GRADUATE HANDBOOK
AND GUIDELINES FOR
GRADUATE STUDY
IN
COMMUNICATION
2013-2014

A PROGRAM OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION
McMicken College of Arts & Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI
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THE FACULTY: DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

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August 1, 2013
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**FULL FACULTY BIOS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION WEBSITE:**

http://www.artsci.uc.edu/departments/communication/faculty-and-staff.html
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Applications to the program are submitted online through the University of Cincinnati Graduate School webpage (http://www.grad.uc.edu/). The department requires an application, official academic transcripts, letters of reference, personal goal statement, and verified GRE scores. The department will officially review the file after it is complete.

We encourage students to submit their application as soon as possible. GRE scores and references can be added after the application is submitted. The deadline for full-time and part-time student applications is February 1st for the following academic year (Fall-Summer). Spring semester admission is available only to part-time students. The application deadline for Spring semester for part-time students is October 15th.

A completed student file must include:

(A) a cover letter stating the desired term of admission and indication of full-time or part-time status,
(B) a personal goal statement that describes your objectives in enrolling in the program
(C) official academic transcripts,
(D) verified GRE scores (submitted electronically from ETS),
(E) and, three (3) letters of reference that speak to the applicant’s motivation and ability to undertake graduate study

We encourage you to submit your application when A-C are complete. D and E can be added after.

All full-time applicants are considered for financial assistance on a competitive basis for the following academic year dependent on funding availability. Part-time students are not eligible for financial assistance.

In making decisions concerning admission and financial awards, the following minimum criteria will be generally applied:

1. Completion of a Bachelor’s Degree from an accredited college or university.
2. An undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or above.
3. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) score of 300 (verbal + analytical) or more on the new (2012 and later) test.
4. Receipt of three letters of recommendation from professors or others who can speak to the applicant’s ability / achievement / potential / motivation for undertaking graduate study.
5. An assessment of the student’s goals and abilities in pursuing the theoretical study of human communication.
6. For international students, a TOEFL score of 640 or better is required.

Submit application materials via instructions provided at www.grad.uc.edu. Any material that must be sent via hard copy should be mailed to the Director of the Graduate Program:

Dr. Heather Zoller
Director of Graduate Studies
Department of Communication
University of Cincinnati
137 McMicken Hall, ML 0184
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0184

August 1, 2013
ABOUT THE MASTER'S PROGRAM

Mission:
The Master of Arts in Communication prepares students for future excellence at the Ph.D. level or in professional careers. Our program offers advanced coursework addressing the theoretical and applied complexities of communication in interpersonal, organizational, and mediated contexts as well as rhetoric and persuasion, health and environmental communication, culture, and public relations. Graduate students will gain experience with a variety of communication research methods. Students may choose to conduct an independent research project (a thesis) or engage in a professional experience (the praxis project) for their exit project.

Requirements as of 08/01/2013
The degree involves a two-year program of study that includes the following elements:

Coursework: Minimum of 33 total credit hours are required to graduate

12 Credit Hours Required Communication Courses (4 required courses)
- COMM 7001 Advanced Rhetorical Theory
- COMM 7041 Empirical Communication Research Methods
- COMM 7042 Qualitative and Rhetorical Research Methods
- COMM 7007 Advanced Communication Theory

12 Credit Hours of Communication Electives
These twelve hours do not include:
- COMM 8092 Teaching in Com
- COMM 8093 Intro to Graduate Studies
- COMM 8094 Academic and Professional Prep
- COMM 8095 Internship
- COMM 8061 Directed Problems

3 – 9 Thesis or Praxis hours

Completion Option: Students must successfully produce an Approved Thesis or Praxis Project

Additional Specifications

- To achieve full-time status, students must take 10 or more hours of graduate coursework per semester. Students receiving assistantships or scholarships must maintain a 12-hour course-load.
- Full-time students are required to register for COMM 8093 Introduction to Graduate Studies during Fall and Spring semesters in the first year and COMM 8094 Academic and Professional Prep during Fall and Spring semesters of the second year.
- Part-time students may register for between three and nine hours per semester. Part-Time students have five years to complete the degree.
- COMM 8092, 8093, 8094, and 2-hour Communication electives such as COMM 8095 Internship and COMM 8061 Directed Problems do not count toward the 12 hour elective requirement, unless an exception is approved. These courses do count toward achieving full-time status.
- Students must be registered for at least one credit hour every academic year between the time of enrollment and their graduation date.
- All students complete either a Master's Thesis, an independently developed and executed research project, or a Praxis Research Project, an applied study based on work or field experience. Students may register for 3 to 9
thesis or praxis hours with an advisor. The thesis or praxis research project may involve a variety of approaches and methods, including experimental, survey, observation/participation, fieldwork, or critical-textual.

- The Department assigns a faculty member to serve as an advisor for each first-year student. Students are responsible for identifying a faculty member in the Department who will serve as their thesis or praxis adviser, and for forming a thesis or praxis committee.
- If students wish to take a course outside the department in addition to the requirements above, the course must be approved by the Graduate Director. Courses must be 6000 above, have rigorous content, and complement the student’s area of interest.

Example Full-Time (12 credit hour) Schedule

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FALL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intro to Grad Studies</td>
<td>Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adv. Com Theory</td>
<td>Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhet/Interp Methods</td>
<td>Thesis/Praxis (3 hrs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comm Elective</td>
<td>Academic &amp; Prof Prep (1 hr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPRING</td>
<td>SPRING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intro to Grad Studies</td>
<td>Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empirical Methods</td>
<td>Thesis/Praxis (6 hrs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhetorical Theory</td>
<td>Acad. &amp; Prof prep (1 hr)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comm Elective</td>
<td>Choice of:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>RA/TA (2 hrs)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Ind. Study (2 hrs)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Internship (2 hrs)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective (2+ hrs)</td>
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FACULTY ADVISING
The Department has assigned a faculty member to serve as an academic advisor for each first-year student.

