

# JMU Graduate Community News

*From here, everything is possible!*

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October 23, 2017

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**Student Engagement Mini-Grants.** The Faculty Senate is now accepting “mini-grant” applications for engagement projects by students. Both full-time and part-time graduate students are eligible to apply for funding toward projects that promote engaged learning, civic engagement, and/or community engagement. **Applications are due October 31.** More information can be found [here](#), and the application can be found [here](#).

**Writing Studio for Graduate Students.** The Cohen Center, in conjunction with the University Writing Center, will be sponsoring a Writing Studio. This session will begin with a short presentation by Dr. Laura Schubert, Peer Education Coordinator for the University Writing Center. Graduate students will then have the opportunity to work on their own projects in a quiet setting. Additional consultations through the Writing Center will be available. **October 24, 9-11 am**, University Writing Center (SSC 1<sup>st</sup> Floor). [More Information](#)

**Conference Presentation Roundtable for Graduate Students.** The Cohen Center, in conjunction with the Communication Center, will be hosting a roundtable on giving conference presentations. Faculty from several disciplines will discuss best practices and strategies for giving conference presentations. The Cohen Center will live-stream the roundtable on the [Cohen Center Youtube Channel](#). On-site participants and on-line viewers will be able to submit questions to the panelists in real time. **October 26, 3:30 pm**, Cohen Graduate Student Professional Development Center (Madison Hall 4000). [More Information](#)

**Three-Minute Thesis Competition.** Share your research in a high impact 3-minute presentation and compete for cash prizes and a chance to participate in a regional competition. The Three Minute Thesis competition gives students the opportunity to present their research in a compelling and concise narrative aimed at engaging a general audience. Students are challenged to synthesize the core concepts of their projects and make meaningful connections to real-world issues. The first place winner will be sponsored by The Graduate School to attend the regional competition at the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools in Fayetteville, Arkansas, February 22-25, 2018. Register now to share your work at JMU’s first competition. [More information](#)

**Hotel Madison Now Taking Reservations!** Do your family and friends need a place to stay for May commencement? Hotel Madison is now taking reservations for May 2018! Located on South Main Street, the hotel will offer various room types, including deluxe king, studio king, one bedroom suites, presidential suites, and more. [More information](#)

**Global Opportunity Scholarships.** Global Opportunity Scholarships provide support for students who participate in graduate-level study abroad experiences, including, but not limited to, short-term and residential graduate programs at JMU, internship and field placements outside the United States, and research conducted outside the United States. Award winners receive \$1000. **The application deadline is November 1.** [More Information](#)

**Apply For a Travel Grant!** Are you traveling to present your scholarship or creative work at a conference? All graduate students who are making a presentation at a conference are eligible to apply for a Graduate School travel grant. Grant recipients can reduce the cost of professional travel, and they can list this competitive award as an accomplishment on their resume. *Please use the application form currently available on the TGS website, and be sure to follow the instructions for submitting both electronically and in hard copy form.* **The next deadline is January 15.** [More Information](#)

**Need a Job?** Currently, there are 2 graduate assistantships, 15 student positions, as well as 10 wage positions, for which graduate students might qualify, posted on JMU’s [Joblink](#).

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## Upcoming Events & Deadlines

- **Deadline for adding/dropping of classes** for fall semester (second eight-week classes). **October 23.**
- **No Man's Land Film Festival.** The No Man's Land Film Festival is unique in that it is an all-female adventure film festival based out of the Rocky Mountains. The goal of the festival is to connect like-minded individuals who have a passion for adventure and believe in gender equality in the realm of adventure-based activities. No Man's Land strives to motivate audiences to implement and inspire change in the adventure arena and beyond. Registration is encouraged but not required. **October 25, 8:30 pm**, UREC Club Room. [More Information](#)
- **Deadline to drop a class with a "W" grade** (semester classes). **October 26.**

### JMU Homecoming 2017

Homecoming 2017 is finally here! Many exciting events to celebrate the spirit of being a JMU Duke including:

- Purple Out. October 25, 5 pm, Hillside Field
- Quad Fest. October 27, 5 pm, The Quad.
- HomecomSing. October 27, 6:30 pm, Wilson Hall.
- Football Game. October 28, 3:30 pm, Bridgeforth Stadium.
- Homecoming Step Show. October 28, 8 pm, Wilson hall.

