Interdisciplinary Initiatives

Office of Interdisciplinary Initiatives
z.umn.edu/idiinitiatives

Office of Interdisciplinary Initiatives
The Graduate School's Office of Interdisciplinary Initiatives leads the development of institutional programs and opportunities that enhance the University's ability to foster interdisciplinary inquiry by graduate students and faculty.

Interdisciplinary Graduate Groups
The purpose of interdisciplinary graduate groups is to facilitate collaboration and interdisciplinary inquiry among faculty, students and staff with similar research, scholarly or creative interests, and expand and enhance interdisciplinary and professional education at the University. The Office of Interdisciplinary Initiatives provides funding and support for interdisciplinary groups across campus.

Interdisciplinary Doctoral Fellowship (IDF)
The IDF is awarded to outstanding doctoral students with interdisciplinary dissertation topics. These awards – which include a stipend of $22,500 for the academic year, tuition, and subsidized health insurance – provide opportunities for students to interact with faculty at one of the University's interdisciplinary research centers or institutes. Visit z.umn.edu/idfellowship for more information.

About the Graduate School
grad.umn.edu/about

Vision
As a global leader in graduate education, the University of Minnesota fosters an inclusive environment that enables curious, creative and courageous thinkers who work both independently and collaboratively, pursue answers to significant questions, challenge assumptions, and exercise ethical responsibility in the discovery and dissemination of new knowledge.

Mission
The mission of the Graduate School at the University of Minnesota is to ensure quality in graduate education, advocate for the academic and professional development of graduate students, advance intellectual communication and scholarship across disciplines, and promote cultural diversity, scholarly integrity, and inclusivity.
Community.

Diversity and Inclusivity in the Graduate Education, and promotes initiatives that foster excellence, provides quality oversight of programs, through interdisciplinary initiatives, connects students across colleges opportunities, the Graduate School academic and professional development.

In addition to providing a number of academic and professional development opportunities, the Graduate School connects students across colleges through interdisciplinary initiatives, administers fellowships and grants, provides quality oversight of programs, leads initiatives that foster excellence in graduate education, and promotes diversity and inclusivity in the graduate community.

Contact the Dean’s Office for more information: gsdean@umn.edu.

Admissions
grad.umn.edu/admissions

Office of Graduate Admissions
The Office of Graduate Admissions guides prospective students through the admissions process, handles “Change of Status” requests for enrolled students (e.g., changing major or degree) and processes readmission applications for students who want to return to their program.

Student Services & Resources
grad.umn.edu/students

Advising & Mentoring
The graduate & professional student advising website, developed by the Graduate School in partnership with the Academic Civility Work Group and the Student Conflict Resolution Center, provides advising information and resources for students and faculty: gradvising.umn.edu.

Academic Planning & Career Development
In partnership with departments and units across campus, the Graduate School offers a variety of professional development workshops and networking events for graduate students at all stages of their careers. Topics may include effective thesis/dissertation writing, long-term financial planning, grantwriting, tips for publishing, interviewing skills, and resume development. A schedule of upcoming events is available at z.umn.edu/1415workshops.

In addition, the Graduate School’s website contains a number of resources designed to help students with career planning, including the Individual Development Plan, Interviewing Tips, and the Graduate and Professional Students Guide to Career Planning. These and many other academic and professional development tools are available online at z.umn.edu/gradresources.

Versatile PhD
The Versatile PhD is a web-based resource that helps universities provide graduate students with non-academic professional development assistance. It is available to all University of Minnesota students, alumni and postdocs through an institutional subscription at versatilephd.com; users must log in with their UMN email address.

Issues in Graduate Education
The Graduate School provides oversight and interpretation of graduate education policies. In addition, Graduate School staff offer guidance and advice to students, faculty and staff regarding processes and practices related to graduate education. Contact the Dean’s Office for more information: gsdean@umn.edu.

Fellowship Office
The Graduate School Fellowship Office administers University-wide fellowships. These fellowships – awards based on academic merit – are available to currently enrolled graduate students. Applications, eligibility requirements and a calendar with upcoming deadlines can be found at z.umn.edu/gradfellowships.

Thesis Research Travel Grant
Grants of up to $2,500 for domestic research and up to $5,000 for international research are available to Ph.D. students who have passed the preliminary oral examination by the application deadline: z.umn.edu/travelgrant.

Bridging Funds
The Bridging Fund program can supplement tuition and health insurance that exceed the financial award for students who have been granted prestigious and competitive external fellowships, such as those awarded by the National Science Foundation’s Graduate Research Fellowship Program, the Charlotte W. Newcomb Foundation, etc. Details can be found at z.umn.edu/bridgingfunds.

Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship
The Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (DDF) program gives the University’s most accomplished Ph.D. candidates an opportunity to devote full-time effort to dissertation research and writing. The award includes a stipend of $22,500 for the academic year, tuition for up to 13 credit hours each semester (fall and spring), and subsidized health insurance. Visit z.umn.edu/ddfellowship for more information.

Fulbright Scholarship
The Fellowship Office offers Fulbright information sessions for graduate students interested in conducting research abroad. Excellent opportunities to study are available in more than 140 countries; see z.umn.edu/fulbrightprogram.

Luce Scholars Program
The University of Minnesota is one of 75 colleges and universities invited to participate in the Luce Scholars Program, a nationally competitive fellowship program that provides stipends, language training, and individualized professional placement in Asia for 15-18 Luce Scholars each year. Visit z.umn.edu/luce for details.

Please note that in addition to the resources provided by the Graduate School, there are many other resources available to students through individual departments and programs, colleges, and other University units. The Council of Graduate Students (COGS) and the Graduate Academic and Professional Student Association (GAPSA) also provide related programs and activities.