

# Graduate School Information Session

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WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY



# Agenda

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- Introductions and tips
- Welcome
- Funding and scholarships
- Graduate ambassador discussion panel
- Admissions and breakout sessions (link in chat)

# Funding and scholarships

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Jeff Pruchnic, Ph.D.

Associate Dean of Student Affairs, Wayne State University Graduate School

Associate Professor, Department of English

# Funding your graduate degree

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[gradscholarships@wayne.edu](mailto:gradscholarships@wayne.edu)  
[jeffpruchnic@wayne.edu](mailto:jeffpruchnic@wayne.edu)

# Graduate School and departmental funding

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- Assistantships – Mostly Ph.D. students
- Fellowships – Ph.D. students
- Scholarships – Master's and Ph.D. students

# Types of assistantships

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## Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTAs)

GTAs may be assigned **teaching duties**, including grading, in undergraduate-level courses or related laboratories or discussion sections, and may serve as instructors of record for undergraduate courses.

## Graduate Student Assistants (GSAs)

GSAs may be **assigned non-teaching or non-research duties** for the primary benefit of the university or granting agency under the supervision of a university faculty member or administrator. Specific duties vary widely, depending on the administrative or academic unit to which they are assigned.

## Graduate Research Assistants (GRAs)

GRAs are typically **doctoral students assigned research or academic duties** to assist faculty members in their collaborative scholarly and/or creative activities leading to the student's degree.

# Departmental assistantships and fellowships

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- About 650 current students fully funded in Graduate Teaching Assistant, Graduate Research Assistant, and Graduate Student Assistant positions (not counting grant-funded positions).
- Benefits include a stipend, tuition coverage, and subsidized health insurance.
- Check department/program web pages for application information and criteria.

# Graduate School scholarships and fellowships

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Visit: [gradschool.wayne.edu/students/funding](https://gradschool.wayne.edu/students/funding)

- Selected by departmental nomination (for new graduate students).
- Around 200 scholarships yearly that cover full-time tuition costs.
- Another 200 scholarships providing partial tuition.
- Additional funding opportunities for conference travel and (for Ph.D. students) summer dissertation support.



# Private scholarship and funding resources

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- SallieMae [Graduate School Scholarship Search](#)
- Unigo [Scholarships for Graduate Students](#)
- [Scholarship America](#)
- [GoGrad](#) (Scholarships)
- [MPower Financing](#) (Loans)
- [IEFA](#) (Scholarships/Loans)
- [International Student Loan](#) (Loans)
- [EduPass](#) (Scholarships)
- [Prodigy Finance](#) (Loans)
- [ELM Select](#) (clearinghouse of loan providers)

# Other funding resources

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## WSU “[Scholarship Universe](#)”

- An online clearinghouse of awards available through WSU schools and colleges.
- Scholarship amounts vary.

## Federal Student Aid and FAFSA

- [Financial Aid request for information form](#)

# Final tips

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- Get started right away
- File your FAFSA
- Talk to your advisor/graduate program director and ask about funding
- Start exploring the WSU Scholarship opportunities database as soon as you are admitted
- Invest some time in searching for private scholarships
- Apply for everything you think might be a fit!

# Welcome

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Amanda Bryant-Friedrich, Ph.D.

Dean, Wayne State University Graduate School

Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Former Chair, Medicinal Chemistry Division, American Chemical Society

# Shannon Costello

M.S. student  
Medical physics

- Colorectal cancer survivor who went on to pursue medicine to inform and mitigate risk of CRC.
- Mother of two heavily involved in prevention community. Has advocated for cancer research funding on Capitol Hill.
- Aspires to become a board-certified medical physicist.



# Cyril Davis

D.N.P. student  
Nursing

- 15 years in law enforcement. Retired from the Department of Homeland Security after a traumatic brain injury.
- Extensive rehabilitation inspired him to become a nurse.
- Now on track to graduate in 2025 and become a nurse practitioner specializing in psychiatric mental health.



# Gelareh Raoufi

Ph.D. student

Learning design & technology

- Received her Bachelor's degree in Fabrics and Fashion Design from Azad University in Tehran, Iran.
- Former fashion designer and publisher.
- Studies trends and issues in computer science education. Conducting research on AI in health education.



# Christen Zimecki, Ph.D.

Pathway-to-Faculty Fellow  
Philosophy

- Native Detroiter. Princeton University graduate.
- Studies the role of greed in ancient Greek thought, and what it tells us about modern perceptions of justice, particularly, the historical reception of Black American protesters in the U.S.





# Erome Hankore, Ph.D.

Pathway-to-Faculty Fellow  
Chemistry

- Studies kinase dynamics, focuses on engineering biocatalysts to synthesize compounds with potential applications in drug development and the production of value-added industrial chemicals.
- Aims to create innovative methods for synthesizing pharmaceutical compounds, industrial chemicals, ultimately contributing to healthcare and sustainable industrial processes.



# Anthony Robinson, Ph.D.

Pathway-to-Faculty Fellow  
Psychology

- Studies the advancement of psychological and neuropsychological assessment to improve patient outcomes and reduce healthcare burden and costs.
- Collaborates with researchers at the Institute of Gerontology (IOG), Michigan Center for Urban African American Aging Research on the neuropsychological assessment of Black older adults in Detroit.



# Graduate ambassador panel

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Justin Curry  
Urban planning



Evin Donaldson  
Law



Arifur Rahman  
Pharmaceutical sciences



Himanshu Yadav  
Chemistry



Robert Alexander-Jordan  
Educational leadership &  
policy studies

# Thank you

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FOR ATTENDING THE INFORMATION SESSION

**Website:** [gradschool.wayne.edu](https://gradschool.wayne.edu)

**Email:** [gradadmissions@wayne.edu](mailto:gradadmissions@wayne.edu)

313-577-4723

# Office of Graduate Admissions

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BREAKOUT SESSION

November 11, 2024  
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. ET