[Comprehensive list of events and activities](#)

**GSA Homecoming Tailgate.** Celebrate JMU Homecoming and the Graduate Community with the GSA! Food will be free, but attendees must provide their own beverages. Location will be announced on social media the day of due to first-come-first-serve parking. Look for the GSA sign and the green tent! **October 28, 11:30 am – 3:30 pm.**

- **Deadline for adding classes with instructor and AUH permission** (second eight-week classes). **November 1.**
- **Madison Vision Series Panel: The Impact of the Affordable Care Act.** **November 2, 3:30 pm**, Concert Hall, Forbes Center. [More information](#)
- **"Russian-American Relations in the Trump-Putin Era: How Did We Get Here?"** As a part of the Elizabeth Neatrou Russian Studies Lecture Series, Dr. Alen Lynch from the University of Virginia will discuss the current relationship between the United States and Russia. **November 6, 4 pm**, Highlands Room (Festival Center). [More Information](#)
- **Fall Student Dance Concert.** This showcase of new choreography offers audiences an opportunity to see the work of the Dance program's talented young artists. **November 8 – 11**, multiple showtimes. [Ticket Information](#)
- **GSA Monthly Meeting.** Topic: Health/Personal Wellness! GSA will discuss health insurance and health services for graduate students, as well as how graduate students can stay physically and mentally healthy. Free Benny's pizza! **November 8, 6-7 pm**, Cohen Graduate Student Professional Development Center (Madison Hall 4000).
- **Graduation applications are due for students graduating in May 2018.** **November 10.**
- **GSA Happy Hour.** All members of the graduate community are invited to attend! **November 10, 5-7 pm**, Ruby's Arcade.
- **Chinese Movie Screening: Going Home.** In this film, a devoted couple are torn apart as the man is arrested and sent to a labor camp during the Cultural Revolution. Upon returning home, he finds that his wife no longer recognizes him. This dramatic tale of pain and heartbreak will be shown with subtitles. For more information, please contact Yunju Wang at [wangyj@jmu.edu](mailto:wangyj@jmu.edu). **November 15, 5:30 pm**, Health & Behavioral Studies Building, Room G050. [More Information](#)
- **Poetry Reading: Nicole Sealey.** **November 15, 4 pm**, Madison Union Ballroom.
- **Deadline to drop a class with a "W" grade** (second eight-week classes). **November 16.**

- **Nobuntu: Female A Cappella Quintet.** Nobuntu is a female a cappella quintet that performs traditional Zimbabwean songs, Afro-jazz, and gospel music using their voices, percussion, and traditional instruments such as the mbira (thumb piano). Having garnered international acclaim for the quintet’s beautiful performances, you will not want to miss out on this event! **November 16, 8 pm**, Forbes Concert Hall.
- **Thesis and dissertations are due to The Graduate School. November 17.**

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

### Tips from TGS (The Graduate School)

**Graduate Polices.** 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 ( <a href="mailto:rymanle@jmu.edu">rymanle@jmu.edu</a> )
Graduation/Commencement/Transfer of Credit	Kathryn Brown ( <a href="mailto:wendelkt@jmu.edu">wendelkt@jmu.edu</a> )
Continuous Enrollment (Current Students)	Laura Ryman ( <a href="mailto:rymanle@jmu.edu">rymanle@jmu.edu</a> )
Initial Enrollment (Unable to Begin Program)	Sheree Will ( <a href="mailto:willsa@jmu.edu">willsa@jmu.edu</a> )
General Questions	Justin Whetzel ( <a href="mailto:grad@jmu.edu">grad@jmu.edu</a> )

We welcome suggestions for this newsletter, including events and opportunities. Please send your submission to [grad@jmu.edu](mailto:grad@jmu.edu) .

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