

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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