As students complete their first year of coursework and decide whether to work on a thesis or praxis research project in their second year, they will be responsible for identifying a faculty member in the Department who will serve as their lead adviser for that project. The student and lead adviser will then form a committee that includes the adviser and two additional faculty members (for a thesis) or one additional faculty member (for a praxis project).

COMM 8061 Directed Problems in Communication
All graduate students enrolling in independent study course (8061) must fill out the standardized contract form (see page 10) describing project goals and outcome. The form must be signed by the faculty supervisor and turned in to the faculty member in charge of grades by the end of the first week of the semester. The form will be place in the student’s file. Students will be permitted to enroll in a maximum of 4 credits of independent study.
DIRECTED PROBLEMS IN COMMUNICATION  
(15-COMM-8061)  
STUDENT CONTRACT

NAME ______________________________ ID# _______ M ____________________

COURSE # ____________________________ QTR ______ YEAR ______

FACULTY SUPERVISOR ____________________________ ____________________

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION (ONE paragraph):

EXPECTED PROJECT OUTCOMES:

STUDENT ______________________________ DATE ____________________

SUPERVISOR ____________________________ DATE ____________________

TURN IN ONE COPY OF THIS FORM TO FACULTY MEMBER IN CHARGE OF COURSE (SEE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES), AND ONE COPY TO PROGRAM SECRETARY.
THE MASTER’S THESIS

The coursework and related elements of the program provide students with the necessary background to undertake the research required to complete a M.A. thesis. The following steps will be taken to complete the thesis process:

1. The completion of the thesis requires three formal committee meetings: (1) The Thesis Proposal, (2) The Thesis Prospectus, and (3) The Oral Defense of the Thesis. Each of these meetings is a step to ensure successful completion of the process. Following each of these meetings, the appropriate form (see pp. 11-18) should be completed and submitted to the graduate director. Note that any significant changes in the program should be reflected by the completion of a new form.

2. In consultation with the Graduate Director, each student will choose a thesis advisor. The thesis advisor and student will meet to discuss thesis topics. After preparing a brief outline of the topic, students on the pre-doctoral track will ask two other faculty members, with a background relevant to their topic, to serve on their committee (at least one from the Communication Department). All thesis advisors must be members of the Graduate Faculty. Once students have secured an agreement from the faculty to serve on their committees, the form listing the committee members should be completed and submitted to the Graduate Director (Form A, page 12). If, in consultation with the graduate director, the student or advisor feel that the project could be completed more successfully by changing advisors and/or committee members, such change should be formally announced by the completion of a new form.

3. The thesis proposal, typically 5-10 pages in length, should be completed and copied, and provided to each committee member one week prior to the thesis proposal meeting. The student and advisor are responsible for setting the time for the meeting. The proposal includes reasons for undertaking the research topic, the student’s qualifications for pursuing the research question, a statement on the literature to be searched, and the proposal method. Once the committee approves of the proposal, the signed form for this meeting should be provided to the graduate director. (Form B, page 13). Students who do not receive committee approval can revise their proposal up to two times before being dismissed from the program.

4. After the proposal is approved by the committee, the student will write the thesis prospectus, encompassing the first several chapters of the thesis (conceptualization of the problems, literature review, and research procedures/method). Students should work closely with their advisor to develop the prospectus.

5. Upon completion and approval of the thesis prospectus by the advisor, arrangements will be made for the prospectus meeting with the full committee. The meeting will take place only after the advisor judges the prospectus to be of satisfactory quality. The student will provide each member of the committee with a copy of the prospectus one week prior to the meeting.

6. The purpose of the thesis prospectus committee meeting is to provide the student with specific suggestions regarding conceptualization of the problem/topic, the literature searched, and the conduct of the research inquiry. The prospectus must be approved before major thesis research is undertaken. The committee may require submission of a revised prospectus if major changes are suggested. Once approved, the student should work closely with the advisor to incorporate changes and to complete the research. If the prospectus is not approved at the first meeting, students can revise up to two times before being dismissed from the program. Once the prospectus is approved, the signed form should be provided to the graduate director (Form C, page 14).

7. The oral defense of the thesis will be conducted at the completion of the research with all committee members present. The completed thesis should be submitted to committee members at least 10-12 days in advance of the oral defense. The defense is a public meeting which means that other members of the department and university communities are welcome to attend. The student will defend the thesis and answer questions for committee members during the meeting. A signed form indicating the completion of the meeting must be provided to the graduate director (Form D, page 15). The defense should be scheduled at least 10 days before the Graduate School’s deadline for depositing the thesis.

8. Corrections, changes, and clarifications that are suggested during the defense will be made and the revised thesis approved by committee members prior to the granting of final approval of the thesis. The approved thesis should be typed according to the requirements of the graduate school and submitted to them by the published deadline. Final approval of the thesis signals completion of the M.A. degree. In addition to the two copies required by the university, the student must provide one bound copy of their finished thesis to the advisor.

9. The thesis advisor will turn in a grade for Thesis in Communication (COMM9041) for students based on timely and satisfactory completion of their thesis. Advisors may choose to assign Pass/Fail or Letter grades.
PRAXIS RESEARCH PROJECT

Students for whom the M. A. will be the terminal degree may choose to complete a Praxis Research Project during their second year. This project entails gaining professional experience and analyzing that experience using communication theories and concepts. Here are the specifications:

1. The Praxis Research Project is based on a 10 hour/week professional experience that lasts one full academic term, and that occurs after the student’s first academic year. This requirement will be monitored by the Praxis Advisor.

2. The Praxis experience can take place either off-campus or on-campus and can be paid or unpaid. The Praxis experience must be related to communication practice and theory. Students are responsible for arranging their Praxis experience. Students may be assisted in finding placements by the Internship Coordinator (Dr. Maribeth Metzler).

3. Under certain circumstances, students who work full time may use their existing position but must have approval to engage in a special project that goes above and beyond normal work responsibilities.

