



Does the Graduate School Process Scare You?



Academic & Career Advising
Can Help Make
The Process Less Spooky

Graduate School Discussions

(Feel free to bring your lunch)

Wed., Oct, 21 12-1 pm, Hoke 309

Should I go to Graduate School? How to Apply.

Panel Members:

- **Elizabeth Bordeaux**, Undergraduate– Liberal Studies, EOU
Graduate-Master of Arts in Management at Salve Regina University
- **Kristin Johnson**, Undergraduate– Business Administration, EOU,
Graduate- Master in Teacher Education, Eastern Oregon University
- **Rhonda Smith**, Undergraduate– Anthropology/Sociology, EOU,
Graduate– Master in Social Work, Walla Walla College
- **Mike Brammer**, Undergraduate– Psychology Utah State University,
Graduate– Counseling, California State University at Sacramento
Ph.D.- In Progress, University of Maine
- **Rita McMahan**, Undergraduate– Business Administration/Marketing , EOU
Graduate– Master of Business Administration, EOU

Wed., Oct, 21 1-1:30 pm, Hoke 309

Funding Your Graduate Education

Presented by: Samuel Collie, Interim Director of Financial Aid



Eastern Oregon University

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Career Advising at EOU

Grad School Events

**Plan to attend
Graduate School?**



[Start Here](#)



Grad School Events

SEARCH FOR A PROGRAM

- [GRADSCHOOLS.COM](#)
- [GradSource.com](#)
- [Jobweb](#)
- [College Source](#)
- [CollegeView](#)
- [GoCollege](#)
- [Peterson's Guides to Grad School](#)
- [Association of American Medical Colleges](#)
- [Western Regional Graduate Program](#)
(Programs at reduced tuition for residents of 14 western states)
- [GradProfiles](#)

ADVICE & RESOURCES

- [Grad School Tips](#)
- [Interfolio](#)
- [FastWeb.com](#)
- [Accepted.com](#)
- [About - Graduate School Admissions](#)
- [All About Grad School](#)
- [Association for Support of Graduate Students](#)

TESTING INFORMATION

- [EOU Testing Services](#)
- [Kaplan - Testing Information](#)
- [The Princeton Review](#)

- [Academic Advising](#)
- [Career Advising](#)
- [International Programs](#)

SUPPORT SERVICES

- [Mission & Goals](#)
- [Faculty & Staff](#)
- [Employers](#)
- [Parents](#)
- [Alumni](#)

STUDENT INFORMATION

- [Calendar Events](#)
- [Job Search Handbook](#)
- [Workshops When You Want Them!](#)
- [The Ideal Approach to Graduate School Development](#)
- [Offerings for Seniors](#)
- [Summer Job & Internship](#)
- [Education Seminar](#)
- [Senior Workshops](#)
- [Graduate School Meeting](#)

ACADEMIC & CAREER

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Eastern Oregon University
member of the Oregon State University System



Graduate School Tips
Your School
Deciding
Right For You
Tips For Getting In
Paying For School
Financing Grad School
Campus Tour
Recommendations
Interview
Application Essay
Types of Essays
Exams

Graduate School Introduction

The purpose of seeking a graduate degree varies from individual to individual, but the most common reasons for seeking a graduate degree are the following:

1. A junior or senior in college wanting to do advanced work in a subject
2. A profession that requires specialized training such as medicine, law, or social work
3. A career that has climaxed and requires advanced education to jump start it

For whichever reason you are deciding to go back to school or continue with your education, it must be taken carefully and be well planned. Going to graduate school is a tremendous investment of time and financial resources, and you must make sure that investment will advance your career in the desired direction. Preparing yourself to make this decision is a multiple step process. First, you must look within yourself at your current pathway and your proposed destination. You will need to assess your strengths, weaknesses, financial situation, and social situation. You will also need to prioritize your needs. Then set short term and long term goals to help you keep your eye on the prize. This process will require much research and footwork as well as compromising.

Attending grad school can be one of the best decisions a person can make. Not only will it help you earn more money in the long run, but odds are you'll enjoy a much higher level of job and career satisfaction while you're earning your money. In our Grad School Guide, you'll read about the benefits and challenges of attending grad school, and learn how to pick the right school for you, as well as explore your different options for financing your graduate education. In our guide, you'll find lots of helpful information, much of which you've probably never really thought about before. Having all the information will help you make a more informed decision.

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Choosing a Graduate School

Choosing the right graduate school can have a great impact on your success as a graduate student. The right choice can make your experience wonderful, while a different choice can make your two years of graduate school very hard. When choosing a graduate school, it is often helpful to ask yourself a series of questions to figure out exactly what you are looking for. Think about the kind of environment that will allow you to excel. Then start coming up with the profile for your graduate program.

Before you get to the questions, figure out the graduate program you are looking for. Once you do that, it should narrow down the number of schools you are looking for. A great resource is www.gradschools.com You can look for programs all over the world separated by academic program.

