ANNUAL UPDATES

Presented by the Graduate School Admissions Office | Fall 2019

Dean Tsantir, Jim Rowan, Suzan Koroglu
The land we gather on today is the original homelands of the Dakota and Ojibwe Nations.

We honor and respect the Indigenous peoples who were forcibly removed from, and who are still connected to this territory.

It is our responsibility to own our part in their continued displacement, incorporate Indigenous knowledge in our work, and establish meaningful, reciprocal partnerships with Indigenous communities.
Agenda

1. General Updates, Reminders, etc.
2. Slate/Application
3. International Admissions
4. Questions
General Updates, Reminders, etc.
Your Fall Checklist

- Attend Annual Updates session
- Review catalog (PCAS)
- Submit old decisions
- Attend Slate Trainings Refresher or Intro
- Complete a test application Use this tutorial
- Update program website While completing a test app!
- Review communication Personnel changes? Did anyone arrive or leave?
- Graduate Programs Directory www.grad.umn.edu
- Email lists GPC Network, Synthesist, etc.
- Admissions Toolkit
- Retention Policies

PREREQUISITES FOR ADMISSION

The preferred undergraduate GPA for admittance to the graduate programs is 3.0 or better.

Other requirements to be completed before admission

Applicants must submit their test score(s) from the following:

- GRE
- TOEFL
  - Internet Based - Total Score: 100
  - Internet Based - Writing Score: 21
  - Internet Based - Reading Score: 19
  - Paper Based - Total Score: 600
- IELTS
  - Total Score: 7.0
- MELAB
  - Final score: 84

Key to test abbreviations (GRE, TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB)

For an online application or for more information

GRADUATE SCHOOL

About  Admissions  Graduate Programs  Academic & Career

TWIN CITIES GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Accountancy
Addictions Counseling
Additional Teaching Licensure Program
Adult Education
Adult Literacy, Certificate in
Advanced Practices in Second Language Teaching, Certificate in
Advanced Wearable Products, Certificate in
Aerospace Engineering and Mechanics
Aging Studies, Certificate in
Agricultural Education
American Indian and Indigenous Studies, Minor in
American Indian Public Health and Wellness, Certificate in
American Studies
Animal Sciences
Anthropology

- Graduate Program At-A-Glance
- Program Web Site
- Graduate Education Faculty List
- Program Statistics
- Doctoral Degrees Awarded since 1981
Professional Development

- National organization for Grad Education professionals (like YOU!)

“Thanks for this tool! I actually used the data found here to help in my negotiation for a substantial raise this year!” - UMN Twin Cities campus GPC

www.nagap.org

- Local organization
- gpcnlead@umn.edu
- Job postings
- Monthly meetings
- Announcements
- Mentorship
- Networking
- Much more!
April 15 Resolution “National Signing Day”

Background

- Funded admits only
- Peers should not pressure admits
- Please report breaches to Dean

Reviewed in 2017-2018

- Survey of Grad Deans
- Dec 2018 Board decision: reaffirmed for another 5 years: (until Sept 2024)
April 15 Resolution “National Signing Day”

Q1: On balance, is the Resolution an effective tool for managing offers of financial support?

Questions 3 and 4: What deadline date would be best?
PROJECTS!
Slate Implementation: COMPLETE!!!! *

* Perceptive Content in the works
Welcome!

This site is for Graduate Program Coordinators at the U of M. You'll find resources, events, and other sources of support for your role as a GPC!
Resources

Quick Links
- Grad Program directory - listing all U of M grad programs, faculty, and staff with statistics, contact information, etc.
- AppTracker - use this tool to compare your program's applications/offers/acceptances compared to this time last year.
- Slate Resources: Admissions Toolkit
- Office for Diversity in Graduate Education

Guides and Reference Documents
- General Onboarding for Graduate Program Coordinators - Reference Document
- Individual Development Forms and Process for GPCN - Reference Documents
- ISSS Resources - Resources from ISSS shared at GPCN meetings
- Legal Issues in Graduate Student Services: Admissions - Reference Documents

NAGAP
Did you know there is a national professional organization specifically for staff in Graduate and Professional Education? It's called...
GEAR1 and GEAR+

APD and Graduate Education Resources (GEAR)

- Updated APD web pages on grad.umn
- Focus on the Individual Development Plan (IDP)
- GEAR 1 (first-year online orientation): [data TBD]
- GEAR+ (resources beyond first year): Beta version coming soon
- Current/future initiatives: writing resources, badging
Retention Policies

- Slate creates need for more clarity (and creation) of retention policies
- U of M has broad central policy & registrar has recommendations
- Undergraduate admissions currently revising as well
- Some Slate related processes/policies prepared in November, will announce via email/GPC Network
Grad Admissions Office Remodel
Grad Admissions Office Remodel

- Back in offices early November
- Individual phones limited, email better
- Thank you for your patience!
- Visit us!
Clean Up Old Applications

- 300 applications without a decision
- 73 departments
Clean Up Old Applications

- Previously notified outside of Slate
  - Always send initial Deny decision through Grad Admissions
  - Follow up with more details if desired

- Incomplete or Late Applications
  - Deny (or consider in a future term)
Complete a Test Application & Check Instructions

Why it’s important...

