee members. Discuss plan for meeting with faculty members who might serve on student committee and in what capacity.

SECOND SEMESTER, Year 1:

GOAL: Student sends email to Graduate Coordinator, Committee Chair and first-year advisor, identifying their Committee Chair. *Due: March 1*

1. Discuss adjustments to program and check in about student wellbeing – e.g., check in about balancing workload, adjusting to employment/TA, understanding expectations and requirements and any difficulties student raises. Troubleshoot – identify strategies for potential solutions to any challenges (setting study schedules, discussing workload balance with supervisor, etc.).

Student meets with potential committee chairs and members to present project idea and how the idea aligns with potential chairs/members’ areas of expertise.

2. Review concrete plans for degree progress and completions – e.g., classes that can develop interests, thesis/nonthesis options, areas of interest, faculty with similar interests).
3. First year advisor and mentee meet as needed to help advise in refining MA degree project focus and choosing committee chair and committee members.

By March 1 of year 1 student sends email to Graduate Coordinator, CC’s chair and first-year advisor, identifying their committee chair.

The Supervisory Committee (Committee Chair and Members)

All MA students in the Center are expected to assemble a supervisory committee by mid-semester of the spring semester of the first year (the Graduate School requires the committee by end of second semester). The committee, led by the student’s Chair, observes and guides the student’s academic progress. The graduate school rules for Supervisory Committees differ for those completing the MA by doing a thesis or a non-thesis; see below for details. Any additional members of a student committee (beyond those officially needed) must have graduate faculty status, either within or outside of the student’s home department. If a student pursues a minor from another unit, the committee must include a Graduate Faculty member from the minor department. If a committee member is added to the graduate student’s committee as a special appointment, they cannot fulfil the role of a regular committee member but must be considered an “extra” committee member (For example, a student completing an MA-thesis will need a Chair and member of their committee with graduate faculty status in the Center but then can have an additional member who has Graduate Faculty Status outside the Center or is approved by the Graduate School as a special appointment.

The supervisory committee for a *Master of Arts degree, with a Thesis* is required to have a Chair and one additional member, both with Graduate Faculty Status in the student's home department (i.e., the Center). Please check with the Graduate Coordinator for a current list of faculty with Graduate Faculty Status in the Center. Additional members may be added and may have Graduate Faculty Status in or outside the Center, or may be submitted for Graduate School approval as special appointments. If a student pursues a minor from another unit, the committee must include a Graduate Faculty member from the minor department. The supervisory committee for a student completing an MA with a thesis must approve a thesis topic and the plans for carrying out the research. The committee must meet when the thesis is at least 50% completed to review procedures, progress, and expected results and to make suggestions for the completion of the study. The final comprehensive exam (oral defense) must be attended by the entire supervisory committee in compliance with Graduate Council policies. Only the supervisory committee members may sign the signature pages for the thesis. Unanimous approval is required.

A supervisory committee for a *Masters of Arts degree, with a Paper or Project* (non-thesis) is required to have a Chair with Graduate Faculty Status in the Center - see Graduate Coordinator for a current list. Additional members may be added and may have Graduate Faculty Status in or outside the Center, or may be submitted for Graduate School approval as special appointments. A final comprehensive exam (oral defense) is required for all non-thesis degrees.

Academic Standing

Any graduate student may be denied further registration if progress toward completing the program becomes unsatisfactory to the academic unit, college, or Dean of the Graduate School. Unsatisfactory scholarship is defined as failure to maintain a B average (3.00) in all work attempted. Graduate students need an overall GPA of 3.00 truncated (i.e. not rounded up; a 2.99 GPA is a 2.99 GPA and will not be rounded up to a 3.00) and a 3.00 truncated GPA in their major (and in the minor, if a minor is declared) at graduation. Academic standing is further determined by annual evaluation (see below). Students with less than a 3.1 GPA may not hold an assistantship or fellowship.

Annual Evaluation of Students

Student progress is evaluated continuously by the Center faculty. In addition to continuous evaluation, students are evaluated annually. This evaluation is based on the quality of the student's academic work, research, professional accomplishments, assigned assistantship work, professional and ethical conduct, and completion of degree requirements. To facilitate such evaluation, students are asked to start the process by filling out the first part of the Graduate Student Annual Evaluation Form in consultation with their Supervisory Chair. The form is intended to guide student-Chair collaborative reflection and mentoring related to student's progress. It is a three-step form:

1. The first part of the form is the Student Progress Report Form, and guides and documents the student's self-assessment. This part is completed by the student and given to their Chair prior to Center annual student progress faculty meeting.
2. The second part is the Advisor Report Form and has Section 1 and 2.
 - a. Section 1 guides and documents the Chair's assessment and is completed by the Chair and brought to the annual student progress faculty meeting. At this meeting, Center faculty review the progress of all students and determine whether each student is continuing in good standing. (See below for details

about students deemed not to be making satisfactory progress).

