PLSI WORKSHOP SERIES

So You Think You Want To Go To Grad School?

Hosted by Dr. Kassiola and Dr. Eissler, PLSI faculty
THE BASICS

- Different Types of Degrees
- What’s Needed to Apply to Graduate School
- Finances and Graduate School
- Careers with a Graduate Degree
- What to plan for now
DIFFERENT TYPES OF DEGREES

- Masters of Political Science
- Professional degrees
  - Masters of Public Policy
  - Masters of Public Administration
- Doctoral degrees
APPLYING TO GRADUATE SCHOOL

- Bachelor’s degree in Political Science or related field
- Solid GPA
  - Requirements vary, but 3.0+ is the general standard
- Test Results
  - Some programs require GRE results
- Letters of Recommendation
- Statement of Purpose
- Writing Sample (Ph.D.)
- Application Fee (Ask about fee-wavers)
FINANCES AND GRADUATE SCHOOL

- Plan for tuition AND living expenses
  - Depending on program, may be able to work an outside job

- Look into:
  - Assistantships/Fee waivers
  - Scholarships
  - Federal and State Financial Aid
    - Grants
    - Loans
CAREERS WITH A GRADUATE DEGREE

- Masters of Political Science
  - Teaching at a Community College
  - Political Campaigns
- Masters of Public Policy and Masters of Public Administration
  - Local, State, and Federal Government
- Non-profit organizations
- Private sector
- Doctoral Programs
  - Teaching at 4-year colleges
  - Data Analysis and Research
HOW TO PLAN AHEAD

- Figure out what you are passionate about
  - Career options in all subfields
- Get involved in research/intern in your area of passion
- Study hard
- Build relationships with professors
- Take a long view
QUESTIONS?

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