4. Within the first two weeks of your start date, your practicum supervisor must read the supervisor letter and fill out the Praxis Description Form. A sample of the letter and form is contained in this handbook on pg 18. The actual letter and form are available from the Graduate Director. This form should be turned in to the Graduate Director and your Praxis Advisor.

5. Students will choose a praxis advisor from the Graduate Faculty within the Department of Communication. The praxis advisor and student will meet to discuss different praxis experiences and communication theories to apply to the praxis experience. After preparing a brief abstract of the topic, students will ask another graduate faculty member, with a background relevant to their topic, to serve as a second reader. The second reader must also be from the Department of Communication. Once the student has secured an agreement from the faculty to serve on their praxis committee, the form listing the committee members should be completed and submitted to the Graduate Director (Form E, page 16). If, in consultation with the graduate director, the student or advisor feel that the project could be completed more successfully by changing advisors and/or committee members, such change should be formally announced by the completion of a new form.

6. During and after the Praxis experience, students may enroll in up to 9 credits of Practicum in Communication (COMM-8091). Students will receive a grade based on satisfactory completion of course requirements.

7. During the Praxis experience, students should keep a daily account of their activities and observations. Students will be asked to provide a regular account of their professional activities to their faculty advisor. This ongoing account should include a summary of duties performed and application of relevant communication principles that lead to applied theoretical insights.

8. During the Praxis experience, Graduate Assistants will be expected to fulfill teaching or research assignments for the Department, with logistics to be worked out with the Department Head and Graduate Director.

9. At the completion of the practicum experience, the student’s supervisor will fill out a formal evaluation of the student. This evaluation should be shared with your Praxis Advisor.

10. The written Praxis project is completed in the following stages:

   a. Proposal and Proposal Meeting: After the student has gained internship experience and has decided on a focus, the student will create a proposal that specifies the focus of the praxis paper and the literature that will be used in the project (See Form F, p. 17). The student will then meet with his or her committee to discuss the proposal. This document must be approved by the praxis committee and the signed proposal turned in to the Graduate Director.

   b. Research Report: The scope and length of each student’s report is to be determined in conversation with the student and praxis committee. The Research Report will include 1) a summary of the praxis activities/experience, 2) a summary review of key research literature pertaining to communication theories and concepts relevant to the praxis experience and 3) an integration of the praxis experience with existing literature and communication theory concerning the praxis experience.

   c. The final praxis report will be evaluated by the student’s praxis committee. The report should be completed in a timely fashion to allow for evaluation prior to graduation certification. Students will be notified of the deadline. The Lead Advisor will turn in a grade in Practicum in Communication (COMM-8091) for students based on timely and satisfactory completion of their Praxis experience.

   d. Students will also be required to make a public presentation of their report in an individual or panel format. The presentations will be scheduled in coordination with the Graduate Director.

August 1, 2013
A signed form indicating the completion of the praxis experience and report must be provided to the graduate director (Form G, page 18). The student must provide one bound copy of their finished praxis report to the Graduate Director and may wish to provide one for his or her advisor.

**FORMS**

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form B</td>
<td>Approval of Thesis Proposal</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form C</td>
<td>Prospectus Approval</td>
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<tr>
<td>Form D</td>
<td>Certification of Oral Examination—Publishable Thesis</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form E</td>
<td>Department of Communication Praxis Committee Form</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form F</td>
<td>Department of Communication Praxis Proposal Approval and Supervisor Information</td>
<td>17-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form G</td>
<td>Certificate of Completion of Praxis Requirements</td>
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THESIS COMMITTEE AGREEMENT (FORM A)

This form is to be completed by the student and her/his thesis advisor after the student's committee has been formed. A brief outline of the proposed (tentative) thesis topic should be attached to this form. The completion of this form indicates that all parties have explicitly agreed to serve on the student's thesis committee.

Student's Name: ________________________________

Thesis Advisor: ________________________________

Thesis Topic: __________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

The faculty members below have agreed to serve on the student's thesis committee. At least one of these is a member of the Department of Communication.

First Reader (Required): ________________________________

Second Reader (Required): ________________________________

Other Readers (Optional): __________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

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________________________________________________________________________

Student's Signature __________________________________ Date __________

Thesis Advisor __________________________________ Date __________

THE STUDENT MUST GIVE A COPY OF THIS FORM TO THE DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND ALL COMMITTEE MEMBERS.
APPROVAL OF THESIS PROPOSAL (FORM B)

This form should be completed after the student's thesis committee has reviewed her/his thesis proposal; this should occur prior to the end of the Spring semester of the student's first year.

Student's name: ____________________________________________

1. Rationale for undertaking project:
   ______ This part of the proposal is acceptable in its current form.
   ______ This part of the proposal is acceptable with revisions.
   ______ This part of the proposal is unacceptable.

2. Student qualifications for undertaking project:
   ______ The student is qualified to complete this project in its current form.
   ______ The student is qualified to complete this project if the project is revised as suggested.
   ______ The student is not qualified to complete this project.

3. Appropriateness of the literature to be searched:
   ______ The literature identified is acceptable in its current form.
   ______ The literature identified is acceptable if amended as suggested.
   ______ The literature identified is not acceptable.

4. Proposed methods:
   ______ The methods are acceptable in their current form.
   ______ The methods are acceptable if amended as suggested.
   ______ The methods are not acceptable.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
   ______ Proposal is accepted in its present form.
   ______ Proposal is accepted with revisions.
   ______ Proposal is rejected. (See pg. 10 of Graduate Handbook)

Student signature: _________________________________________

Committee Signatures: _______________________________________

____________________________________
____________________________________
____________________________________

THE STUDENT MUST GIVE A COPY OF THIS FORM TO THE DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDIES.
PROSPECTUS APPROVAL (FORM C)

This form should be completed after the student's committee has reviewed her/his thesis prospectus; this should occur during Fall semester of the student's second year.