- b. Section 2 of the Advisor Report Form comprises the formal written feedback. The Chair completes this written feedback, informed by the annual student progress faculty discussion, and gives the feedback to the student.
3. After the steps above, the Chair holds a mentoring discussion with the student to share and discuss the annual feedback with the student. The Chair then submits the completed and signed form (all parts above) to the Graduate Coordinator and Donna Tuckey who places the form in the student's file.

If a student is deemed not to be making satisfactory progress, the written feedback will identify the performance areas/behaviors that require improvement, actions/outcomes required to reach a level of satisfactory progress, a time-table for achieving these outcomes, and consequences (e.g., probation, dismissal) for not achieving these outcomes. These actions are not confined to the annual evaluation and may be initiated by faculty at any time as part of continuous evaluation.

Research Topic Panel Presentation

As a feminist research community, the CGSWSR strives to foster space for engaged discussion of research. To that end, we sponsor a panel presentation by first year graduate students about their MA thesis or project plans at the end of the Proseminar. Each first-year graduate student will spend 5-8 minutes presenting their research topic ideas and research plans (to the degree that they have developed them thus far) to the group. Second year graduate students and core faculty attend, listen, and offer constructive feedback.

General Timeline to Degree

Please see [Graduate School Calendar](#) for specific dates

Year 1:

August

- One week prior to class: department orientation and graduate school orientation
- Peer mentors (graduate student) and First-Year Advisors (faculty) assigned
- Complete MA plan of study in orientation and submit to Graduate Coordinator
- Register for courses

September – December

- Courses to take:
 - WST 5933 Proseminar
 - WST 6008 Feminist Research and Methods
 - Elective course (from [Courses in the Center- Graduate](#) or [Approved Graduate Electives](#))
- Classes begin
- Course assignments to develop MA project/thesis (in WST 5933 & WST 6008)
- Meet at least once a month with First-Year Advisor and Peer mentor, discuss possible classes for Spring (see MA Plan and Graduate Handbook)
- Final research panel presentation (at end of semester, attended by faculty and 2nd year graduate students, feedback provided).

January – March

- Courses to take:
 - WST 6508 Advanced Feminist Theory or equivalent *Theory* course (see list of approved courses)
 - Other coursework (selected from [Courses in the Center- Graduate](#) or [Approved Graduate Electives](#)).
- Turn in updated MA Plan in first week of classes.
- Begin to narrow down focus on MA degree project in consultation with First-Year Advisor
- Attend one defense of 2nd year graduate students
- Identify official Committee Chair by March 1
- Submit Student Progress Report section of the [Annual Evaluation forms](#) due to official Chair by March 15
- Meet with Chair – Discuss summer research plans. Review [Graduate School Calendar](#) and discuss timeline to finish degree and set writing schedule. Discuss possible classes for Fall (see MA Plan and Graduate Handbook)

April

- Meet with Chair to discuss annual feedback
- Formalize full committee and email to Graduate Coordinator, with Committee Chair copied, to be entered into GIMS

Summer

- Work on MA Paper/Project/Thesis according to advice from official Chair (e.g., find relevant cultural texts, conduct interviews, etc.)
- See Professional Development section below for structured resources and supports (e.g., 14-day summer writing workshop) to help students stay on track in making progress on their MA work over the summer.
- NOTE: If students intend to work with Human Subjects, they must complete IRB Protocol. Students should consult with their Chair for advice to complete the IRB. Info on IRB available here: <http://irb.ufl.edu/>

Year 2:*Fall*

- Students work with Chair to choose appropriate classes (selected from [Courses in the Center- Graduate](#) or [Approved Graduate Electives](#)); (see MA Plan and Graduate Handbook). Turn in updated MA Plan in first week of classes.
- Work closely with Chair and committee members to complete Paper/Project/Thesis for MA Degree and prepare for Spring defense.
- Review instructions for setting a defense date (below) and start working to set a tentative date with the committee (check [graduate school dates](#)).
- Review [Defense Rubric](#) with Chair.
 Since this is the semester before graduation, students should check to make sure that all incompletes or other unresolved grades are cleared, grade changes have been recorded, and the supervisory committee and all degree program details listed in the Student Information System (SIS) and web-based Graduate Information Management System (GIMS) are accurate.