● We may be waiting to hear from you! Do you have a smartform?

● Ensure that your instructions make sense.
  ○ Is the terminology on your website consistent with Slate
  ○ Do you have instructions for Personal Statements, etc.
  ○ Are your deadlines and admit terms prominently displayed

● You can request customizations.
Common Requests

- Smartforms
  - Replace PDF supplements
  - Collect information such as research interests and faculty preference

- Submission Requirements – Make Slate match your instructions.
  - “You can’t apply for that term”
  - “A Resume/CV is required”
Review your communications

- Know what the Admissions Office is communicating to applicants.
- Review and update current messages in Slate.
- Develop applicant communications to make your process more efficient:
  - Application Started emails
  - Deadline Reminders
  - Application Received emails
- Attend a Deliver Training to learn more.
Refresh Your Slate Skills

● Attend a Slate Training
  ○ Basics/Refreshers
  ○ Deliver (email function)
  ○ Reader
  ○ Other topics? Let us know what you’d like to learn!

● Check out New Tutorials and Features on the Toolkit
  ○ Waiving Submission Requirements
  ○ Adding interactions
  ○ Emailing from Slate/copying external emails to Slate records
  ○ Other topics? Let us know what you’d like to do!
Slate Resources

Graduate Admissions

Welcome! These Slate resources are for U of M graduate program Slate users (staff & faculty).

*Tip! Use the site search to find topics faster!"
New and Improved Standard Queries

Program Standard Queries → Query Templates

- Greater flexibility
- Easier to copy/save

COMING SOON!
Application Changes

- Gender ID and Pronouns
  - Consistent with PeopleSoft/MyU
Application Changes

- Remove superfluous Admit Decisions on Appraisal Form

“Admit to Rochester” -- Not Needed

“Admit to Duluth” -- IBS PhD and WRS only
Last Year’s Apps?  (Retention)

- Clear Decision Released bin after term end
  - Spring and summer 2019 cleared by end of November
  - Fall 2019 cleared after December 15th
    - If possible, submit deferrals before applications leave Reader

- All applications remain accessible on the Slate side

- Review forms (Reader) policies coming soon

- ‘Stale’ unsubmitted apps
International Admissions

International Credentials
- “Recognized”
- Degree Equivalency
- Grading Scales
- Transcripts/Credentials

English Proficiency
- UM Policy
- Test Score Verification

Visa Documents and Advising
International Grading Standards ("Country Sheets")

International Toolkit

Student Visa (I-20) Information

VISA ELIGIBILITY
I-20 DHL SHIPPING
FUNDING INFORMATION
PROGRAM START DATES

Admissions Resources for Grading, Tests, and Classroom Readiness

INTERNATIONAL GRADING SYSTEMS (COUNTRY SHEETS)

Access country by country grading criteria for graduate admissions. Please note that the recommendations contained in these country sheets are Graduate Admissions minimums. Individual programs may set higher requirements.

Please contact Jim Rowan or Paula Baker with questions or concerns.

