



NC STATE
The Graduate School

2026
DGP/GSC Workshop
Welcome

Opening Remarks

Peter Harries

Dean, The Graduate School

Review of 2025-26 Changes and Trends

Enrollment & Pressures

Narrative & Uncertainties

Continued pressure on international students and funding uncertainties have dominated the graduate narrative (and seem likely to continue...)

Key Impacts

- Resulted in a +6% drop in graduate enrollment, dominated by significant reductions in international students, but also NC residents.
- Reductions seen at the master's and doctoral levels

GradPath Updates

Individualized Customization

Update to GradPath to include individualized questions from programs to tailor the process effectively.

Expanded Access

Providing more direct access for GSCs to streamline administration and support.

Accessibility Rules

Theses & Dissertations

In response to changes in the accessibility rules, require the changes that were rolled out for theses and dissertations will remain in place.

Format Templates

Updated templates for both Word and LaTeX are readily available for student use.

Fall Graduate Enrollment Summary - Overall

September 8, 2026

	Prev Enrolled	Curr Enrolled	Enrl Diff	Enrl Diff Pct	3 Yr Avg	Avg to Curr Diff	Avg to Curr Diff Pct	Elig Enrl	Pct Elig Enrl
University Total	9159	8595	-564	-6.2%	9251	-656	-7.1%	8818	97.5%
CALS	898	892	-6	-0.7%	916	-24	-2.6%	920	97.0%
CHASS	770	735	-35	-4.5%	793	-58	-7.3%	747	98.4%
CNR	422	420	-2	-0.5%	449	-29	-6.5%	440	95.5%
Design	269	262	-7	-2.6%	274	-12	-4.4%	264	99.2%
Education	1045	1006	-39	-3.7%	1038	-32	-3.1%	1031	97.6%
Engineering	3344	2928	-416	-12.4%	3458	-530	-15.3%	2989	98.0%
Grad Sch	80	84	4	5.0%	37	47	127.0%	86	97.7%
PCOM	989	973	-16	-1.6%	920	53	5.8%	997	97.6%
Provosts Office	63	52	-11	-17.5%	84	-32	-38.1%	55	94.5%
Sciences	992	950	-42	-4.2%	1000	-50	-5.0%	993	95.7%
Textiles	203	201	-2	-1.0%	199	2	1.0%	203	99.0%
VETM	84	92	8	9.5%	82	10	12.2%	93	98.9%

Fall Graduate Enrollment Summary by Location

Doctoral

	Prev Enrolled	Curr Enrolled	Enrl Diff	Enrl Diff Pct	3 Yr Avg	Avg to Curr Diff	Avg to Curr Diff Pct	Elig Enrl	Pct Elig Enrl
University Total	3714	3591	-123	-3.3%	3664	-73	-2.0%	3647	98.5%
Agriculture and Life Sciences	386	382	-4	-1.0%	381	1	0.3%	391	97.7%
Design	57	52	-5	-8.8%	56	-4	-7.1%	53	98.1%
Education	423	394	-29	-6.9%	451	-57	-12.6%	397	99.2%
Engineering	1485	1438	-47	-3.2%	1417	21	1.5%	1462	98.4%
Graduate School	47	45	-2	-4.3%	.	.	.	.	.
Humanities and Social Sciences	231	228	-3	-1.3%	252	-24	-9.5%	230	99.1%
Natural Resources	171	173	2	1.2%	175	-2	-1.1%	176	98.3%
Poole College of Management	40	27	-13	-32.5%	38	-11	-28.9%	28	96.4%
Sciences	678	650	-28	-4.1%	682	-32	-4.7%	659	98.6%
Textiles	117	116	-1	-0.9%	119	-3	-2.5%	117	99.1%
Veterinary Medicine	79	86	7	8.9%	77	9	11.7%	87	98.9%

Fall Graduate Enrollment Summary by Location

Masters

	Prev Enrolled	Curr Enrolled	Enrl Diff	Enrl Diff Pct	3 Yr Avg	Avg to Curr Diff	Avg to Curr Diff Pct	Elig Enrl	Pct Elig Enrl
University Total	5221	4778	-443	-8.5%	5353	-575	-10.7%	4806	99.4%
Agriculture and Life Sciences	495	498	3	0.6%	518	-20	-3.9%	504	98.8%
Design	212	210	-2	-0.9%	217	-7	-3.2%	211	99.5%
Education	584	568	-16	-2.7%	545	23	4.2%	569	99.8%
Engineering	1820	1451	-369	-20.3%	2011	-560	-27.8%	1459	99.5%
Graduate School	33	39	6	18.2%	21	18	85.7%	.	.
Humanities and Social Sciences	531	498	-33	-6.2%	529	-31	-5.9%	499	99.8%
Natural Resources	187	182	-5	-2.7%	203	-21	-10.3%	184	98.9%
Poole College of Management	926	910	-16	-1.7%	866	44	5.1%	912	99.8%
Provosts Office	63	51	-12	-19.0%	84	-33	-39.3%	51	100.0%
Sciences	280	281	1	0.4%	274	7	2.6%	287	97.9%
Textiles	85	84	-1	-1.2%	79	5	6.3%	85	98.8%
Veterinary Medicine	5	6	1	20.0%	5	1	20.0%	6	100.0%