Spring

- Students work with Chair to choose appropriate classes (selected from [Courses in the Center- Graduate](#) or [Approved Graduate Electives](#)); (see MA Plan and Graduate Handbook). Students must register for at least three credits (two in summer) that count toward the degree during the semester of graduation. Students on an assistantship, fellowship, or traineeship must be registered appropriately for their appointment. Thesis students must register for at least 3 credits of 6971. Turn in updated MA Plan in first week of classes – note final signatures needed.
- An important step is the *Application for the degree* (also known as “applying to graduate”) which must be made online (<https://one.uf.edu/>) early in the semester of graduation by the deadline published in the [Graduate School Calendar](#). Application for the degree assures that the student's name is on the graduation list and includes the application for the diploma, placement of the student's name in the commencement program, and placement of the name on the list to receive information on commencement procedures, including rental or purchase of regalia. Application for graduation must be made each term a student anticipates graduating. The application does not carry over from a previous semester. Failure to make application by the published deadline will preclude the student's graduation in that term.
- Set defense date for finishing MA Degree Paper/Project/Thesis. Be sure to check the [Graduate School Calendar](#) for relevant defense and submission deadlines. Defense dates must be set to meet Graduate School deadlines. All deadlines are listed in the [Graduate School Catalog](#) which is updated annually and the [Graduate School Calendar](#) which is updated each semester. Further details specific to type of degree:
 - ✓ Students completing a **Thesis** need to check the [Graduate School Calendar](#) (look for “Deadline for final exam milestone to be completed in SIS (the Student Information System) for thesis students” and “Last day to submit successfully defended master's thesis via GIMS (the Graduate Information Management System) for intended review by the Graduate School Editorial Office.” Students completing a Thesis need to meet first submission deadlines with the graduate school editorial office. See also the [Electronic Thesis & Dissertation \(ETD\) Technical Support page](#).
 - ✓ Students completing a **Paper/Project** as a non-thesis need to check [Graduate School Calendar](#) (look for “Deadline for final exam milestone to be completed in SIS (the Student Information System) for dissertation, non-thesis, project and project-in-lieu-of-thesis students.”). Traditionally this date is a bit later than for those completing a Thesis. Students completing a non-thesis do not need to submit their Paper/Project to the graduate school editorial office. Final copy should be submitted to Donna after final edits (after the defense). Once a defense date is chosen that works for all on the committee and meets Graduate School deadlines, the Chair and the student should set a due date for submitting the Paper/Project/Thesis to the committee two weeks prior to that defense date.
- Contact [Donna Tuckey](#) to reserve the conference room for the defense.
- Successfully finish the MA Thesis, Paper/Project and Defense. - *In brief, satisfactory*

performance on the defense must be completed by the deadline dates shown in the [Graduate School calendar](#) [Please note different dates for Thesis and Paper/Project (non-thesis)]. For those doing a Thesis, final submission of the corrected Thesis must also meet deadlines in Graduate School calendar and with the graduate editorial office. For those doing a Paper/Project (non-thesis), final copy should be submitted to Donna after final edits.

Financial Aid

Qualified graduate students in every department are eligible for fellowships, assistantships, traineeships, and other financial aid awards. Graduate assistantship (GA) appointments, which include tuition remission and stipends, are available through the Center. Students receive a letter of appointment within a few months of their acceptance to the program. The process for selecting GA positions is determined by the admissions committee and is based on a combination of factors including GPA, letters of recommendation, and writing samples provided by the applicant. A limited amount of need-based funding is available through the Vada Allen Yeomens Fellowship Fund.

Information on external fellowships, small grants, and other funding opportunities is available on the Office of Research [website](#). The Community of Science Funding Opportunities database and the GrantsNet Database are keyword searchable and highly recommended as information resources. The University Libraries provides information about funding on their [grants and fellowships page](#). The Graduate School also has a funding [website](#). Loan applications are available from the Student Financial Affairs Office (S107 Criser Hall) or [online](#).

STUDENT HONOR CODE/STUDENT CONDUCT CODE

Students enrolled in the Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies Research are expected to abide by the [University of Florida Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code](#). See the code for an explanation of cheating, plagiarism, falsification of documents, term papers, etc. Students who fail to abide by the honor code will be subject to a minimum penalty of a failing grade for the assignment and a maximum penalty of a referral to the Dean of Students office for judicial proceedings. For a good discussion about plagiarism and how to properly cite your sources, please review this [short 30 minute video](#).

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT (Reporting and Resource Options)

The University of Florida is committed to providing all members of our community with fair and equitable treatment, regardless of sex, gender, or sexual orientation. The University strives to protect our community from any form of sexual misconduct or gender-based harassment. Such behaviors will not be tolerated at the University, and any individuals who engage in such conduct will be subject to disciplinary action. Similarly, the University does not tolerate or condone retaliation, will take steps to prevent retaliation, and will evaluate responsive actions, as necessary, for any retaliatory acts. Information on the investigative process and potential adjudication can be found [here](#). UF provides a range of support resources. Information regarding these resources, on campus and in the community, are listed on the Office of Title IX Compliance website and can be found [here](#).

