

JMU Graduate Community News

From here, everything is possible!

November 10, 2014

Courses are still available for Spring 2015! Several JMU graduate programs offer courses that may be of interest to students throughout the campus. Consider the following courses:

ART 683. Criticism of Art. Through study of contemporary art this course offers an overview of major art theories, both as philosophy and style analysis, for the purpose of investigating the functions and practice of art criticism. Instructor consent required for registration. For more information contact Karin Tollefson-Hall ([tollefl@jmu.edu](mailto:tollefkl@jmu.edu)).

AHRD 570. Diversity and Ethics in AHRD. Examines and explores theories and techniques for dealing with institutional "isms" (e.g. multiculturalism, sexism, ageism, and professionalism, etc.), as they relate to managing training, conflict resolution, career development, mentoring, performance improvement, team building, and peer rating methods. For more information, contact Oris Griffin (griffiot@jmu.edu).

ECED 609. Constructivist Curriculum in Early Childhood Education. Theories and practices in the design, implementation, and evaluation of curriculum for pre-kindergarten through third grade children are examined with an emphasis on development through play. For more information contact Holly McCartney (mccarthb@jmu.edu).

KIN 515. Special Topics in Adapted Physical Education. This class provides hands-on experience working with children, adolescents and adults who are engaged in aquatics, fitness, dance, sports and games, and outdoor recreation. For more information contact Dr. Moran (morante@jmu.edu; 568-5877).

NSG 690. Epidemiology and Population Assessment. This course focuses on the distribution of health-related conditions within human populations and factors influencing their distribution. Emphasis is on measurement of the health of populations, the natural history of diseases, study design and assessment of data sources. It addresses health systems that focus on health promotion and disease prevention. For more information contact Maria DeValpine (devalpmg@jmu.edu).

NSG 692. Health Policy for Practice and Advocacy. This course addresses the foundation of health policy making. It emphasizes policy analysis for practitioners in leadership roles. Federal and state policy-making and the mechanisms for health policy change. Policy issues impacting health delivery will form the basis for the development of critical understanding of policy development. For more information contact Maria DeValpine (devalpmg@jmu.edu).

WRTC 652. Communicating Science. We will explore the many challenges facing those who wish to communicate scientific information to various audiences in order to influence public policy or enact social change. Topics will include global warming denial, religious pseudo-science, animal exploitation, nutritionism, corporate farming and pesticide use, and the anti-vaccine movement. We will also discuss how to present complex information to a lay audience, as well as the struggles of sifting through the vast amounts of scientific information (both trustworthy and not) available in the information age. For more information, contact Alex Parrish (parrisac@jmu.edu).

Study abroad experiences for graduate students were listed in the [last edition of this newsletter](#). Unfortunately, the following trip was omitted:

Environmental and Energy Sustainability in Germany. Participants in this study-abroad experience in Saarbrücken, Germany, will complete courses and a mini-internship conducted in the energy labs of the host university. The experience will include site visits and tours, guest lectures, and discussions about energy technologies and policies in Germany. [More information](#)

Graduate Assistantship Available. The Madison Center for Community Development will be hiring a graduate assistant for the Spring 2015 semester with potential for continuation next year. The Graduate Assistant will have a wide range of responsibilities in the Center. The position is available to full-time graduate students who are available to work 20 hours/week. Preferred candidates will have good communication and professional skills, and an interest in community development and collaborations with local government and community organizations. To apply, request the full position announcement and application instructions from Dr. Nick Swartz (swartznj@jmu.edu). All application materials must be received by November 21.

TGS Travel Grants. We continue to accept applications from graduate students to defray the cost of traveling to professional conferences to present scholarly and creative work. The next deadline is December 1. [More information including application instructions.](#) So far this year the Graduate School has awarded \$5500 in travel funds to 22 students who will make presentations at 10 conferences. A list of recipients is available [online](#).

Do you have writing goals? Join a community of writers by subscribing to the Productive Writer listserv. Sponsored by the Cornell Graduate School, the Productive Writer is free and open to all, especially graduate students who are writing papers, proposals, fellowship applications, theses, and dissertations. You can receive messages every other week about managing your time for greater writing productivity, communicating with your advisor or editor, dealing with writer's block, managing procrastination and perfectionistic tendencies, and creating/maintaining a writing support group. [Sign up here](#)

Graduate Student Symposium. Celebrating 60 years of graduate education at JMU, GSA and TGS will be sponsoring a day-long showcase of the scholarly and creative work of graduate students on April 2, 2015 in the Highlands Room. Students, faculty, administrators, local dignitaries, and alumni will be invited to attend. Please save the date and watch for additional information.

P.E.O. Scholar Awards are one-time, competitive, merit-based awards for women who are pursuing a doctoral level degree. These awards provide partial support for study and research for women who will make significant contributions in their fields. The current maximum award is \$15,000. Applications are due November 20. Learn more [online](#), and if interested contact Melinda Adams (adams2mj@jmu.edu).