Fall Graduate Enrollment Summary by Residency

INTL

	Prev Enrolled	Curr Enrolled	Enrl Diff	Enrl Diff Pct	3 Yr Avg	Avg to Curr Diff	Avg to Curr Diff Pct	Elig Enrl	Pct Elig Enrl
University Total	2617	2161	-456	-17.4%	2845	-684	-24.0%	2200	98.2%
Agriculture and Life Sciences	174	184	10	5.7%	166	18	10.8%	188	97.9%
Design	52	36	-16	-30.8%	62	-26	-41.9%	36	100.0%
Education	40	51	11	27.5%	38	13	34.2%	54	94.4%
Engineering	1699	1253	-446	-26.3%	1919	-666	-34.7%	1273	98.4%
Graduate School	13	8	-5	-38.5%	7	1	14.3%	.	.
Humanities and Social Sciences	76	67	-9	-11.8%	78	-11	-14.1%	68	98.5%
Natural Resources	94	101	7	7.4%	90	11	12.2%	103	98.1%
Poole College of Management	61	46	-15	-24.6%	57	-11	-19.3%	47	97.9%
Provosts Office	2	3	1	50.0%	8	-5	-62.5%	3	100.0%
Sciences	288	296	8	2.8%	304	-8	-2.6%	301	98.3%
Textiles	97	97	0	0.0%	99	-2	-2.0%	98	99.0%
Veterinary Medicine	21	19	-2	-9.5%	19	0	0.0%	20	95.0%

Fall Graduate Enrollment Summary by Residency

NC

	Prev Enrolled	Curr Enrolled	Enrl Diff	Enrl Diff Pct	3 Yr Avg	Avg to Curr Diff	Avg to Curr Diff Pct	Elig Enrl	Pct Elig Enrl
University Total	5783	5638	-145	-2.5%	5588	50	0.9%	5798	97.2%
Agriculture and Life Sciences	649	633	-16	-2.5%	657	-24	-3.7%	655	96.6%
Design	176	172	-4	-2.3%	176	-4	-2.3%	174	98.9%
Education	964	926	-38	-3.9%	959	-33	-3.4%	945	98.0%
Engineering	1369	1377	8	0.6%	1237	140	11.3%	1407	97.9%
Graduate School	61	66	5	8.2%	27	39	144.4%	.	.
Humanities and Social Sciences	626	603	-23	-3.7%	642	-39	-6.1%	612	98.5%
Natural Resources	281	279	-2	-0.7%	310	-31	-10.0%	297	93.9%
Poole College of Management	889	878	-11	-1.2%	825	53	6.4%	901	97.4%
Provosts Office	57	42	-15	-26.3%	64	-22	-34.4%	45	93.3%
Sciences	572	512	-60	-10.5%	558	-46	-8.2%	544	94.1%
Textiles	80	82	2	2.5%	78	4	5.1%	83	98.8%
Veterinary Medicine	59	68	9	15.3%	57	11	19.3%	68	100.0%

Fall Graduate Enrollment Summary by Residency

US

	Prev Enrolled	Curr Enrolled	Enrl Diff	Enrl Diff Pct	3 Yr Avg	Avg to Curr Diff	Avg to Curr Diff Pct	Elig Enrl	Pct Elig Enrl
University Total	759	796	37	4.9%	817	-21	-2.6%	820	97.1%
Agriculture and Life Sciences	75	75	0	0.0%	93	-18	-19.4%	77	97.4%
Design	41	54	13	31.7%	35	19	54.3%	54	100.0%
Education	41	29	-12	-29.3%	42	-13	-31.0%	32	90.6%
Engineering	276	298	22	8.0%	302	-4	-1.3%	309	96.4%
Graduate School	6	10	4	66.7%	3	7	233.3%	.	.
Humanities and Social Sciences	68	65	-3	-4.4%	73	-8	-11.0%	67	97.0%
Natural Resources	47	40	-7	-14.9%	50	-10	-20.0%	40	100.0%
Poole College of Management	39	49	10	25.6%	39	10	25.6%	49	100.0%
Provosts Office	4	7	3	75.0%	13	-6	-46.2%	7	100.0%
Sciences	132	142	10	7.6%	138	4	2.9%	148	95.9%
Textiles	26	22	-4	-15.4%	23	-1	-4.3%	22	100.0%
Veterinary Medicine	4	5	1	25.0%	6	-1	-16.7%	5	100.0%

Plans/Issues to Address for 2026-27

ABM Recruitment

Pilot project initially focused on programs with the same undergraduate major and master's program with capacity/interest.

If that approach is successful, considering expanding it to other interested programs.