Student's name: ________________________________________________________________

1. Problem conceptualization:
   ______ The conceptualization of issues is acceptable in its current form.
   ______ The committee recommends revisions in conceptualization.
   ______ The conceptualization of issues is unacceptable.

2. Literature review:
   ______ Literature review is acceptable in its current form.
   ______ Literature review needs revision or additions.
   ______ Literature review is unacceptable.

3. Methodology:
   ______ Methods are acceptable in current form.
   ______ Methods need revision.
   ______ Methods are unacceptable.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
   ______ Prospectus is accepted in its present form.
   ______ Prospectus is accepted with revisions.
   ______ Proposal is rejected. (See pg. 10 of Graduate Handbook)

Student Signature (DATE): ______________________________________________________

Committee Signatures: __________________________________________________________
  ____________________________________________________
  ____________________________________________________
  ____________________________________________________

THE STUDENT MUST GIVE A COPY OF THIS FORM TO THE DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDIES
CERTIFICATION OF ORAL EXAMINATION
PUBLISHABLE THESIS (FORM D)

___________________________________________ is a candidate for the degree of Master of Arts.

We examined her/him on _______________ and certify that she/he passed the oral examination in partial fulfillment of the requirements for this degree.

Date: ____________________________________________

Signature of Members of Committee:

___________________________________________
Chairperson

___________________________________________
Second Reader

___________________________________________
Third Reader

Note: A bound copy must be submitted to the Department to be archived.
Completion of this form confirms the student’s decision to complete a Praxis Research Report as an exit option in the graduate program. The form must include a description of the proposed praxis experience, along with signatures of the student, lead faculty advisor, and second reader. Scope of the Praxis Research Report will be determined by the student’s committee. The completion of this form indicates that all parties have explicitly agreed to serve on the student's praxis committee.

Student’s Name: ___________________________________________________________

Lead Faculty Advisor: ______________________________________________________

Second Reader: ___________________________________________________________

Description of Praxis Experience:

___________________________________________________________ Student's Signature  ____________________________ Date

___________________________________________________________ Lead Faculty Advisor  ____________________________ Date

___________________________________________________________ Second Reader  ____________________________ Date
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION
PRAXIS PROPOSAL APPROVAL (FORM F)

Student's name: ____________________________________________________________

1. Praxis Experience Reviewed
   ______ The description of praxis activities and achievements is acceptable in its current form
   ______ The committee recommends revisions in description
   ______ The description is unacceptable

2. Communication Issues to be Addressed:
   ______ The conceptualization of issues is acceptable in its current form
   ______ The committee recommends revisions in conceptualization
   ______ The conceptualization of issues is unacceptable

3. Literature:
   ______ Literature proposed is appropriate for the analysis
   ______ Literature needs revision or additions
   ______ Literature is unacceptable.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:
   ______ Proposal is accepted in its present form.
   ______ Proposal is accepted with revisions.
   ______ Proposal is rejected.

Student Signature (DATE): ________________________________________________

Committee Signatures: ____________________________________________________
                      _____________________________________________________________
                      _____________________________________________________________
                      _____________________________________________________________

THE STUDENT MUST GIVE A COPY OF THIS FORM TO THE DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDIES
Dear Supervisor:

Thank you for working with our MA in Communication student during this Graduate Praxis practicum experience. Once placed in a position, the student is expected to work a minimum of 10 hours per week for at least 14 weeks in order to receive academic credit. At the end of the experience, the student will also produce a written report that either integrates their experiences with course learning or evaluates a project designed by the student that is informed by communication research. This written Praxis Report is supervised by a Communication faculty member. Your involvement in this aspect of the experience is completely at your discretion, and no participation is required.

To expedite the process, please fill out the attached position description form. We ask that you fill out a formal evaluation of the student’s performance at the end of the internship. You are of course welcome to contact me at any time that you have questions, comments or concerns.

I encourage you to set high expectations for the practicum, supported by a structured learning opportunity in which the student is given some regular training on the professional standards and expectations of the job. The most satisfactory internship experiences come from clear expectations and portfolio building work.

Unpaid practicum sites may wish to provide a donation to the UC Foundation-Communication Forum Fund. You will receive a thank you letter from the Foundation that clearly states that your contribution is tax deductible. Please fill out the enclosed donation form and send it to me with the position description form. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Please call me at 513-556-4468 or email me at heather.zoller@uc.edu if I can assist you in any way. Thank you again for providing this opportunity for our students.

Sincerely,

Heather Zoller, PhD
Director of Graduate Studies
Department of Communication
University of Cincinnati
PO Box 210184
Cincinnati, OH 45221
513-556-4468
UC Communication Graduate Praxis Position Description Form

Organization Name:______________________________________________

Address:_______________________________________________________________________________

Phone #:_______________________________________________________________________________

Website Address:_____________________________________

Supervisor:_____________________________________________________________________________

Title:____________________________________________________________________________

Department:_____________________________________________________________________________

Email address:___________________________________________

Student Responsibilities:____________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

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Required skills/training:____________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________

Paid: Amount $____ / _____Nonpaid
Graduate Praxis Contract/Pledge Form

Student Name: _________________________ Student Position Title: ____________________

Organization: __________________________________________________________

Supervisor: __________________________________________________________

The most satisfactory internship experiences come from clear expectations and portfolio building work:

Student Pledge:
In accepting this practicum, I pledge to:
- make the experience meaningful by being punctual, committed to learning and dedicated to achieving excellence;
- strive to produce professional results;
- welcome and respond to feedback appropriately;
- ask questions when I don’t understand a direction;
- maintain weekly signed time sheets;
- work with my departmental advisor to discuss observations and write the Praxis paper;
- and obtain a final evaluation from my practicum supervisor

Student Signature: ____________________________________________ Date: _________

Supervisor Pledge:
In accepting the responsibility of supervising a Department of Communication Graduate Praxis student, I pledge to:
- give the student meaningful work in communication with encouraging guidance and supervision;
- set high expectations, supported by a structured learning opportunity in which the student is given some regular training on the professional standards and expectations of the job;
- realize that the internship is primarily a learning opportunity and that my intern is a full-time student and will need to schedule work around their class schedule;
- give constructive criticism where needed and praise when deserved;
- and fill out a formal evaluation of the student’s performance at the end of the semester.