VIEW COUNTRY SHEETS
## Country Sheets: New Format

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Grading System</th>
<th>Other Information</th>
<th>Suggested Degree Equivalence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>Expect a minimum of 65 percent, which would be in the low B range. Look for class rank.</td>
<td>B+ - 100% Alias (excellent); A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Equivalent to US Bachelor's - Bachelor or Licenci (usually 4 years, but some 5 year degrees)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>Expect averages of 7 or higher.</td>
<td>Grade: Description / U.S. Equivalent: 10: Dixie/ A+ 9: Norta/A 8: Tota/ B+</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Equivalent to US Master's - Diploma with title (generally 4 to 6 years, although there may be null)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>Expect one of the following minimum averages:</td>
<td>On a 20 point system: 19 and 20 are rank given. Grades of 15 and above are excellent. Below 10 is passing for individual subject.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Equivalent to US Bachelor's Degree.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>Null</td>
<td>Null</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>An applicant must hold the licenciado in addition to the bache in order to be considered eligible for admission to graduate study. The bachelor degree is not considered equivalent to the U.S. Bachelor's Degree.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Expect an average of at least 7.5.</td>
<td>Sobresaliente (Excellent): 10 - 9 Distinguido (Very good): 8 - 7 Bueno (Good): 6 - 5 Aprobado (Acceptable): 4.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Null</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>If the applicant has already completed the four year honors degree, and final results are available, expect placement in 1st Class.</td>
<td>Overall grade for honors degree based on performance in the fourth year:</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Null</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Expect an average of 2, or Gut.</td>
<td>First Class Honours H1. Remains: U.S. Equivalent 1: Sehr gut, very good - A 2: Gut, good - B+ 3: befrieden (satisfactory) - B-/C+</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Universities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahrain</td>
<td>Recommend an average of 80 (B) or higher.</td>
<td>90 - 100: A 80 - 89: B 70 - 79: C 60 - 69: D</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Fachhochschule (University of Applied Sciences): Degree will have FH as a suffix.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>Expect students to be in the First Class or possibly high Second Class.</td>
<td>First Class: 60 - 100% A Second Class: 50 - 59% B Third Class: 33 - 44% C Fail: Below 33%</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Equivalent to US Bachelor's - Bachelor's Degree (4 years)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Expect an average of Distinction or Onderzeiding.</td>
<td>French System 6 - 20 scale: Plus grande distinction 18 - 20/ Excellent</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Equivalent to US Bachelor's - Candidate Graders/3 - 4 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Notes:**
- Countries may have additional requirements or considerations not listed here.
- Degree equivalences are approximations and may vary by institution and region.
- Always consult with educational institutions for accurate information.
Degree Compatibility (accredited or equivalent)
Admissions Officer Expertise/Library of Resources

- Admissions Officer Expertise – call us!
- Large library of resources on educational systems, (including historical information)
English Proficiency

News

- TOEFL “MyBest” Score report
  - Combines subscores from multiple test dates
  - NOT accepted at UMN
# English Proficiency: what happens when...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required Action</th>
<th>Is an Exam Waiver appropriate?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scores meet minimums</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Send official scores</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scores are close</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELP Assessment AND 1 or 2 ESL courses during first term</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scores are well-below</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full-time ESL at MELP or another institution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No scores</td>
<td>NO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take exam ASAP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Should I submit a waiver if...

...the student attended an English-language school in a country that is not exempted from the test requirement.

...the student has test scores that are too low but we want them in the program anyway.

...the student is from a country that is exempted by some other institutions (e.g. India, Kenya)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✗ Awaiting</td>
<td>Official Transcript for Bogazici Universitesi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✗ Awaiting</td>
<td>Official Transcript for Bogazici Universitesi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✗ Awaiting</td>
<td>Recommendation from Jalskjst: :Dikajf:Skij: .kjdajflksdj:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✗ Awaiting</td>
<td>Recommendation from Kjkj: Kj:Kj, .tkjklj:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✗ Awaiting</td>
<td>Sent to recommender on 07/11/2018.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✗ Awaiting</td>
<td>Cambridge English Score Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✗ Awaiting</td>
<td>Transcript for Bogazici Universitesi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dates Attended: 1/2018 to 8/2020, Degree: Degree Awarded, Conferred: 8/2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To re-send notification emails to your recommenders, re-visit the recommendations page, click "Edit", and then click "Send Reminder".

Forms

- **Required**: Enrollment Confirmation

- **10/01/2018**: I-20 Request Form
I-20 Request Form

- Estimate of Education and Living Expenses for one year
- Description of funds available to cover expenses
  - Personal funds
  - Assistantship/Scholarship/Fellowship from UMN
  - External scholarships
  - Employer sponsorship
  - Family funds

Funds $\geq$ Expenses

Assistantship/Fellowship salaries may or may not cover all expenses
I-20 Funding Amounts (min expenses)

- **50% Assistantship**
  - Twin Cities: $20,163
  - Duluth: $17,030

- **25% Assistantship**
  - Twin Cities: $24,882
  - Duluth: $21,167

- **No Assistantship**
  - Twin Cities: $49,452
  - Duluth: $46,319
I-20 Start Dates (on the toolkit)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Program Start Date</th>
<th>Earliest Admission Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>With Assistantship</strong></td>
<td>TC: 08/26/2020</td>
<td>07/27/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Duluth: 08/19/2020</td>
<td>07/20/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Without assistantship</strong></td>
<td>TC: 09/08/2020</td>
<td>08/09/2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Duluth: 08/31/2020</td>
<td>08/01/2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

30 Day Rule
- Students can enter U.S. 30 days prior to Program Start Date
- If attempting to arrive earlier, could be refused entry
- If you have a non-standard start date, contact Grad Admissions

https://grad.umn.edu/faculty-staff-toolkit/admissions-toolkit/international-toolkit
Contact Us!

612-625-3014 or gsquest@umn.edu

International credentials, grading scales, institutions

English Proficiency

Visa issues
Questions
Thank you!

Graduate Admissions
gsquest@umn.edu | 612-625-3014