Faculty Regulation

REG 02.40.01

Major Elements to Re-examine:

- Adding a teaching "level"
- Rethinking the removal process
- Potential evaluation process tied to elements with the T&P process

Policy Changes

Potential updates:

- Developing a plagiarism detection policy for theses and dissertations
- Reconsideration of the Preliminary Oral Exam timing
- Rethinking master's degrees (more details from Pierre)
- Continuing to consider the role of AI and its impact on graduate education

Where we need your assistance

Late Requests

We are experiencing a dramatic uptick in late requests, especially for oral exams and graduation.

How can we better streamline this process or manage expectations to mitigate late submissions?

GradPath Semester Model

Students from various academic programs have suggested transitionally running GradPath on a semester basis.

What are your thoughts on this proposal, and what potential operational impacts should we consider?

Records Updates

Lian Lynch

Assistant Dean for Student Administration and Academic Affairs

Upcoming Projects

- Streamline the ABM process
- Automate the exam schedule process

Retro-Withdrawals

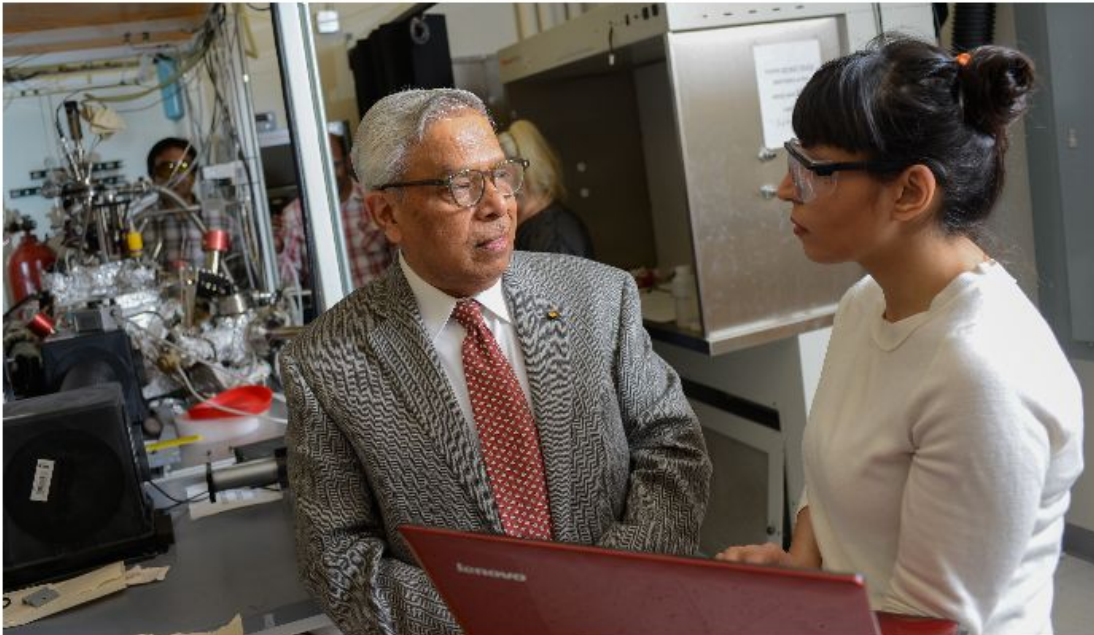
- Currently students start with the counseling center
- The current Withdrawal/LOA page will be updated to include retro-withdrawals

Reminders

- IN grades require explanation
- Financial aid & degree audits
- Conditional passes require detailed conditions on the exam form
- Substitution vs replacement
- Include student IDs in emails (not Slate app ID)
- Update contact information in the portal (add phone #)

DGP/GSC Resource Page

The Graduate School

[About](#)[Graduate Programs](#)[Admissions](#)[Students](#)[Funding](#)[Professional Development](#)[Faculty](#)[Staff](#)[GIVE NOW →](#)

Faculty and Staff

We provide a wealth of tools, resources, and support to help faculty and staff promote graduate programs at NC State.

[Forms](#)[Applications & Reports](#)[State](#)[DGP & GSC Resources](#)[Advising Resources](#)[Graduate Student
Funding Resources](#)[Curriculum Development](#)[Program Assessment](#)[Recruiting Resources](#)

The Graduate School

[About](#)[Graduate Programs](#) [Admissions](#)[Students](#)[Funding](#)[Professional Development](#)[Faculty & Staff](#)

DGP and GSC Resources

[Admissions and Recruiting](#)[Advising](#)[Degree Planning](#)[Student Records](#)[Reporting Tools](#)[Curriculum Management](#)[Campus Contacts](#)[Meetings and Updates](#)[Accessing Systems](#)[Training Opportunities](#)

Meetings and Updates

Upcoming and Past Meetings 2026

August 3: New DGP/GSC Workshop – [New DGP/GSC Workshop slides](#) (PDF)

September 9: Annual DGP/GSC Workshop – [REGISTER HERE](#)

2025

Questions?