SMART Scholarship Program. The Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship for Service Program has been established by the Department of Defense (DoD) to support students pursuing degrees in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines. The program aims to increase the number of civilian scientists and engineers working at DoD laboratories. The program covers tuition and fees, offers a stipend, and facilitates post-graduation employment. Applications are due December 15. [More information](#)

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

- **Students as Neighbors, Sharing and Shaping Community.** The 4C Campus Community Civic Collaborative Initiative will host a community dialogue. This dialogue will help create conversations that promote understanding of different perspectives and provide ways for us to think together concerning our feelings on students' roles and relationship with the Harrisonburg community. November 11, 6:30 PM at Harrisonburg Baptist Church, 501 S. Main Street. [More information](#)
- **Ethics Slam.** Cheer on your graduate student team at this GSA-sponsored event. November 12, 7:30 – 10 PM at [Three Notch'd Brewery](#). For more information contact AJ Good (good2da@jmu.edu).
- **Peter Kitcher**, John Dewey Professor of Philosophy, will speak on November 13 at 4 PM in Taylor 305. Professor Kitcher will discuss "Ethics as a Human Project." An expert in the philosophy of science, Dr. Kitcher has also studied the ethical and political constraints on scientific research, the evolution of altruism and morality, and the possible conflict between science and religion. GSA and GSA Student Development committee members will be in attendance as part of their graduate student development series. Sponsored by the Cohen Center. [More information](#)
- **Martha Nussbaum**, Distinguished Professor of Law and Ethics, and prolific author, will be the first public speaker sponsored by the Cohen Center. Dr. Nussbaum's talk is entitled "Injustice and the Dubious Value of Anger." Although everyone is familiar with the damage anger can do in both personal and public life, people tend to think that it is necessary for the pursuit of justice. Dr. Nussbaum will argue that a close philosophical analysis of

the emotion of anger can help us to see why it is fatally flawed from a normative viewpoint -- sometimes incoherent and sometimes based on bad values. In either case it is of dubious value in both life and the law. November 14, HHS 2301, 4 PM. (Note location change.) [More information](#)

- **GSA Social Hour.** Join fellow graduate students to celebrate as the end of the fall semester approaches at the next GSA Social Hour. [Union Station](#), Friday, November 14th, 5 PM.
- **Theory and Philosophical Anthropology after Harlow's Monkeys: The Economics of Love and a 'Spiritual' Ethics for Every Day** is the title of the Visiting Scholar's talk by Dr. Christian Early of Eastern Mennonite University on Tuesday November 18 at 7:30 in Harrison Hall 1261. [More information](#)
- **Thesis and Dissertation Projects** of students who intend to graduate in December are due in the Office of the Graduate School on November 21. [More information](#)
- **Thanksgiving Break.** JMU will be closed for the holiday, November 27-28.
- **Travel Grants for Graduate Students.** The next review travel grant applications will consider all requests submitted by December 1. [More information](#)
- **Graduate Student Ugly Sweater Party.** In lieu of the December GSA meeting, celebrate the end of the fall semester and holiday season with fellow graduate students in this classy event! Mark your calendars December 5, with more details soon to come. Connect to GSA social media on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to stay up to date with this and other upcoming graduate student events!
- **December Commencement** will be held on Saturday, December 13 at 10 AM. [More information](#)

For additional events of possible interest, regularly check <http://www.jmu.edu/events>

Keep up with Graduate Student Association (GSA) Events. The GSA is a student-led and student-run organization that provides professional and social opportunities to all JMU graduate students and alumni. [Like them on Facebook](#). [Find them on Twitter](#). (gsa@jmu.edu; 568-7088) [More information](#).

Need a Job? The JMU [Office of Student Employment](#) has links to positions now available on and off campus. For example, there are currently 15 positions available for students posted on JMU's [Joblink](#).

Tips from TGS (The Graduate School)

Graduate Policies. You are responsible to read and follow the graduate policies set forth in the [Graduate Catalog](#). Important information regarding degree progress, including rules for successful progression and continuous enrollment are also on the [Graduate School website](#)

Approval of a Thesis or Dissertation Committee. Students who are completing these sorts of project must submit a signed approval form to The Graduate School by the second week of the semester in which the student first registers for thesis or dissertation credits. [Approval form](#)

Monitor your Dukes E-Mail account! Official information is sent to each student's official [Dukes e-mail account](#). Check your @dukes.jmu.edu e-mail account on a regular basis.

Monitor MyMadison! The *Student Center* in [MyMadison](#) is where you will find advising information, register for classes, and where you can view "To Do Items" that will keep you on track towards graduation. Use the Student Center to update your mailing address and cell phone number. It is **your responsibility** to maintain accurate contact information. Check your account regularly. Don't miss important information!

Essential Links:

- [Graduate School Website](#)
- [Graduate Policies](#)
- [JMU Student Handbook](#)
- [Forms for Graduate Students](#)
- [Thesis Guidelines](#)

- [Financial Aid Policies](#)

Have Questions? Please contact the following person if you have questions regarding:

Assistantships/Scholarships/Thesis/Dissertations	Laura Ryman (rymanle@jmu.edu)
Graduation/Commencement/Transfer of Credit	Debbie Juhasz (juhaszdj@jmu.edu)
Continuous Enrollment	Tracie Esmaili (esmailtb@jmu.edu)
General Questions	Bess Rowden (grad@jmu.edu)

We welcome suggestions for this newsletter, including events and opportunities. Please send your submission to grad@jmu.edu .

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