

# JMU Graduate Community News

*From here, everything is possible!*

January 11, 2016

**Welcome to the Spring Semester!** We wish you a happy new year!



**Hashtag Your Research**

- Tweet about your research
- Send us your Twitter Handle
- The GSA and The Graduate School will re-tweet your research!

**Generate a buzz about your research and creative activities on Twitter!** Tweet interesting findings, conference presentations, publications, performances and exhibitions using either #JMUgradresearch or #JMUgradwork. The GSA and The Graduate School will retweet your stories!

**Courses are still available for Spring 2016!** Several JMU graduate programs offer courses that may be of interest to students throughout the campus. Consider the following courses:

**LTLE 611 User Experience.** Students in this course will explore methods for identifying, documenting, and improving the user experience with emphasis on the use of learning technologies and innovations. Topics include but are not limited to mental models and user-centered design, visual design and flow, human-computer interactions, affordances and constraints, effective user-interface design, the management of an iterative design process, usability testing, analysis, and reporting. For more information contact Dr. Michele Estes ([estesmd@jmu.edu](mailto:estesmd@jmu.edu)).

**KIN 515. Special Topics in Adapted Physical Education.** This class provides hands-On experience in adapted physical education and physical activity. You will work with children, adolescents, and adults in the areas of aquatics, fitness, dance, sports and games, and outdoor recreation. For more information contact Dr. Tom Moran ([morante@jmu.edu](mailto:morante@jmu.edu)).

**WRTC 595. Presence at Work: Professional character, organizational commitment and rhetorical choices.** Our focus will be on the way we embody ourselves as conscious, purposeful, ethical, creative rhetors in the professional world. Assignments will help us construct a theory and practice of integrated rhetoric that sustains the individual in often conflicting situations. Emphasis will be on raising the questions, identifying the problems and exploring ethical dilemmas. Students will be encouraged to develop their own meta-approach to a wide variety of audience-and-purpose combinations through presentations and written work. For more information, contact Dr. Jim Zimmerman ([zimmerjr@jmu.edu](mailto:zimmerjr@jmu.edu)).

**WRTC 644. Rhetoric of Science and Technology.** This seminar focuses on the intersection of rhetoric and biopolitics, the state's regulation of the life processes of its citizens. As such, we will focus on the role of reproduction in modern society, examining the ways in which pregnancy and reproduction have become technologized. Students will have the opportunity to work collaboratively on the creation of a digital archive that serves as a repository for popular culture artifacts related to childbirth. They will also pose and answer their own research questions related to pregnancy/childbirth/reproduction. For more information, contact Dr. Michael Klein ([kleinmj@jmu.edu](mailto:kleinmj@jmu.edu)).

**Save the date! The 2nd Annual Showcase of Graduate Scholarship and Creative Activity** will be held Thursday, April 14, 2015. The call for proposals will be posted on The Graduate School website soon!

**TGS Travel Grants.** The Graduate School reviewed requests submitted by December 1, and awarded \$5200 in travel funds to 17 students who will make presentations at 13 conferences. Congratulations grant recipients! We continue to accept applications. The next deadline is February 16. [More information including application instructions.](#)

**Be a Civic Mentor.** The Office of Student Accountability and Restorative Practices is seeking graduate students, faculty and staff to serve as mentors. Mentors connect one-on-one with students who need guidance and support as they develop their personal mission, clarify their own goals, or adjust to life at JMU. To become a mentor you need to attend a training session. The next training is Friday, January 22 from 1-4 PM. If you would like more information, if you are interested in becoming a mentor, or if you would like to register for this training session write to [civiclearning@jmu.edu](mailto:civiclearning@jmu.edu) by January 11 at 5 PM.

**Innovative Diversity Efforts Award (IDEA) Grants Available.** Students, faculty and staff are invited to submit proposals designed to enhance diversity in the broadest sense. Awards of up to \$4,000 are available for the 2016-17 academic year. Applications are due January 15 at 5 PM. [More Information](#)

**Virginia Sea Grant Ph.D Fellowship Opportunities.** Do you have an interest in fishery populations and ecosystem assessment, or resource and environmental economics? The Virginia Sea Grant has announced the availability of multiple NOAA Fisheries (NMFS) – Sea Grant Fellowships for Virginia students. The deadline is January 29, 2016 at 5:00pm EST. Interested students are encouraged to contact Susan Park ([spark@vims.edu](mailto:spark@vims.edu), 804-684-7436) for assistance with the application process. [More Information](#)

**A new year, a new building, a new you!** In need of a study break? The NEW UREC center will be opening on January 10 at 4:00PM! The new addition includes weight, fitness & cardio spaces, three super multi-activity centers, indoor track, fitness/instructional pool and spa and an outdoor courtyard. [More information including hours and updates](#)