A wide variety of mechanisms are available to report an alleged Title IX violation (see below), however, the first step for a Reporting Party is to decide if he/she/they simply want(s) to seek out confidential support or officially report the violation(s). *It is important to understand the majority of employees at the University of Florida are identified as 'Responsible Employees'*

and, as such, have the duty to inform the Office of Title IX Compliance of any reports they receive alleging sexual misconduct. It is equally important to know that, should a Reporting Party report an incident of alleged sexual misconduct to a Responsible Employee or to the Office of Title IX Compliance, they will not be required to move forward with an investigation if that is not their desire.

Employees in the following areas are identified as *confidential resources* and not obligated to forward allegations of sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator:

- [Office of Victim Services](#) (OVS)
- [Counseling & Wellness Center](#) (CWC)
- [UF Employee Assistance Program](#) (EAP)

All employees (TEAMS, OPS, USPS, Faculty) working in areas other than those identified above are considered ‘Responsible Employees’ and are obligated to report all allegations of sexual misconduct communicated to them. Failure to do so could result in disciplinary action. Reporting Parties (or others) who want to report allegations of sexual misconduct may communicate this information to any Responsible Employee or via any of the alternative options listed below.

Options for Reporting Title IX Violations

- Title IX Information Form: <https://titleix.ufl.edu/make-a-report/>
- Title IX Coordinator: (352) 273-1094
- Deputy Title IX Coordinators
- UFPD: (352) 392-1111
- Gainesville Police Department: (352) 955-1818

NOTE:

a. The Office of Title IX Compliance will always consider the Reporting Party’s requests/needs as paramount throughout the process. However, when legitimate allegations are so severe as to pose a serious threat to the Reporting Party or the community in general, the Title IX Coordinator may determine it is necessary to move forward with a case independent of the Reporting Party’s participation; these circumstances are extremely rare.

The commitment of the University of Florida to protect all community members from any form of sexual misconduct or gender-based harassment includes the responsibility of all members of the community to report incidents of this behavior. Any employee, student, or visitor who has knowledge of an occurrence of sexual misconduct is strongly encouraged to promptly reach out to the Office of Title IX Compliance. Reports and questions can be directed to informtitleIX@ufl.edu or by contacting the following UF official:

Dr. Russell Froman, J.D.

Assistant Vice President for ADA & Title IX Compliance

427 Yon Hall

1908 Stadium Road

(352) 273-1094

rfroman@ufl.edu

<https://titleix.ufl.edu>

informtitleIX@ufl.edu

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

The Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution (SCCR) provides Conflict Resolution services to students in order to aid them in effective conflict resolution processes and develop students' abilities to handle conflict effectively. Students can utilize the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution Services by contacting the office at (352) 392-1261 ex. 207 or by visiting the [Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution](#) located within the Dean of Students Office (202 Peabody Hall). Here is a comprehensive list of various services available to students:

Conflict Coaching: Students seek counsel and guidance from SCCR in order to engage a conflict more effectively/independently.

Facilitated Dialogue: Students access SCCR to coordinate having a third party (mediator) facilitate a structured session aimed at resolving a conflict and/or constructing a go-forward or future plan for the parties involved. The parties are in control of any agreement reached or decision made, though depending on the circumstances, SCCR may have to give final approval and/or monitor the proposed terms of an agreement. The facilitators for Conflict Resolution services are the SCCR staff, University of Florida law school students, or other community members where appropriate.

Mediation: Students access SCCR to serve as a third party to coordinate a structured session aimed at resolving a conflict and/or constructing a go-forward or future story for the parties involved.

Restorative Justice Practices: Through a diversion program or as an addition to adjudication, SCCR provides space and facilitation for students taking ownership for harmful behavior and parties affected by the behavior to jointly repair harm. The process involves several meetings and an approximately 2- hour Restorative Justice session.

For referral or to request conflict resolution services, please see this [Conflict Resolution page](#).

PROCEDURES FOR ADDRESSING CONCERNS, CONFLICTS, & GRIEVANCES

The Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women's Studies Research adheres to all grievance procedures as described by the Graduate School in the [UF Graduate Student Handbook](#) (see pages 7-8).

Sexual harassment and related violations of Title IX are addressed as described in the Sexual Harassment and Title IX section above. Academic issues, those not involving sexual harassment, should first be handled through the Center mechanisms, and if still unresolved, through subsequent mechanisms, as described below. *Note: At any of the steps below, students may use relevant conflict resolution resources described above, such as the SCCR's conflict coaching, facilitated dialogue, and mediation and may consult with the Graduate Coordinator (or Director if the concern is with the Graduate Coordinator).*

In the Center, as a first step, we strongly encourage direct communication between the graduate student and the person(s) with whom the concern or conflict exists. The SCCR's conflict coaching services may be helpful in this regard. The discussion should be held as soon as the student first becomes aware of the act or condition that is the basis of the concern. As outlined in the UF Graduate Handbook, the student may hold an oral discussion or wish to present his or her concerns in writing to the person(s) with whom the concern or conflict exists; that person(s)

in turn must respond to the student either orally or in writing.