Supervisor Signature: ________________________________ Date: _______
UC Department of Communication Donation Form

The UC Department of Communication is proud of the many outstanding contributions of our students. Donations are being sought for Communication graduate programs. We are looking for sponsors and would love to discuss the benefits of our program with you. From talented and enthusiastic interns to available corporate and non-profit naming rights, mutually beneficial partnerships are available!

Please direct your valued donation to the: **UC Foundation -Communication Forum Fund**. Your contribution will go toward support for the graduate program and meeting the many needs of our outstanding department. You will receive a thank you letter from the Foundation that clearly states that your contribution is **tax deductible**. Please fill out the enclosed **donation form** and send it to me with the position description form. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

$500 ____ $400 _____ $300 ____ $200 ____ $100 ____ Other ________
Make check out to: **UC Foundation /Communication Forum Fund. All Donations are tax deductible.**

**Payment:**

- _____ Check enclosed
- _____ Check will be mailed by _________.

Mail to:  
Heather Zoller, PhD  
Director of Graduate Studies  
Dept. of Communication  
University of Cincinnati  
PO Box 210184  
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0184
CERTIFICATION OF COMPLETION OF PRAXIS REQUIREMENTS (FORM G)

___________________________________________ is a candidate for the degree of Master of Arts.

We approve of the presentation and report of his/her praxis experience and certify that he/she passed the conditions of praxis experience in partial fulfillment of the requirements for this degree.

Date: ____________________________________________

Signature of Members of Committee:

___________________________________________

Lead Advisor

___________________________________________

Second Reader

Note: A bound copy must be submitted to the Graduate Program Director to be archived.
INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE
PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF THESIS

Submission Requirements of Thesis:

1. All MA Theses are submitted electronically to the Graduate School. For directions on format and submission, go to www.grad.uc.edu and look under “Electronic Theses and Dissertations.”

2. Students completing a thesis are also required to deposit a hard copy of the thesis with the department, appropriately bound (hardback, spiral, etc.) for placement in the department library.

Approval Form for Thesis:

An Approval Form will be sent to each candidate by the Graduate School Office. This form, which can be found at the above web site, must be properly completed and signed by the members of the student's thesis Committee, and must precede the title page of the first copy submitted.

Title Page of Thesis:

Each manuscript submitted must have a full title page. The page will show, besides title, name and date, previous degrees, degree to be conferred, department and college in which degree is earned. A sample thesis title page appears at the end of this section.

Suggested Order of Thesis Contents:

Approval Form
Title Page
A blank page or a copyright notice
Preface and/or Acknowledgements
Table of Contents
Lists of Tables and/or Figures
Lists of Illustrations, Lists of Symbols
Text
Bibliography, Appendices
Index (if any)

Thesis Abstract:

Thesis students must write a thesis abstract, 75 words in length, and must submit two copies of the abstract to the department office. One copy is for the student's file; one copy is for the Director of Graduate Studies.

Thesis Timeline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topic and Advisor Chosen</td>
<td>End of Spring Semester Year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposal and Prospectus Written</td>
<td>By September/October of Year 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Collected</td>
<td>By December/January Year 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Draft to Committee</td>
<td>8-10 Days before Defense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defense</td>
<td>At least 10 days before Deposit Deadline</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE PERSUASIVE CHARACTERISTICS OF
THE SPEAKING OF BETTY FRIEDAN

A thesis submitted to the
Division of Graduate Studies and Research
of the University of Cincinnati

MASTER OF ARTS
in the Department of Communication,
of the College of Arts and Sciences

1974

by

Beverly McGowan Susman

B.S., University of Cincinnati, 1973
PROBATION AND DISMISSAL POLICIES

1. If a student's cumulative grade point average in all graduate course work falls below 3.00, the student will be placed on academic probation. The probationary period is intended as a warning to the student. Because this academic standing is not reflected on the external transcript, a representative from the department will inform the student. Further, any student receiving University financial assistance (scholarship or assistantship) will be reviewed and may lose that financial support.

2. The student remains on probation for the period that the cumulative GPA is below 3.00, but will be allowed to continue in the program as long as grades in all graduate-level courses are above 3.00 for each individual semester. The student will be dismissed if grades for any semester while on probation are below 3.00.

3. Receiving an F in any course will result in immediate dismissal with no probationary period.

4. Receiving a GPA below 2.00 (excluding Incompletes) for any specific grading period will result in immediate dismissal with no probationary period.

5. A student dismissed from the graduate program may file a written petition with the Director of Masters Programs for readmission. In making a decision regarding readmission, the Review Committee (which will include the Graduate Director, the student's academic advisor, and the department head) may consider extenuating circumstances surrounding the unsatisfactory grades and the probability that the student can successfully complete the program with at least the 3.00 GPA required to graduate.

6. If a dismissed student wishes to be considered for readmission in the subsequent semester, a petition must be filed within three working days of receipt of the written dismissal notice.

7. If a previously dismissed student is readmitted, all previously earned grades will remain on the permanent record and will be computed in the overall grade point average.

8. Students cannot enroll in and will not receive credit for COMM 9041 (M.A. Thesis) or COMM 8091 (Practicum in Communication) while on academic probation. Further, the student cannot orally defend the thesis or attain approval of the praxis project.

9. Students who do not successfully complete the proposal and prospectus after two revisions will be dismissed from the program.
NOTES

(#1). If you have a complaint about any of your courses, the chain of command to follow in voicing that complaint should be as follows: (1) contact the professor; (2) contact the Graduate Director; and (3) contact the Department Head. If the issue is not resolved, the student should contact the Graduate School and/or the Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences.

