

JMU Graduate Community News

From here, everything is possible!

September 25, 2017

Madison Hall Open House Wednesday October 4, 2-4 pm



Everyone is invited to join the Graduate School, the Office of Access & Inclusion, and the Admissions office for our open house, Wednesday, October 4, 2-4 pm. Tour our space, enjoy refreshments, and learn what we each do. This would be a great time for graduate students and faculty to see the new Cohen Graduate Student Professional Development Center. Meet with representatives of the Graduate Student Association (GSA), Cohen Center, Graduate Student Services, and Graduate Recruitment and Admissions teams. Individuals who remember this building from long ago may enjoy seeing the transformed space. E-mail questions about the open house to grad@jmu.edu. We look forward to seeing you on October 4th!

Responding to Recent Disasters. In recent weeks, the world has watched as Hurricanes Harvey and Irma caused catastrophic damage to Florida, Texas, and the islands of the Caribbean. Devastating flooding has also taken place in Bangladesh, India, and Nepal, and wildfires have ravaged Montana and parts of the Pacific Northwest. During these times, people often wonder how they can help. Sometimes, good intentions can undermine the recovery and rebuilding work in disaster-stricken areas. The JMU [Community Service-Learning](#) office has some suggestions for those wishing to assist communities affected by disasters:

- Provide financial support to first responder organizations listed on [Commonwealth of Virginia](#) and [National Public Radio](#) websites
- Give blood and promote local blood drives
- Sign up for a JMU [Alternative Weekend Break](#)
- Advocate for policy changes and increased awareness. (Email csl@jmu.edu for information)
- Continuously check the [Community Service Learning website](#) for additional educational and volunteer opportunities

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](#)

JMU's Office of Global Engagement offers many study abroad opportunities. Several programs are designed for graduate students. If you see an undergraduate program that matches your interests, contact the faculty member(s) leading the program to discuss the possibility of developing a customized graduate-level experience. [See the list](#)

Play with Purpose! Did you know JMU Occupational Therapy Clinical Education Services provides an hour of engaged playtime every Wednesday for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers? The program aims to provide children and families with guided developmental activities, sensory exploration time, and family support and networking opportunities. Families/caregivers are expected to remain with their child. The program is free, and runs from **September 20 through November 13**. To register and/or obtain further information, please call 540-568-4980 or email otces@jmu.edu.

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](#).

Upcoming Events & Deadlines

- **International Week—September 25-30.** Many activities are planned for International Week at JMU and in Harrisonburg, with the theme “Global Engagement: Out of Many, One.” Events, sponsored by JMU’s Center for Global Engagement and others around Harrisonburg will occur daily. [Detailed Schedule](#)
- **Deadline to drop a class with a “W” grade (first eight-week classes).** September 26.
- **Democracy in Peril: Confederate Monuments.** Some groups believe these monuments should be taken down; others believe these monuments are important reminders of our nation’s history. Join Dr. E. Franklin Dukes and Dr. David Ehrenpreis as they discuss the decision to remove Charlottesville’s Confederate monuments, as well as share insight on how our monuments may sustain or counter narratives of white supremacy. Audience members will be invited to join in an open discussion after the presentation. **September 26, 5 pm, Wilson Hall Auditorium.** [More Information](#)
- **Poetry Reading: Nate Marshall.** Nate Marshall, a Chicago native, is a nationally known author, editor, poet, and rapper whose work explores the sociopolitical systems that imperil black lives. With an insider’s perspective and an authentic voice, Marshall’s work moves audiences because his words come from his heart and his personal experiences. Free and open to the public! Sponsored by Furious Flower Poetry Center. **September 27, 6 pm, Downstairs at The Golden Pony.** [More Information](#)