If the student considers the response to such an initial discussion to be unsatisfactory and feels that the concern still exists, the student may present the concern to the Graduate Coordinator, who will work with the Director and Associate Director to review the matter and discuss with the person(s) with whom the conflict exists. The SCCR's conflict resolution resources such as facilitated dialogue or mediation may be helpful in this step.

Per the Graduate School Regulations, if the student considers the outcome of this discussion to be unsatisfactory, the student may present the grievance in writing with all supporting documentation to the Graduate Coordinator. The Graduate Coordinator will convene a meeting with the Director and Associate Director to review the grievance. The Director, Associate Director, and Graduate Coordinator of the Center are designated to adjudicate formal grievances. They may call upon other faculty, staff, or offices for consultation. If a concern or grievance involves any member of the adjudicating body (including the Graduate Coordinator), that person will be recused, and the remaining members will appoint a replacement for the purpose of reviewing and adjudicating the grievance. The adjudicating body will respond to the student's grievance in writing in a timely fashion.

Per the procedures outlined in the Graduate Handbook, if the student considers the grievance unresolved after the Center's process and response, the matter will be referred to the designated Associate Dean in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The right of appeal in writing to the Ombuds for graduate and professional students, as the authorized representative of the President of the University, shall be the final appeal but only after the above steps have been exhausted. The Office of the Ombuds is located in 31 Tigert Hall, 392-1308 and their website is <http://www.ombuds.ufl.edu>.

Other Grievance Resources:

Most employment-related grievances are covered by the Collective Bargaining Agreement, Article 22, between the Florida Board of Education of the State University System and Graduate Assistants United. Students with employment related concerns should contact the GAU office at 392-0274, or Human Resource Services at 352-392-2477. Allegations of research misconduct should be brought to the attention of the administrative officer (e.g., Department Chair, Dean) to whom the accused party reports. Students may wish to seek advice from the Director of the Division of Research Compliance, 460 Grinter, 392-9174, before making a formal complaint.

Graduate students who have complaints or problems with other aspects of university life should consult the Dean of Students Office in 202 Peabody Hall, 392-1261 for the appropriate grievance procedure.

RESIDENCY

Florida statute requires the claimant (the student or dependent student's parent/legal guardian who is claiming residency) to be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident or legal alien granted indefinite stay by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. The claimant must have established and maintained a legal Florida residence at least 12 months before the first day of the semester for which in-state status is sought. In-state status is only for those residents who reside in the state permanently with established legal domicile in Florida. Permanent Florida residency is demonstrated by the absence of ties to any other state and establishment of a bona fide domicile in Florida. Permanent residence is evaluated for the domicile year associated with the initial term of entry to UF or the term for which you are seeking reclassification. In

most cases, a copy of a federal income tax return substantiating residency and dependent or independent student status will be required. If you are attempting to change your residency status, you must be admitted to the university, have completed one term of enrollment as a non-Florida resident and provide documentation of 12 months of legal residence in Florida.

Please review the following link for more information on establishing [Florida residency](#).

GATORLINK EMAIL

It is the responsibility of every student to maintain and check their [Gatorlink email](#) (link for student email setup) as it is the primary means of communication. For information concerning policies for the use of Gatorlink email, help setting up mobile devices, application support, and the acceptable use of university computing resources, please visit the [Computing Help Desk](#).

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS UNITED (GAU)

Graduate Assistants United is your labor union! GAU represents all Teaching Assistants, Research Assistants, and other Graduate Assistants at the University of Florida. When you are a Graduate Assistant (GA), you are more than just another student, you are also an employee of the University. GAs perform over half of the academic work (teaching and research) at UF, and serve in many other support roles across campus. Our skills keep the University running smoothly. UF works because we do! For more information see the [GAU website](#).

PRIVACY/FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974, as amended, also known as the Buckley Amendment, is a federal law that protects the privacy of a student's educational record. FERPA applies to all educational institutions receiving funds from the United States Department of Education, from kindergarten through university level. At the University of Florida, the privacy of education records is also protected by Florida Statute Section 1002.22 and University of Florida regulations. The U.S. Department of Education summarizes the rights afforded to students by FERPA as follows:

- The right to inspect and review their educational records within a reasonable period of time and no more than 45 days after the institution has received the request
- The right to request to amend inaccuracies in their educational records
- The right to limit disclosure of some personally identifiable information
- The right to file a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office if they feel their FERPA rights have been violated.