Lian Lynch (loxenha@ncsu.edu)

Admissions Updates

Lindsay Gentile

Director of Graduate Admissions

Fraudulent Applications

- On the rise!
- Driven by automated bots and fraud rings
- Easily manufactured or stolen identities
- Attracted to distance education and programs with 'quick' admission
- Malicious intent:
 - Financial Aid theft
 - Unqualified admission
 - Criminal Intent (access to MyPack Portal and other university systems)

What to watch out for:

- Red flags with applicant details
- Short, non-formatted personal statements, essays, resumes
- Recommendation letters from @gmail.com or other non-academic or non-corporate emails
- Overall feeling that something isn't right

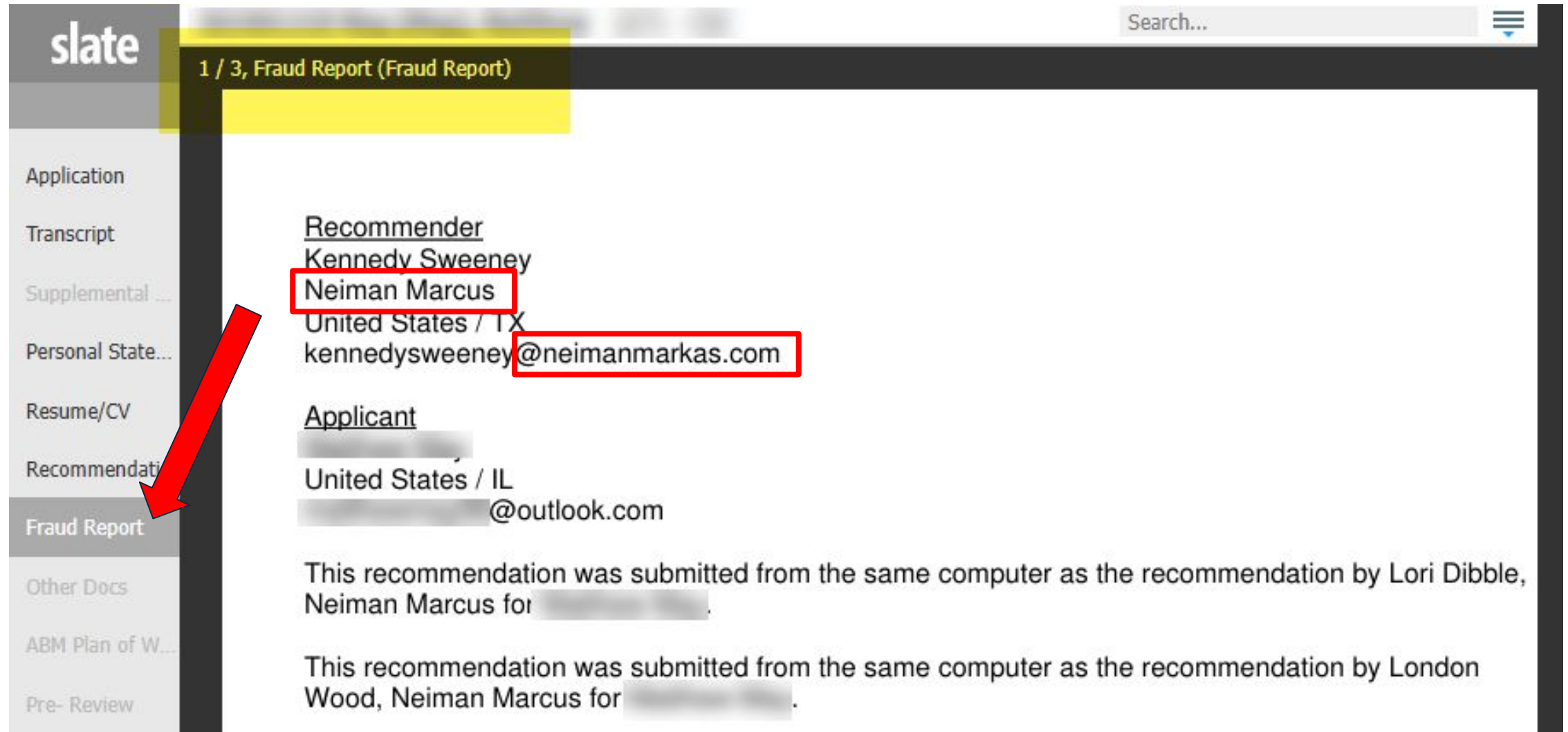
What are we doing:

- Flagging 'concerning applications'
- Tagging applications known to be fraudulent
- Tracking disputed credit card payments
- Reviewing login locations that move between states or countries within hours
- Coordination across the university (Fin. Aid, OIT, EMAS, Grad School)
- Added a fraud report in the Slate Reader

What you can do:

- Reach out to the Graduate School if something doesn't seem right
- Thoroughly review all application materials
- Call or interview applicants
- Check social media (LinkedIn), does it match?
- Follow up with recommenders, **especially when emails are not from a university or business account**
- *New* - Check the Slate Reader Fraud Report

Slate Reader Fraud Report



The screenshot displays the Slate Reader Fraud Report interface. The sidebar on the left contains the following links: Application, Transcript, Supplemental ..., Personal State..., Resume/CV, Recommendation, **Fraud Report** (highlighted with a red arrow), Other Docs, ABM Plan of W..., and Pre- Review. The main content area shows the following details:

1 / 3, Fraud Report (Fraud Report)

Recommender
Kennedy Sweeney
Neiman Marcus
United States / TX
kennedysweeney@neimanmarkas.com

Applicant
[Redacted]
United States / IL
[Redacted]@outlook.com

This recommendation was submitted from the same computer as the recommendation by Lori Dibble, Neiman Marcus for [Redacted].

This recommendation was submitted from the same computer as the recommendation by London Wood, Neiman Marcus for [Redacted].

slate

Search...

1 / 3, Fraud Report (Fraud Report)

Application

Transcript

Personal State...

Resume/CV

Portfolio

Recommendati...

Fraud Report

Other Docs

ABM Plan of W...

Pre- Review

Dept Review

DGP Review

Recommender
Joshua Bock
GENENTECH
United States / CA
bockjoshua326@gmail.com

Applicant
[REDACTED]
United States / CA
[REDACTED]@gmail.com

This recommendation was submitted from the same computer as the recommendation by Brennah Davis, **Amgen** for [REDACTED].

This recommendation was submitted from the same computer as the recommendation by Edgar Rosas, **Gilead sciences** for [REDACTED].

This recommendation was submitted from the same computer that has been used by the applicant 2 time(s), which represents 22% of the applicant's logins, with a last login from this computer on 06/22/2026.

Admission Reminders

- Minimum 3.0 GPA for all U.S. institutions (enter on DGP form)
- Include a justification when minimum requirements are not met
- International applicants cannot be provisionally admitted
- “Yes” to campus safety question requires a background check (~\$18)
- Residency: go.ncsu.edu/NCRes
- Official incomplete transcripts required for matriculation, official final (degree stated) transcripts required before the end of their first term

Recruitment & Communication

Caity Crank

International Admissions & Recruiting Manager

Greg Hedgepeth

Director of Marketing and Communications

Ensuring No Potential Lead is Missed



Interest Form

Complete our interest form to find out more about NC State.

[Request more information →](#)

Join Our Community



Want additional information about NC State? Complete our interest form at go.ncsu.edu/grad-interest-form.

Graduate School Interest Form

To select your program of interest, first choose your desired degree type below.

- ☐ Master's and Doctoral
- ☐ Graduate Certificate
- ☐ Both

First Name *

Last Name *

Email Address *

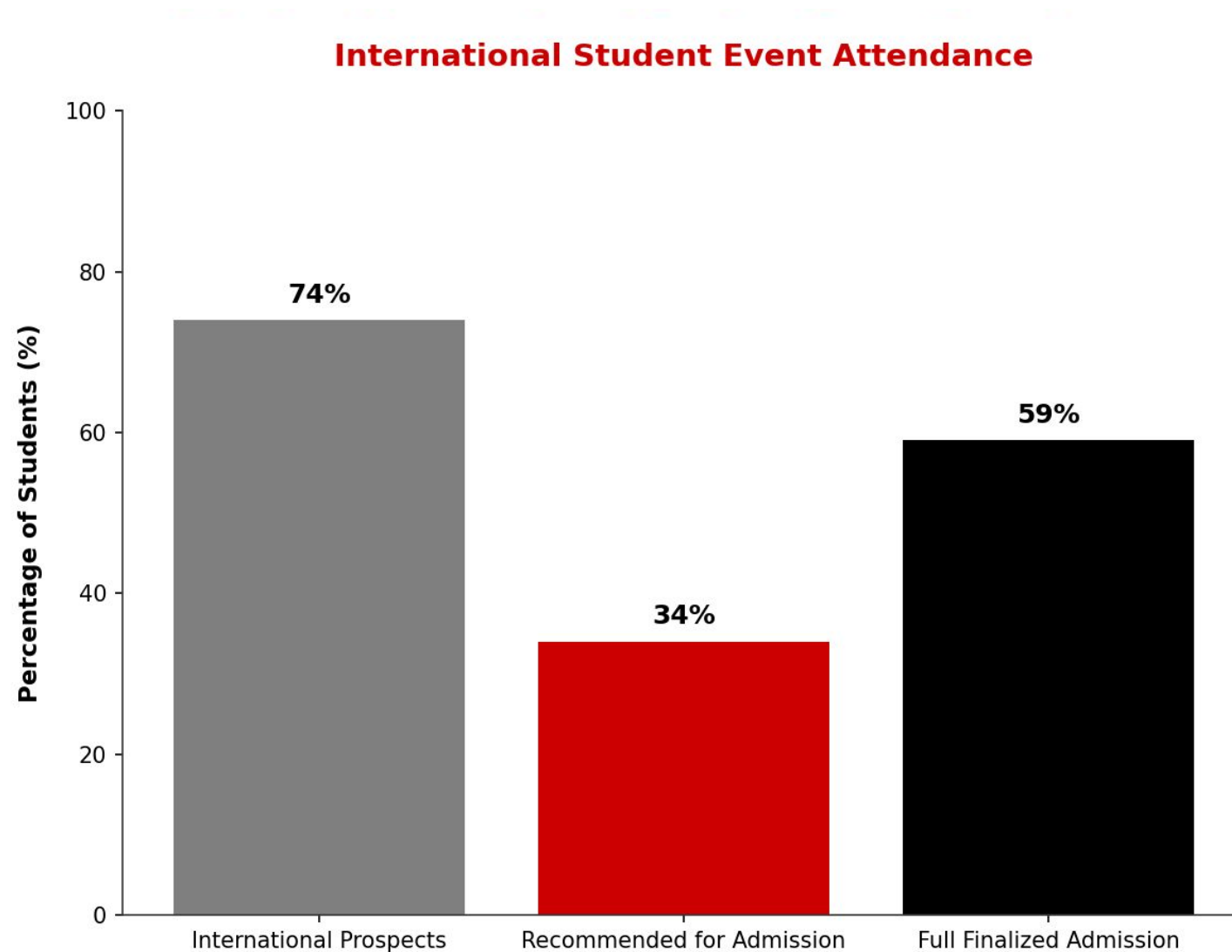
Are you an international student?