(#2). All forms are also available from the Program Secretary. Please type all information on forms (except signatures).

(#3). Graduate Students are responsible for being aware of and meeting all deadlines and other requirements of the Program.

(#4). Students receiving Graduate Assistantships or University Graduate Scholarships must carry a full-time course load (12 credits or more) each semester exclusive of audit credits. The number of years of eligibility for a graduate assistantship and a tuition scholarship will be a minimum of 1 year and a maximum of 2 years.

(#5). You must register for at least one (1) graduate credit hour each academic year between initial enrollment and graduation. If in doubt, check with your academic advisor.

(#6). All work for the Master's degree must be completed within five (5) years calculated from the registration for graduate credit.

(#7). Clearance for graduation will not be given until all keys or equipment which you have been using are returned to the department.

(#8). All graduate students in the Department of Communication are expected to conduct themselves maturely, ethically, and with respect for the rights of others. In many ways graduate study involves cooperative effort in classroom, in study, in teaching and learning. A positive approach can make your time of graduate study memorable!
COMPUTER USE IN GRADUATE OFFICE
– 147 McMicken Hall

The purpose of the computers in 147 McMicken is to provide oral communication tutorial services to Department of Communication Graduate Students to integrate computer-based communication resources across the university. The computers in the Graduate Office are solely for the use of Department of Communication Graduate Students. Please do not let your students/friends use the computers. The logon and password information is confidential and not to be posted publicly.

The Graduate Office computers are not personal computers. As a result, according to Richard Pestinger, former Director of Information Systems, the University has a more secure and less flexible operating system, Windows XP Professional Service Pack 2. These systems are locked down fairly tightly to prevent what continually occurred in the past -- dead systems.

The University tightly controls what goes on these computers in a hope that they will provide the students with a reliable, clean and legal computing environment.

Please note that food and drink are NOT to be kept at computer stations. Please leave all food and drink at your desk and away from the computers and printer.

IN SUMMARY:

1. You are NOT permitted to install ANY programs.
2. MSN Messenger will NOT be activated.
3. You can still use all the WEB based emails, WITHOUT instant messenger.
4. If there are programs that need to be installed and the university has the appropriate licenses for them, then I will gladly request to install them. Send an email request to myself and Lindsey, (zollerhm@ucmail.uc.edu; lindsey.ovadia@uc.edu).
5. You MUST save ALL WORD PROCESSING and other personal files on UC Filespace, thumb drives, CD disk, or 3.5 hard disks -- NOT ON THE HARD DRIVE/DESKTOP. Each lab computer will shut down after 30 minutes of non activity (i.e.: the mouse has not moved). Anything in progress or saved to the desktop, will be lost once the computer logs off, so please save your documents externally and log off when you have finished your work or before you leave the graduate office. ONCE AGAIN, TO REMIND YOU: THE COMPUTERS WILL AUTOMATICALLY LOG OFF AFTER 30 MINUTES OF INACTIVITY.

Please see me if you have any questions. Thank you.

Dr. Heather Zoller
Graduate Director

Operating System, Office Products and Internet Browsers currently in use:

- PC - Windows XP Professional Service Pack 2
- PC - Microsoft Office
- Microsoft Internet Explorer
- Internet Explorer
- Mozilla Firefox
GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH & TEACHING

As a graduate student, you should be aware of a pool of subjects available to you should you need their participation in your research projects. As a GA teaching COMM1071, it will be your responsibility to put the necessary information on your course syllabus. For more information, please contact the appropriate course director.

SUGGESTED PROCEDURES:

1. All G.A.s should include a statement on their course syllabus stating that students may earn some credit for research participation. Early in the semester the G.A.s should circulate a sign-up sheet for interested students. That list should be given to the Department Head to be integrated into a master list of volunteers.

2. The statement on the syllabus should note that students can earn research credit in a variety of ways. For example, a student who chooses not to be a respondent could be given the option of locating, reading and reporting on a current piece of research relevant to the course topic.

PLEASE NOTE:

1. Student participation should be voluntary. The undergraduates should have the option to choose whether or not they wish to take part in any research activities.

2. Small incentives should be provided to reward students who choose to participate. The amount and nature of this incentive should be left up to the individual professor or instructor.

3. The form of the students' participation should be flexible. That is, we should accommodate students who are interested in research but do not wish to be a respondent or an active assistant. Some alternative form of participation should be an option for them.

IMPORTANT:

1. You should delineate a very clear “window of opportunity” for students to volunteer for any extra credit activities. Otherwise, you will certainly be swamped with a rush of volunteers in the last week of the semester.

2. At the end of the semester, any researcher who has drawn from the pool should provide all course instructors with a list of people who participated in their research.
GRADUATE STUDENT ORGANIZATION

Graduate Student Governance Association:  http://www.uc.edu/gsga/

The graduate students in the Department of Communication participate in the Graduate Student Governance Association (GSGA). This entitles the group to all the rights of members of that organization, including travel refunds and a monetary allotment. However, you are not automatically registered. You (the group) must fill out a registration form and submit it at a date to be determined in Fall Semester. Member Groups must have regular representation at GSA meetings to maintain active status and be eligible for the above money allocations. Visit the GSGA website at http://www.uc.edu/gsga and read the Bylaws and Constitution. Attend the first GSGA meeting on 9/4/2013, 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM in Teachers College 407 (Annie Laws Room).

From the GSGA Executive Board

Dear Graduate Students,

GSGA is an organization run by graduate students for graduate students that serves as the executive board for the Graduate Student Assembly, which is comprised of representatives from each Graduate Student Association. Our purpose is to make the graduate student experience as beneficial as possible to students and the University by advocating on behalf of the graduate student population, promoting research and educational goals beyond what is merely required for a degree, and establishing bonds amongst the graduate students and other university populations. Please browse our website to see how GSGA can help you during your stay at UC. You can also join our Facebook Group. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email an officer or stop by during office hours. Good luck in your studies.