FERPA requires institutions to provide students with annual notification of these rights. UF's annual notification appears in the undergraduate and graduate catalogs. Students who suspect that a FERPA violation has occurred, should contact the Vice President for Student Affairs (155 Tigert Hall; 352-392-1265), or the University Privacy Office (G4 Tigert Hall; 352-273-1212) or they can contact the Family Policy Compliance Office within the U.S. Department of Education. Please visit this webpage about [FERPA](#) for more information on confidentiality and privacy information.

UF SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

SCOPE: The UF Social Media Policy applies to all UF faculty, staff, and students who are employed by UF in any capacity. The guidelines also apply to other people (such as volunteers and appointees) who use internally managed university computing resources. This policy applies to all forms of social media, including, for example, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, YouTube, LinkedIn, blogs, online comments, etc. This policy may apply to employees outside of work hours and while using personal accounts when use of social media affects an individual's professional responsibilities, violates an applicable law, or constitutes a violation of UF regulation or policy.

POLICY: The University of Florida is committed to the highest standards of freedom of speech and expression. UF recognizes the vital role that social media can play in both expressing free speech and also in communicating, collaborating, and interacting with students, faculty, staff, non-UF colleagues, and the general public. UF encourages its employees to use social media as a means to connect with the UF community and foster thoughtful engagement and dialogue about the issues important to and impacting UF and its communities. This policy intends to protect the appropriate use of social media, while prohibiting conduct through social media that may be unlawful, contrary to UF regulations or policies, or violative of professional standards, when applicable. This policy also provides suggestions for situations involving social media that could be damaging to the University or its constituents.

Please see the [UF Social Media Policy website](#) for further details.

POLICY INQUIRIES: The following is the department, office, or individual is responsible for overseeing implementation of and assuring compliance with this policy. Any individual with questions about the policy:

UFHR – Employee Relations

903 W. University Avenue

P.O. Box 115000

Gainesville, FL 32611

Phone: (352) 392-1072

Email: EmployeeRelations@hr.ufl.edu (to expedite a response, please include the phrase “Social Media” in the subject line of any email inquiries or reports)

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

To search and apply for on-campus jobs, including all Federal Work-Study (FWS), Federal Community Service, and OPS positions, go to [GatorJobs](#) and choose “Search Postings.” For “Job Category,” choose “Student.” Search for off-campus jobs through the [Career Resource Center](#) using your Gator CareerLink Account. Learn more about Federal Work-Study, Veteran's Affairs Work Study, Other Personnel Services, and Federal Community Service at the [Student Financial Affairs Web site](#).

These links may also help:

[Graduate Costs](#)

[Funding](#)

NOTE ABOUT HOURS: The primary reason students attend UF is to pursue their educational goals. Employment should not interfere or take priority over students' educational pursuits. For this reason, students who are registered full time are limited to working 20 hours per week. Our general policy in the Center is to keep .50FTE a limit (20 hours per week). In very exceptional cases (like if a student is doing a paid internship that is part of their academic training), students

may petition to work more than 20 hours (.50FTE). To do so, students should first discuss the petition and desire to work extra hours with their Chair/Advisor to evaluate with them the extra workload. If the Chair/Advisor supports the need to do so, the student should fill out the [Hours Extension form](#) and submit it to the Graduate Coordinator for review by the Graduate Admissions committee. For further information, see the Graduate Catalog and the [Requirements for Appointment](#). An FTE above .74 will mean that the tuition waiver covers 6 credits instead of 9 credits (detailed in first link above). Also, non-US citizens have additional restrictions (outlined in second link above).

DISABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY RESOURCES FOR STUDENTS &

EMPLOYEES Graduate students are often both UF students and UF employees (e.g., teaching assistants, graduate assistants). UF offers disability and accessibility resources for students and employees through separate avenues. Graduate students can access resources and accommodations for their student-related activities (e.g., classes, on-campus housing, and campus involvement) through the UF Disability Resource Center (DRC) and for their employee-related activities (e.g., teaching assistantship) through UF Human Resources (HR). These are separate processes and resources and accommodations in one role are not automatically transferrable to another role. However, graduate students can access both the UF DRC and UF HR to determine applicable resources and accommodations for student and employee roles.