What type of institution are you looking for?
Public or Private

What size of institution are you looking for?
Large-above 20,000
Medium-around 10,000
Small-below 5,000

In what size of town would you like to live?
Large-think Portland
Medium-think Eugene or Salem
Small-think La Grande

Where do you want to live?
West Coast
East Coast
Southeast
Midwest
Other

What sort of climate are you looking for?
High and Dry
The hotter the better
Wet
Moderate

When you answer those questions, it should make your decision easier. Then you can create a list of graduate schools that fit the profile that you created.

Once you have created your list of schools, research the programs. What are the strengths and weaknesses, and what opportunities exist for graduate students? Are there assistantships available to help students pay for school? What are the costs for tuition? What about out-of-state tuition?

Once you have done your research, start the application process. Take your time, and submit your applications early.

CAMPUS RESOURCES FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Our web site www.eou.edu/career has graduate school information, helpful web site links and a schedule of Career Advising Graduate School Events. Click on Graduate School Information.

Application Request:

The first step is to visit the web sites of schools of interest. Graduate School admission requirements will be outlined and it will be possible for you to request specific information by e-mail.

- Download applications -- or apply online
- Request catalog & program information
- Get range of GPA's and scores for students accepted last year and number of students accepted last year
- Make sure all contacts and requests are done in a professional manner



Application Form:

- Read and follow instructions carefully
- If not an online application, **type** applications (typewriters available in Library and Academic & Career Advising)
- Pay attention to details and deadlines. Don't squeak in – get it there a month prior to deadline
- Proofread for spelling, grammar and typographical errors. Have someone else proofread.
- Make a copy for your own records
- Be prepared for the expenses involved

Resume:

On-line workshops, handouts, and advice are available to help you construct a professional resume. For on-line workshops, go to www.eou.edu/career and click on [Workshops When You Want Them!] Bring in a resume draft during our regular Resume Review* on Wed., 8:30-10:30 a.m. or Fri., 1:30-2:30 p.m. (*No appointment needed – but please review the on-line workshop prior to your visit).

Personal Essay Tips:

- Create an academic identity
- Point out your strengths; explain any area of your application that may not meet their requirements. Build an image of yourself that goes beyond your transcript.
- Tailor each essay to the school's philosophy and requirements
- Be clear, concise, and well-organized
- Ask friends, professors, or writing tutors to critique and proofread your essay
- We recommend, Graduate Admissions Essays – *Write Your Way Into the Graduate School of Your Choice*, by Donald Asher. Check out a copy from Academic & Career Advising

Letters of Recommendation:

- Give professors and previous employers plenty of time to complete your recommendations before the deadline. Ask, "Do you feel *comfortable* writing me a *strong* recommendation?"
- Give each person writing a recommendation a copy of your resume and personal essay if possible

Keeping Track:

- Create a card file or database of schools to which you have applied
- Make note of information you have received and where you stand in the application process
- Set timetable and follow up when appropriate



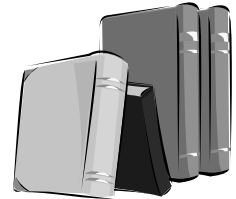
CAMPUS RESOURCES FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL INFORMATION

Selecting a Program:

The Internet is your best resource for updated information on programs. Start with www.eou.edu/career. To locate graduate/professional programs in your field, check out the college search engines (Gradschool.com, College Source, Go College, College View...). These are found under Graduate School Information. Contact us (or the library staff) if you would like assistance using these resources.

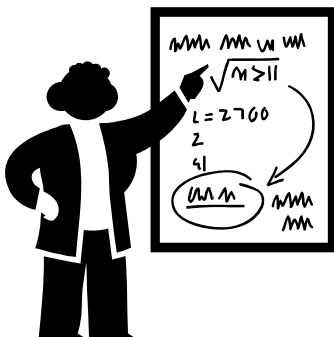
Additionally, books are available for checkout from Career Advising. A sample of titles from the collection follows:

- Approved Law Schools
- Graduate & Professional Programs: An Overview
- Jumping through the Hoops: A Survival Guide to Graduate School
- The Official Guide to MBA Programs
- The Grants Register – The Complete Guide to Postgraduate Funding Worldwide
- Graduate Admissions Essays - Write Your Way Into the Graduate School of Your Choice
- How to Write a Winning Personal Statement for Graduate and Professional School



Additional Resources –Pierce Library - <http://pierce.eou.edu/home/>

- Peterson’s Annual Guides/Graduate Study
- Peterson’s Grants for Graduate & Post Doctoral Study
- The College Blue Book
- Educational Rankings Annual
- U.S. News & World Report, Best Graduate Schools (Look for most recent copy).



Eastern Faculty Support

It is extremely helpful to have strong academic support from one or more professors in your major field of study. As an undergraduate student it is advisable for you to work closely with your academic advisor and other faculty members. Faculty who have observed your work and academic growth are able to write stronger letters of recommendation and assist you in the pursuit of your advanced degree.

Testing Information:

For testing information go to Eastern’s Testing Services website www.eou.edu/testing where many questions can be answered easily and registration can be completed online.