**Need a Job?** There are now 13 student positions and 3 wage positions posted on JMU's [Joblink](#) .

**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](mailto:gsa@jmu.edu); 568-7088) [More information](#)

## Upcoming Events & Deadlines

- **January 11:** Classes begin
- **Architectural Design/Mixed Media.** Chris Cornelius focuses his work on the architectural translation of culture. He is the founding principal of *studio:indigenous*, a practice that creates design solutions for American Indian clients. Cornelius, who both attended graduate school and has taught at the University of Virginia, was awarded an Artist-in-Residence Fellowship. January 11-February 19 – Duke Hall Gallery. [More Information](#)
- **January 18:** Martin Luther King Holiday
- **Coming Forth by Day: Life and Death in Ancient Egypt.** A closer look at ancient Egyptian culture and their focus on continued existence on earth and in the afterworld. January 18-February 26 at the Lisanby Museum. [More Information](#)
- **Martin Luther King Jr. Community Program.** The Harrisonburg-Rockingham County National Association for the Advancement of Colored People #7132 will present their annual Martin Luther King Jr. Community Program, featuring a community choir on January 18 from 3:00-5:00PM at the Boys & Girls Club of Harrisonburg & Rockingham County. [More Information](#)
- **Martin Luther King Jr. Community Breakfast.** The Sigma Gamma Omega and Lambda Chi chapters of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. will be hosting their 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Community Breakfast on January 19 from 8:00-10:00AM at the Boys & Girls Club of Harrisonburg & Rockingham County. A \$5 donation is suggested. [More Information](#)

- **EMU Solidarity March and Speaker Presentation.** EMU will be hosting guest speaker Dr. Nikitah Imani at the Lehman Auditorium at 9:45AM on January 19 followed by discussion at the 11:00AM at the University Commons. [More Information](#)
- **JMU MLK Formal Program.** Never sleep on a Dream...Arise and Take Action. Doors open at 6:30PM on January 19 in the Wilson Hall Auditorium. The formal program will include Keynote Speaker Mr. Marc Morial. Mr. Marc Morial is the President/CEO of the National Urban League and previously served as a Louisiana senator and the mayor of New Orleans. [More Information](#)
- **Conversation Partner Program Info. Session.** January 20, 7:00-8:15PM. This is an exciting opportunity for mutual cultural exchange will practicing conversation skills in English and other languages. [More Information](#)
- **Danielle Talamantes.** International recitalist and Met Opera star Danielle Talamantes will join forces with JMU Faculty pianist Gabriel Dobner to perform work by Granados, Turina, Gershwin, Ellington and More! January 23 at 8 PM. [More Information](#)
- **The Human Sciences in a Biological Age: From Biology as Destiny to Biology as Opportunity,** January 28, 11 AM in Madison Union Ballroom. A presentation by Nikolas Rose sponsored by the Cohen Center for Technological Humanism. [More information](#)
- **Governing (Through) The Brain: How Neuroscience Moved From the Lab to the World,** January 28, 3 PM in Madison Union Ballroom. A presentation by Nikolas Rose sponsored by the Cohen Center for Technological Humanism. [More information](#)
- **Beyond the Mind-Brain Problem? Problems and Perils of Intervening in the Human Brain,** January 29, 11 AM in Madison Union Ballroom. A presentation by Nikolas Rose sponsored by the Cohen Center for Technological Humanism. [More information](#)
- **Philosophy Colloquium: Brent Adkins.** January 29, 3:30-5:00 PM in Cleveland Hall. Dr. Brent Adkins will be giving a philosophy colloquium on “Ethic without Responsibility: Spinoza’s Practical Philosophy”. [More Information](#)
- **Ethical Dilemmas in the Digital Age.** Virginia Military Institute will be hosting their 2016 Leadership Conference March 7-8. The conference will discuss questions, challenges and dilemmas that have arisen as a result of new technologies and how they affect our individual and national character. [More Information](#)
- **“Migration: A Phenomenon of Human History from Its Ancient Origins to the Present Global Situation,** April 14-15. Graduate students and faculty are invited to submit presentation proposals by March 20. The Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Cultures is organizing its 14<sup>th</sup> conference at JMU. This conference will bring together scholars/researchers from a variety of disciplines to investigate ways in which global migration affects and affected countries all over the world. [More Information](#)

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

### 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, withdrawals, dismissals or academic progress concerns	Laura Ryman ( <a href="mailto:rymanle@jmu.edu">rymanle@jmu.edu</a> )
Transfer credit, waivers & substitutions, comprehensive exams, concentration or advisor changes degree completion, commencement planning,	Debbie Juhasz ( <a href="mailto:juhaszdj@jmu.edu">juhaszdj@jmu.edu</a> )
Travel grants, graduate community newsletter submissions, general questions	Jenise Pagsisihan ( <a href="mailto:grad@jmu.edu">grad@jmu.edu</a> )

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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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The Graduate School (TGS)  
[17 West Grace Street](#), MSC 6702  
 James Madison University  
 Harrisonburg, VA 22807  
 (540) 568-7860  
<http://www.jmu.edu/grad>  
[grad@jmu.edu](mailto:grad@jmu.edu)  
[Like us on Facebook.](#)  
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