Disability and Accessibility Resources for Students:

The Disability Resource Center (DRC) is dedicated to facilitating access for equitable opportunities for learning and campus engagement for students with disabilities. Academic, physical, technological, and attitudinal barriers may exist when an individual with a disability interacts with an environment that is inaccessible. While many students with disabilities have a long-standing diagnosis and have utilized accommodations in their previous schooling to address barriers that may prevent their full participation, there are many students with disabilities who are not yet diagnosed when entering college or graduate school. The DRC offers resources to students who have not yet received a formal disability evaluation. Students can learn more about the DRC, accommodations available, as well as begin the registration process, by visiting www.disability.ufl.edu

ADA and Accessibility Services for UF Employees and Job Applicants:

As detailed on the [ADA and Accessibility Services for UF Employees and Job Applicants webpage](#), UF Human Resources or the Office of ADA Compliance can assist employees in exploring possible employment-related disability resources and reasonable accommodations. The employee must first formally request an accommodation to initiate the interactive process. Each disability accommodation request is unique. Consequently, every request is analyzed and processed on a case-by-case basis. However, the general steps of the interactive process are described on the webpage about [Employee Accommodation](#).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES

General Resources

Many professional development resources are available through [UF's National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity \(NCFDD\) institutional membership](#). You'll need to register as a user to access these resources, and then many of these resources are available to you for free.

Writing Resources

Writing Challenges through NCFDD: Among the NCFDD resources, you may consider is the [14-day writing challenge](#). For example, over the summer one is being held 6/21/21 – 7/4/21. Also available is the WriteNow Summer session. The 14-day writing challenge is free, the WriteNow sessions have a fee associated with them. If, in consultation with your advisor, you decide to do the WriteNow session, you may submit a Center funding request form through our regular procedures (Follow the Travel

Funding procedures above, but submit information about WriteNow instead of the conference. No College application needed). Of note, the difference between the 14-day writing challenge and WriteNow according to NCFDD is: "It's the same software that we use for the 14-day writing challenges. The WriteNow Summer Session will offer 12 weeks of access rather than 2, and it's exclusively for graduate students/postdocs so folks will be in a group with other participants who are at their same level (and not graduate students with full professors in our randomized writing challenge groups)."

Writing Studio: UF has a [Writing Studio](#) which is committed to helping University of Florida students and faculty meet their academic and professional goals by becoming better writers. The *Writing Studio* is a free service for current UF graduate and undergraduate students, offering one-on-one tutorials.

Conferences

In general, there are many different local, national, and international gender, sexuality, and women's studies conferences every year. Below are links to some conferences Center graduate students often attend, but we encourage you to watch for announcements from professional organizations and discuss conferences that may be of interest to your specific area of study with your First-Year Advisor and/or Chair/Advisor:

- | | |
|-------|---|
| NWSA | National Women's Studies Association Conference
(held annually in early November, proposals due in February) |
| SEWSA | Southeastern Women's Studies Association
(held annually in mid-March, proposals due at end of November) |
| F3S | Florida Society of the Social Sciences
(held annually every spring – March or April) |

Career Resources

UF has a very helpful [Career Connections Center](#), offering a variety of resources. For those interested in applying for jobs after your degree, the CCC has a number of resources, including information about [how to connect with career communities](#) (including non-academic communities, like "Multicultural, First Generation, LGBTQ , International" and more). As well, you can make an individual appointment for [Career Planning](#). For those interested in applying to a PhD or a professional program, the [CCC webpage on graduate and professional school options](#) offers resources.

TRAVEL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDING / APPLICATIONS

Center Travel Funding Policy

The Center will fund each MA graduate student up to a total of \$1000 per fiscal year (July 1 to June 30) for conference or research travel; in exceptional circumstances, students may petition for up to \$500 additional in funds. Students may also use these funds for other Professional Development opportunities. Students traveling to conferences should *always* apply for College travel funding during the application cycle that covers the time period for the scheduled conference. This means having a conversation with your Chair/Advisor in advance about conferences you might attend each year, when they are, and when the College travel funding application cycle is for each conference. Please note that many conferences will also have travel funding opportunities.

TO APPLY FOR TRAVEL FUNDING:

Please complete both College and Center travel applications and submit them at the same time to the Graduate Coordinator of the Center.

2 APPLICATIONS:

1. COLLEGE APPLICATION – This is the [link](#) to the College travel application form. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences – CLAS - announces travel funding opportunities about every 6 months (the Graduate Coordinator will forward these announcements to all Center graduate students as they are received with a deadline for submitting it). Each announcement will outline a time period for conference attendance and a due date. Please complete and turn in this application. Please note the application includes completion of the form and submission of a professionally appropriate abstract of the paper or research to be presented or a letter on the importance of the travel. Please submit a copy to the Graduate Coordinator with your Center application. Note: *Priority is given to provide funds to people presenting a paper at a conference (not just attending).*

2. A. CENTER APPLICATION - This is the [link](#) to the Center travel application form. Please fill this out as part A of your application. You will need to also complete part B and C and submit all the parts as *one pdf document*.

B. PROFESSIONAL ABSTRACT/ OR LETTER - In addition to the application form you should submit presentation information, including an abstract about your presentation.

