New Graduate Student Success Series

The Graduate School Office of Professional Development (OPD) is pleased to offer a Graduate Student Success Series for 1st year graduate students. For 45 minutes each week, OPD will offer tips and strategies for a successful graduate experience.

Attend one or attend them all!

**Tuesdays: 10:30-11:15 am – 538 Goodell**

Pre-register at [www.umass.edu/gradschool/opd](http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/opd) (Personal Development section)

Light refreshments will be provided.

**Tuesday, September 12th**

**Mentors and Advisors: Gotta Catch ‘Em All!**

You know you need an advisor in graduate school, but did you know that you need mentors, too? Learn about the important roles that mentors play and hear tips for recruiting and maintaining mentoring relationships. Pre-registration is required.

**Tuesday, September 19th**

**Mapping Out Your Funding Strategy**

The keys to successfully funding your graduate career through grants and fellowships are to start early and stay organized! We’ll share tips on how to identify opportunities, when to apply for what, and how to map out your long-term funding plan. Pre-registration is required.

**Tuesday, September 26th**

**Five Things Successful Graduate Students Do**

Welcome to Graduate School - there’s much to learn and much to achieve! We are not born successful…we become successful. Today, we’ll talk about what that means and how you can structure your graduate experience to achieve success at UMass and beyond. Pre-registration is required.

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**Tuesday, October 3rd**

**Time Management Strategies**
It’s already October - where does the time go? Do you find yourself struggling with upcoming deadlines and long to-do lists? We will share tips to address these challenges and maximize productivity. Pre-registration is required.

**Tuesday, October 17th**

**Contributing to Productive Meetings and Discussions**
Do you know how to get the most out of a meeting with your advisor, mentor or team? Learn how strategic preparation, facilitation and follow up can increase the efficiency and effectiveness of any meeting. Pre-registration is required.

**Tuesday, October 24th**

**Balance in Graduate School**
It’s easy to feel like we could be writing more, reading that extra article, or spending another hour in the lab. But how do we avoid burnout, stay productive throughout the semester, and still have a life? As we begin the second half of the semester, come learn some concrete strategies for finding that work/life balance that will keep you feeling productive and less guilty about not working yourself to the bone. Pre-registration is required.

**Tuesday, October 31st**

**Trick or Treat – Happy Halloween!**
Join us for an open discussion. By now, you’ve likely encountered angels and demons in your first semester. We’re happy to discuss them both! Discussion topics will be attendee generated, so bring your questions and enjoy some Halloween treats with OPD staff. Pre-registration is required.

**About the Graduate School Office of Professional Development**
The Office of Professional Development (OPD) positions graduate students and postdoctoral researchers for success in their careers at UMass and beyond. In collaboration with an expansive network of partners, OPD organizes more than 200 activities annually to help participants develop skills in areas of career preparation, communication, grants and fellowships, personal development, and teaching. For more information and to register, visit:

[www.umass.edu/gradschool/opd](http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/opd)

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