- **Equus.** In his 1975 Tony Award winning play, Peter Shaffer tells the coming-of-age story of Alan Strang, a 17 year old boy taken for psychological treatment after blinding several horses with spikes. The play explores the topics of sexuality and religion and questions why people commit terrible acts of violence. Features students from JMU's School of Theatre and Dance. Viewer discretion is advised. **September 26-30.** [Ticket Information & Showtimes](#)
- **Hispanic Film Festival.** Celebrate the 14th annual Hispanic Film Festival (formerly known as the Latino Film Festival) at Court Square Theatre. Curated by JMU Professor Karina Kline-Gable, this festival is a celebration and reflection of the Shenandoah Valley's growing diversity through the art of film. [Film lineup and show times.](#) **September 27-October 1.**
- **Interviewing Workshop.** Career and Academic Planning (CAP) will be hosting an interviewing workshop specifically for graduate students. **October 2, 3 pm, Madison Hall 4000.**
- **From Science Fiction to Science Fact.** Head to the next MADtalk to hear Dr. Philip Frana, Associate Dean of the Honors College, discuss how science fiction has become science fact. MADtalks are hosted by the Madison Honors Leadership Council. **October 3, 6 pm, Madison Union 305.** [More Information](#)
- **Interviewing Workshop.** Career and Academic Planning (CAP) will be hosting an interviewing workshop specifically for graduate students. **October 6, 9 am, Madison Hall 4000.**
- **GSA Happy Hour:** All graduate students and graduate faculty are invited to the next GSA Happy Hour at Ruby's Arcade! **October 6. 5-7 pm.**
- **Film Screening: Training Rules.** During her 26 years of coaching basketball at Pennsylvania State University, Rene Portland had three training rules for her athletes: no drinking, no drugs, and no lesbians. Training Rules is a documentary that examines how an athletic department at a prestigious university allowed athletes to be dismissed from their college team based on assumptions about their sexuality. Jennifer Harris was one of the students affected by this rule. She eventually transferred to JMU to play basketball. Ms. Harris will be present during a Q & A session after the film. **October 9. Grafton-Stovall Theatre. 6-9 pm.** [More Information](#)
- **GSA Monthly Meeting.** Don't miss out on the next GSA meeting! Grant winners will be announced, and Learning Strategies Instruction will present a time management workshop. There will also be free pizza! **October 11. Madison Hall, Room 4000, 6 pm.**
- **Out of Line.** Fans of A Chorus Line will enjoy *Out of Line*, a musical that picks up where the former left off. The musical comedy follows the lives of six Broadway performers who struggle to get out of the chorus and into the spotlight. Features students from the JMU's School of Theatre and Dance and School of Music. **October 17-21, Forbes Studio Theatre.** [Tickets and Showtimes](#)
- **Bearden's Odyssey: Art & Poetry Reading.** Surrounded by the images that inspired the poetry of Bearden's Odyssey, co-editors Kwame Dawes and Matthew Shenoda will read from the book and discuss the significance of Bearden's contributions to art. Bearden's Odyssey gathers poems from 35 highly revered African diaspora poets in the United States. Sponsored by JMU's Furious Flower Poetry Center. **October 19, 4 pm, Duke Hall Gallery Court.** [More Information](#)
- **Science on a Sphere.** Interested in Earth system science? This program will explore the connection between the Earth's polar regions and climate using a sphere as a very large, animated globe. **October 21.** Showings will take place at 10, 10:30, and 11 am. Located in the Sphere Theater (room 5110B) in Memorial Hall. [More Information](#)
- **Deadline for adding/dropping of classes** for fall semester (second eight-week classes). **October 23.**
- **Deadline to drop a class with a "W" grade** (semester classes). **October 26.**
- **Homecoming 2017.** October 27-29. [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.**
- **Deadline for adding classes with instructor and AUH permission** (second eight-week classes). **November 1.**
- **Graduation applications are due for students graduating in May 2018. November 10.**
- **Deadline to drop a class with a “W” grade** (second eight-week classes). **November 16.**
- **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 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	Kathryn Brown (wendelkt@jmu.edu)
Continuous Enrollment (Current Students)	Laura Ryman (rymanle@jmu.edu)
Initial Enrollment (Unable to Begin Program)	Sheree Will (willsa@jmu.edu)
General Questions	Justin Whetzel (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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