☐ Yes

Birthdate (optional)

Submit

Event Promotion and Tracking



Establishing Sense of Belonging

NC STATE
UNIVERSITY

Dear Videet Shailendra,

It's great to see your interest in graduate school here at [NC State](#)! I wanted to reach out personally and welcome you to our community.



Raleigh is a fantastic place to live and study. We've worked hard to make sure our international students have everything they need to succeed, including visa advising and funding through the Graduate Student Support Plan.

A few helpful links for you:

- [Program Search](#): Check requirements and deadlines for all 200+ programs.
- [International Hub](#): Details on life in the U.S. and admissions.
- [Virtual Tour](#): Take a look at campus from home.

If you have a specific question, I recommend checking our [Frequently Asked Questions page](#). It covers most of the common topics regarding deadlines, English proficiency, and

If you are ready to take the next step but aren't quite sure what is left to do, here is a simple path to the finish line:

1. **Review your program:** Every department is a little different, so check your specific [Program Page](#) for deadlines and test score requirements.
2. **Upload your transcripts:** We can use unofficial transcripts for the initial review process to save you time.
3. **Finalize your Statement of Purpose:** This is your chance to tell us about your goals and why you want to join the Wolfpack. We want to hear your story.
4. **Submit your recommendations:** You can actually submit your application even before your recommenders have uploaded their letters.
5. **Explore our international hub:** We have a dedicated page for [International Student Resources](#) that covers everything from English proficiency to visa basics.

Once you hit submit, our team is here to help you navigate the next steps, including the I-20 and visa process.

If you have run into any technical issues or if you have questions about the application that are holding you back, attend our [virtual events](#) or just hit reply. You can also [message me on Whatsapp](#) for a quicker conversation. You can start your application for Spring 2027 below, the Fall 2027 application will be available in June. We would love to see you in Raleigh this coming year!