Sincerely,
GSGA Executive Board

UC Reimbursements

All reimbursement envelopes need to include M-numbers. UC employees with direct deposit will have their reimbursements direct deposited.

Graduate Student Accomplishment Database

Networking, career prep and public recognition! http://gradapps.uc.edu/gradaccomp/pubSearch.aspx

2013-2014 GSGA Executive Board

Officers are available for meetings by appointment or during office hours in the GSGA office (683 Steger Student Life Center - Above STARBUCKS on the UC Main Campus). Office hours are suspended during exam week and semester breaks but individual appointments may be possible on a case-by-case basis.

Please call 556-6101 before visiting just to make sure someone is in the GSGA office to answer your questions. The GSGA office is open only during office hours.

Questions - Contact the GSGA President

Sarah Hutchings, President:
president.ucgsga@gmail.com or 513-556-6101

Additional Information:

The registration packet can be obtained from the GSGA office, 683 Steger Student Life Center.
Here are some other important things to do and know:

- GSA office 638 Steger Student Life Center.
  Phone 556-6101. Mail Location: 0193.
- Elected Officials from your group (President,
  Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer) are
  required to attend the GSA Orientation Meeting
  and representation is required at meetings listed
  on the GSGA website: www.uc.edu/gsga/gsga
- Read the GSGA Bylaws:
  http://www.uc.edu/gsga/ByLaws.html and the
  GSGA Constitution:
  http://www.uc.edu/gsga/Constitution.html to
  understand participation requirements.
- Funds shall be available to each Member Group
  with "active status". (See Article III, section 3 of
  GSGA Constitution for definition.)
- Member Groups are allowed to spend their
  GSGA base budget on food. (No GSGA money
  can be used for the purchase of alcohol or be
  used at events where alcohol is served.)
- Upon missing three (3) meetings the Member
  Group is on probation.
- Travel refunds are mailed directly to you.
- The registration packet can be obtained from the
  GSGA office, 683 Steger Student Life Center, 513-
  556-6101.
- Travel forms and refund forms should be in the
  packet. If not, you can get them at the
  GSGA office.

If you have any questions, call the GSGA office, 556-6061.
GRADUATE STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE

Changes for 2013-2014: The premium for term students will be $930.00/semester (spring’s premium automatically covers students through the summer semester with no additional premium due).

http://www.uc.edu/uhs/student_health_insurance.html

Visit the Student Health Insurance website for details on enrollment & eligibility, semesterly costs, regulations, deadlines for insurance waivers and how the waiver system works. Please note that deadlines are strictly enforced and it is up to you to apply before the deadline.

For Plan Information, contact the office staff in person or by telephone:

Student Health Insurance Office
Suite 334, Lindner Center
University of Cincinnati
(513) 556-6868
studins@ucmail.uc.edu
www.uc.edu/uhs

Waiver/Enrollment Deadlines per Semester: Coverage Dates (Term)**
Fall 2013: 09/09/2013
Spring 2014: 01/20/2014
Summer 2014: 05/19/2014
Fall 2013: 08/12/2013 – 01/05/2014
Spring 2014: 01/06/2014 – 08/11/2014

Cost of Coverage: $930 per semester*

A portion of the cost-of-student coverage is retained by the University of Cincinnati to pre-fund UHS Primary Care and to pay for the Plan operating expenses.

* Students who purchase spring term coverage are covered through the summer term with no additional premium due and no credit hour requirement.

** Coverage for international students begins at no additional charge on the date they are required to be on campus.
2013-2014 Application Information for Graduate Assistant/Fellow Health Insurance Awards (GSHI)

http://www.grad.uc.edu/gshi/
2013-2014 Application Information

The Graduate School is again able to offer two awards this year: Award A, which impacts fall and spring semester health insurance costs, and Award B, which impacts spring semester health insurance costs.

In FY13, we will post a credit of $525 in each award semester, which will offset about 56% of the health insurance semester premium ($930).

**GSHI Award A**
To apply for GSHI Award A, visit [http://gradapps.uc.edu/gshi](http://gradapps.uc.edu/gshi) You will only be able to apply from **June 24 to August 20**.

**Timing:**
- Application Period: 6/24/13 – 8/20/13
- Post Awards: 8/21/13 – 8/23/13
- First Day of Classes: 8/26/13
- 1st scrub: January 2014 to check for Fall Health Insurance and Fall Pay
- 2nd scrub: May 2014 to check for Spring Health Insurance and Spring Pay

**Award Benefit:** $525 credit to both Fall and Spring Semester bills

**Award Criteria:**
- Be a Graduate Assistant (teaching, research or administrative) or Fellow, with a UC payroll status of graduate assistant or fellow receiving stipend payments of a minimum **$2,400 through UC Payroll** within the pay dates:
  - Fall Semester: 09/01/13-12/31/2013 (9 pay periods)
  - Spring Semester: 01/01/14-05/06/14 (9 pay periods)

- Payroll checks from UC for grad students with a payroll status of student worker, compensated hourly, do not count toward the $2,400 requirement.

- Payment must be made from UC Payroll (refunds from the Bursar are not considered payments).

- Co-op students paid by a company other than UC during either of these semesters (fall or spring) will not have their pay from their co-op company counted toward the $2,400 semester pay requirement.

- Graduate students who receive a **fellowship stipend** directly from an outside/third-party sponsor (must be a U.S. based foundation which requires matching funds or U.S. based federal or state institution who support research or teaching missions like Fulbright, Krell, etc.) are **required to send a copy of the award letter** and/or official documentation that clearly state the award period and financial terms of the fellowship (e.g., stipend amount, tuition scholarship amount, living allowance, etc.) to:
  
  GSHI
  University of Cincinnati
  PO Box 210635
  Cincinnati, OH 45221-0635  OR via UC Mail to ML 0635.

