

Geography Graduate Student Handbook

Part 1. A reference guide – where online you can find

Part 1 is intended to provide Geography graduate students with the most essential information for their study such as degree requirements, funding, and resources. It mostly consists of links to official sources of information. Any feedback to this document should be directed to the graduate program chair.

1. Program requirements

For all programs at UWM, the UWM Catalog is the official record of requirements. Please see these pages in the UWM Catalog for the requirements for the Master's or PhD degree in Geography. Whenever you have a question, please ask the graduate program chair.

- Master's degree requirements: [Master of Arts](#) or [Master of Science](#)
- [PhD requirements](#)

2. Faculty research interests

All the Geography faculty list their interests and publications on their websites. Find them [here](#).

3. Funding for you to complete graduate school

When you apply to UWM Geography's graduate programs, you are automatically considered for a teaching assistantship and some department and university awards. During your graduate program, you should continue to apply for departmental funding (assistantships and fellowships) annually and other funding as needed.

The UWM Graduate School and UWM Department of Geography also offer some funding in the form of travel awards and fellowships. The American Association of Geographers (AAG) also accepts applications for conference travel awards, paper awards, and other funding opportunities.

- [UWM Geography research and travel funding](#)
- [UWM Graduate School information on funding](#)
- [AAG grants and awards](#) (scroll down and select the 'For students and undergraduates' category)
- [AAG Specialty and Affinity group awards](#)

4. UWM Code of Conduct

The [UWM Code of Conduct](#) lays out expectations for professional and ethical behavior in all UWM matters. It includes the UWM Respectful Campus Standards, which explain and prohibit bullying.

5. Orientation

a. For all new graduate students

- The UWM Department of Geography organizes an orientation every fall for new graduate students. This handbook includes material for and from that event.
- The UWM Graduate School offers fall orientation for new graduate students. Students will be notified of the schedule. This orientation includes information on the health care plan.

b. For new international graduate students

- [The Center for International Education](#) provides an orientation for all international students each fall.
- First-year international **teaching** assistants are required to attend an orientation program before being permitted to assume teaching responsibilities. Such information will be provided separately from the offer letter.
- All new international graduate teaching assistants must take an English diagnostic examination before or during orientation.

c. For new teaching assistants

- There is an orientation for all new teaching assistants before the fall semester starts. It is organized by the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL).

6. Campus Resources

There are a lot of resources available to you as a UWM graduate student. See these pages for some of those:

- [UWM campus resources for all students](#)
- [More resources](#) as listed by UWM Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL)
- The [ISSS Connect](#) is a good resource for both newly admitted and continuing international students
- The [UWM Writing Center](#) is helpful for graduate students as well as undergraduates