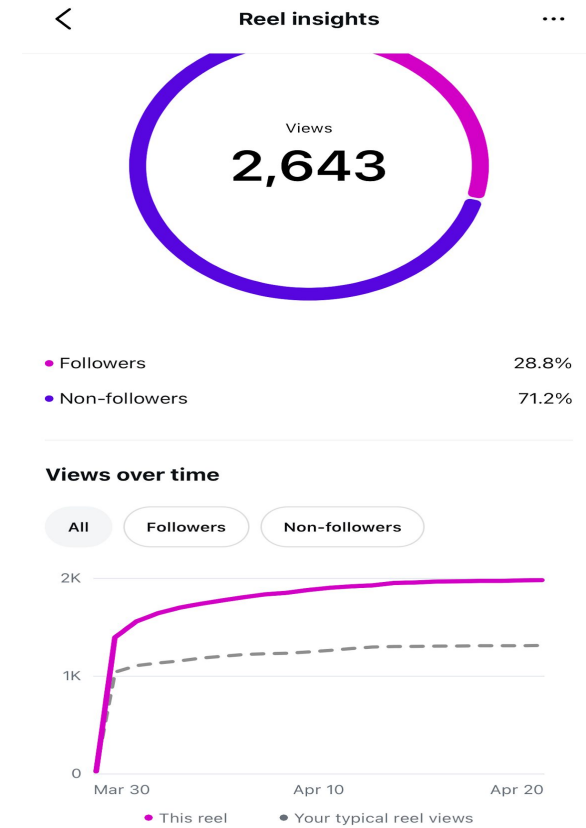
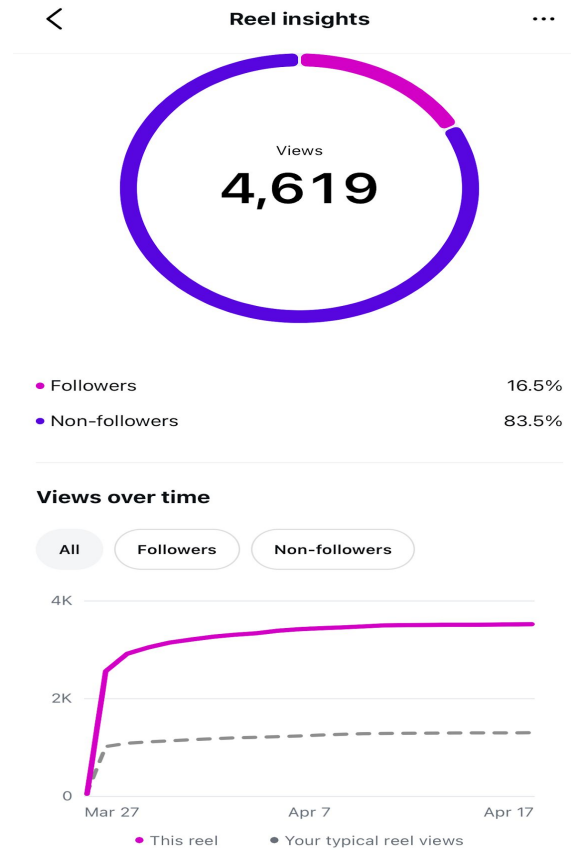
Apply Now →

Best,

Caity Gampp
International Admissions and Recruitment Manager (DSO/ARO)



Utilizing Social Media for Event Promotion



Applicants and Admitted Students

NC STATE
UNIVERSITY

Hi Dhruv,

First off, great job on getting your application and materials submitted! I know how much work goes into that process, and we're excited to have you in the running for the Wolfpack.

I wanted to reach out and give you a better idea of what happens next so you're not left wondering. At NC State, decision timelines vary by department, but most applicants hear back within 6–8 weeks after their program's deadline. You will receive an email to check your portal once a decision is posted!

As your application continues through the departmental review process, I'd love for you to join us for one of our [virtual events](#) to learn more about the community here. Also, I highly recommend spending some time on your [program's website](#). This is where you'll find everything from specific course syllabi and lab equipment to the latest research breakthroughs coming out of the faculty's labs. Taking the time to really explore the site now will give you a huge head start once you're on campus.

If you've explored the site and still have a specific question, you'll find the best departmental contact information listed there as well. Just remember that if you do reach out, mentioning a specific project or paper you found during your research is the best way to start a conversation.

Best,

Caity Gampp
International Admissions and Recruitment Manager (DSO/ARO)



NC STATE
UNIVERSITY

At NC State, your graduate experience goes far beyond the classroom. Here, you'll gain the skills, mentorship, and professional confidence to turn your goals into meaningful impact, all within a community that's invested in your success.

Meet Rhoda, a graduate student in English at NC State's College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Originally from Ibadan, Nigeria, a city known for its vibrant markets and rich Yoruba culture, Rhoda came to NC State to explore her passion for integrating technology into education.