August 1, 2013
• Maintain university student health insurance coverage during the entire academic year.
  o Graduate students enrolled in less than 6 credit hours in any semester (fall or spring) are required to complete and submit a Health Insurance Enrollment Form for that semester by the deadline in order to maintain student health insurance.
  o For a link to the enrollment form and the submission deadlines, visit www.uc.edu/uhs/student_health_insurance.html.

• Enroll for at least one credit hour in each semester (fall and spring).

Failure to meet all eligibility requirements during the academic year (fall and spring semesters) will result in the forfeiture of the Graduate Student Health Insurance Award A for fall and spring semester. If a graduate student waives the university health insurance for either semester, he/she will not be eligible for the Award A.

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**GSHI Award B**

To apply for GSHI Award B, visit [http://gradapps.uc.edu/gshi](http://gradapps.uc.edu/gshi). You will only be able to apply from **November 15** to **December 15**.

**Timing**

- Application Period: 11/15/13 – 12/15/13
- Post Awards: between 12/16/13 – 12/31/13

**Award Benefit:** $525 credit to Spring Semester bill.

**Award Criteria:**

- Be a Graduate Assistant (teaching, research or administrative) or Fellow, with a UC payroll status of graduate assistant or fellow receiving stipend payments of a minimum **$2,400 through UC Payroll** within the pay dates:
  o Spring Semester: 01/01/14 - 05/06/14 (9 pay periods)

- Payroll checks from UC for grad students with a payroll status of student worker, compensated hourly, do not count toward the $2,400 requirement.

- Payment must be made from UC Payroll (refunds from the Bursar are not considered payments).

- Co-op students paid by a company other than UC during the spring semester will not have their pay from their co-op company counted toward the $2,400 semester pay requirement.

- Graduate students who receive a **fellowship stipend** directly from an outside/third-party sponsor (must be a U.S. based foundation which requires matching funds or U.S. based federal or state institution who support research or teaching missions like Fulbright, Krell, etc.) are required to send a copy of the award letter and/or official documentation that clearly state the award period and financial terms of the fellowship (e.g., stipend amount, tuition scholarship amount, living allowance, etc.) to:
GSHI
University of Cincinnati
PO Box 210635
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0635 OR via UC Mail to ML 0635.

- **Maintain university student health insurance** coverage during the spring semester.
  - Graduate students enrolled in **less than 6 credit hours** in spring semester are **required** to complete and submit a **Health Insurance Enrollment Form** for that semester by the deadline in order to maintain student health insurance.
  - For a link to the enrollment form and the submission deadlines, visit [www.uc.edu/uhs/student_health_insurance.html](http://www.uc.edu/uhs/student_health_insurance.html).

- Enroll for **at least one credit hour** in spring semester.

**Failure to meet all eligibility requirements** during the spring semester will result in the forfeiture of the Graduate Student Health Insurance Award B for spring semester. If a graduate student waives the university health insurance for spring semester, he/she will **not** be eligible for the Award B.

---

**Other Important Information**

Continuing eligibility is checked for each student who applies for either of the awards (A or B) at the conclusion of each semester. Students who fail to maintain eligibility are notified via their UConnect account and the award will be canceled in 7 days.

**It is the student’s responsibility to check with the program that sponsors their Graduate Assistantship to make sure the pay dates for the minimum $2,400 in pay falls within the pay date ranges above.** These date ranges will be used to pull information from UC payroll records to verify eligibility.

Please direct any questions to [gshi@uc.edu](mailto:gshi@uc.edu).

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

Please note that all international students receiving a UGS must register for 12 graduate hours each semester. See your advisor to help schedule these courses. Also, each international student receiving a UGS from our department must register to take the Oral English Proficiency Test upon arrival on campus.

*Please see Dr. Zoller for the guidelines that have been created by the Division of Graduate Studies and Research.*

Check out the international student link at the graduate school website: [www.grad.uc.edu/welcome](http://www.grad.uc.edu/welcome).
YOUR GUIDE TO GRADUATE LIFE AT UC

The Graduate School website is designed to help you navigate successfully through your graduate student experience. Please visit www.grad.uc.edu/welcome for additional information and links to ...

• ACADEMICS & CAMPUS LIFE
  Academic Calendar
  International Student Services
  Graduate Student Governance Association
  Policies
  Research
  Semester Conversion

• CAMPUS
  Campus Maps
  Directory of Important Places
  Public Safety
  Extracurricular Activities
  Graduate Housing
  Campus Shuttle Services
  Parking

• CAREER
  Career Development Center
  Internships
  On-Campus Jobs
  Professional Development
  Preparing Future Faculty
  Workshops

• MONEY
  Funding Organizations
  Graduate Student Health Insurance
  Office of Financial Aid

• NEWS AND PUBLICATIONS
  Annual Report
  GradCaster Newsletter
  Graduate Handbook (Policy)
  Graduate Review
  The News Record
  UC Magazine
  UC News

• CITY LIFE
  Cincinnati Visitor’s Guide
  Cincinnati Enquirer
  CityBeat
  Enjoy the Arts Membership
  Nearby Neighborhoods
  — Clifton
  — Mt. Adams
  — Northside
  — Over the Rhine
  — Uptown Consortium

… Check out the Dean's Welcome Message …

Welcome to the University of Cincinnati!

You are now a part of a university with a long tradition of excellence in graduate education, with graduate faculty and staff who take pride in providing students with an outstanding educational experience. The Graduate School has developed this site to assist you with your transition to UC. It is our hope that you feel welcome to use both your program office and the Graduate School as support resources throughout your tenure at UC.

Robert Zierolf, Dean of the Graduate School. Read the Dean's welcome message.

Don’t forget to check out the About Us section as well: http://www.grad.uc.edu/about-us.aspx

The Graduate School at the University of Cincinnati is located in Van Wormer Hall, Room 110.

(513) 556-4335: Monday thru Friday: 8 am – 5 pm

110 Van Wormer Hall, PO Box 210627, ML 0627, Cincinnati OH 45221-0627

August 1, 2013