C. COPY OF ACCEPTANCE TO CONFERENCE- In addition please include an official copy of the acceptance to the conference.

***** Part A, B, and C should be submitted as one pdf document *****

SUBMISSION: Please submit the CLAS travel application form **and** the Center travel application form (Part A, B, and C as one pdf) to the Graduate Coordinator by the deadline specified by the Graduate Coordinator for each funding cycle. Please submit it via email with the subject line: *Graduate Student Travel Funding Application*. The Center will review these materials and make a determination about Center funding once a CLAS award determination is made.

TO APPLY FOR GENERAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDING:

On occasion, graduate students may want to use their professional development funding for purposes other than travel to conferences. In those instances, please follow these steps for applying for Center professional development funding. *Please submit all parts of your application as one pdf document.*

1. APPLICATION (*Parts A, B, and C to be submitted as one pdf document*):

A. CENTER APPLICATION - This is the [link](#) to the Center travel application form. Please complete the Center travel applications, substituting where appropriate information about the professional development opportunity you will be completing instead of travel. In addition to this form you should submit relevant professional development information, including information about the work you will do

B. DESCRIPTION OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

C. COPY OF ACCEPTANCE OR REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY

SUBMISSION: Please put the application form, description of professional development, and copy of acceptance or registration in one pdf document and submit it to the Graduate Coordinator via email with a subject line: *Graduate Student Funding Application*. Please submit well in advance of the opportunity (recommendation is 2 months in advance). The Center will review these materials and make a determination about funding.

FORMS

See sections above for details and instructions about each of the forms linked below

Evaluation Forms

[Graduate Assistant Evaluation](#)

[Graduate Student Annual Evaluation](#)

Defense Rubric

[MA Defense Rubric](#)

Travel Forms

[College graduate student travel application form](#)

[Center graduate student travel application form](#)

Certificate Forms

[Certificate in Women's Studies Form](#)

[Women's Studies Certificate Learning Outcomes Assessment](#) (to be filled out upon completion of Certificate)

[Certificate in Gender and Development Form](#)

[Gender and Development Certificate Learning Outcomes Assessment](#) (to be filled out upon completion of Certificate)

MA Planning Forms

[MA Plan Form](#) (Working document to be updated first week of each semester)

Coursework Forms (for both MA and Certificates)

[Course Petition Form](#)

[Graduate Internship Application](#)

see also the [internship information page](http://wst.ufl.edu/internships/): <http://wst.ufl.edu/internships/>

[Graduate Independent Study](#)

To do an independent study, you must designate a faculty member to sponsor it, and work with the faculty member to create an agreed upon plan. Please use the Graduate Independent Study form, which explains “An independent study requires a paper of at least 15 pages plus formal bibliography (exceptions, such as for creative work, oral history collection, etc., must be approved in advance by the Graduate Coordinator for Women's Studies). You should plan your work with a faculty member (usually your committee chair or a committee member) who has expertise in the field. On a separate piece of paper, give a brief overview of the topic(s) your independent study will address and how you will go about studying them (will you read published writings, do data collection and analysis, create original art work, etc.). Explain how the independent study relates to past course work or internships you have done, and why you believe it is worthy of academic credit. Finally, list at least five sources (books, articles, films, etc.) that you plan to use in the course of the study. Bring this proposal, and this form with your supervisor’s signature, to the Graduate Coordinator in Women’s Studies before the start of the term, and you will be enrolled in the course.”

GRADUATION!

Preparation Details

Degrees are awarded after each term in December, May, and August. The semester before graduation, the candidate should check her/his/their file to make sure that all incompletes or other unresolved grades are cleared, grade changes have been recorded, and the supervisory committee (if required) and all degree program details listed in the web-based Graduate Information Management System ([GIMS](#)) and SIS are accurate. The [Degree Application](#) must be made online early in the semester of graduation by the deadline published in the University Calendar and the Graduate School Academic Calendar. Application for the degree assures that the student's name is on the graduation list and includes the application for the diploma, placement of the student's name in the commencement program, and placement of the name on the list to receive information on commencement procedures, including rental or purchase of regalia. Application for graduation must be made each term a student anticipates graduating. The application does not carry over from a previous semester. Failure to make application by the published deadline will preclude the student's graduation in that term. Students must register for at least three credits (two in summer) that count toward the degree during the semester of graduation. Students on an assistantship, fellowship, or traineeship must be registered appropriately for their appointment. Thesis students must register for 6971 and doctoral students for 7979 or 7980. Candidates pursuing concurrent degrees to be awarded in the same semester need to apply to the Office of the University Registrar for both degrees. Satisfactory performance on the final examination or defense and final submission of the corrected thesis or dissertation must be completed by the deadline dates shown in the Graduate School calendar. Diplomas will be available approximately six weeks after Commencement and will be mailed by the Registrar’s Office to the graduates’ permanent addresses. Degree remarks are posted to the student's transcript by the Registrar’s Office and are generally available the day after certification.