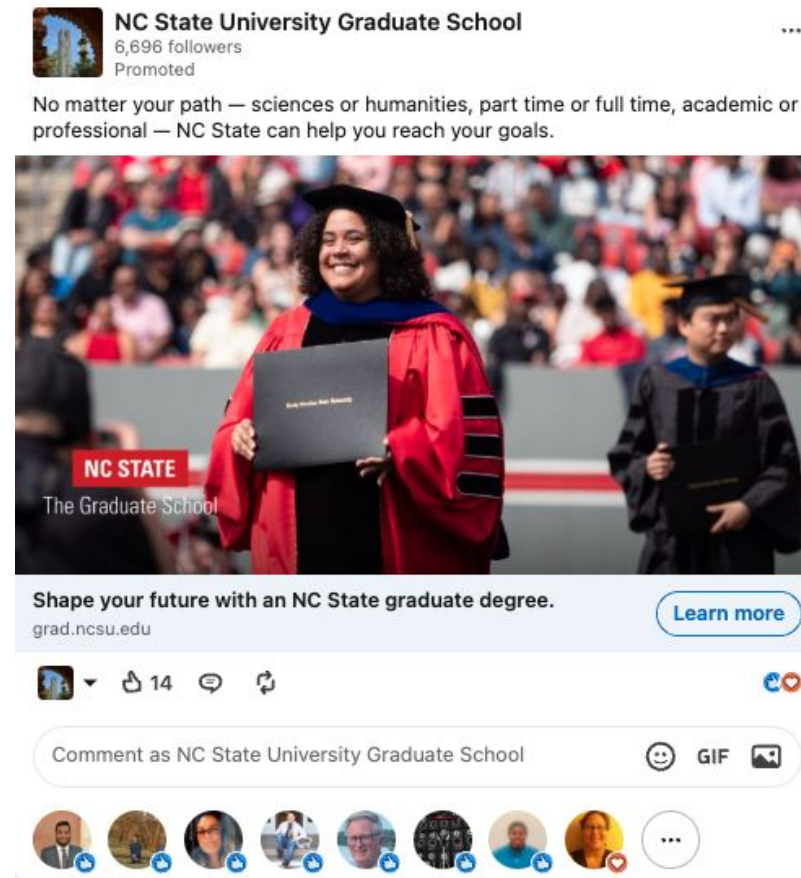


Her journey has been shaped by the incredible support of faculty mentors, the Office of International Services, and the friendships she's built with students from around the world. Through teaching, collaborating, and sharing Nigeria's culture in local schools, Rhoda has grown as both a scholar and a global communicator. Now preparing for a career in technical communication, Rhoda credits NC State with helping her strengthen her voice, expand her network, and develop the professional skills needed to lead and inspire.

Your time at NC State will open doors to the same kinds of opportunities, through research, teaching, internships, and leadership experiences designed to prepare you for what's next.

Beyond the Click:

Connecting Social Media Campaigns to Slate Recruitment Funnels



Beyond the Click:

Creating Messaging That Resonates With Your Audience

NC STATE
UNIVERSITY

We're Excited You're Interested
Your graduate journey at NC State can start today.



Take the Next Step

Hi Greg,

We're excited you're interested in graduate education at NC State.

You've already taken an important first step by exploring what's possible. Now, we invite you to take the next one: start your application.

At NC State, graduate students join a community built to think boldly, work collaboratively and solve real-world problems. Here, you'll learn from leading faculty, connect with driven peers and build the skills to move your goals forward.

Whether you're advancing in your current field, preparing for a new career path or pursuing research that creates impact, NC State is ready to help you get there.

Ready to begin?
Start your graduate application today.

[Start Your Application](#)

Find Your Program →

NC STATE
The Graduate School

[f](#) [X](#) [@](#) [in](#)

1020 Main Campus Drive | Room 2300A | Raleigh, NC 27695-7102

This email was sent to hedgepethg@gmail.com by NC State Graduate School.
Unsubscribe from NC State University Graduate School.

NC STATE
UNIVERSITY

The Return on Investment in an NC State Graduate Education
Graduate education is an investment in what comes next.



Find What Program Fits You

Hi Greg,

Graduate school is a meaningful investment of time, energy and resources. At NC State, that investment is designed to help you move forward with purpose.

Here, graduate education connects advanced knowledge with real-world application. You'll gain more than a credential. You'll build specialized expertise, strengthen your professional network and prepare to lead in a changing world.

NC State graduate students are part of one of the nation's leading research universities, where teaching, discovery and public engagement work together. That means your education is connected to the challenges employers, communities and industries are working to solve right now.

When you invest in graduate education at NC State, you invest in:

- Your career growth
- Your ability to lead and innovate
- Your network of faculty, peers and professional connections
- Your capacity to create impact through knowledge and action

Your goals deserve momentum. NC State can help you build it.

[Learn more about NC State](#)

Apply Now →

NC STATE
The Graduate School

[f](#) [X](#) [@](#) [in](#)

1020 Main Campus Drive | Room 2300A | Raleigh, NC 27695-7102

This email was sent to hedgepethg@gmail.com by NC State Graduate School.
Unsubscribe from NC State University Graduate School.

NC STATE
UNIVERSITY

THINK and DO Starts With You
Your next step is waiting, and we're ready to help.



We're Here When You're Ready

Hi Greg,

At NC State, THINK and DO is more than a phrase. It's how the Wolfpack turns ideas into action.

Graduate students are essential to that work. They ask new questions, build new solutions and bring fresh energy to research, classrooms, industries and communities. They come to NC State ready to grow, and ready to make a difference.

Now it's your turn.

Whether you're ready to apply today or still narrowing your options, we're here to help you take the next step with confidence. You can explore programs, review admissions requirements and begin your application online. First-time applicants can create an account to start a new application through NC State's Graduate School application system.

Your future is waiting. Let's move toward it together.

[Contact the Graduate School](#)

Start Your Application →

NC STATE
The Graduate School

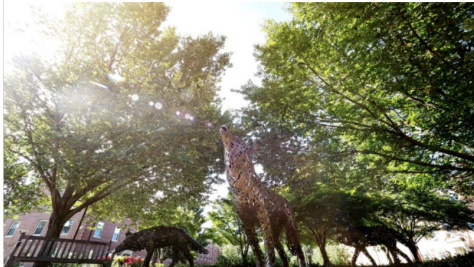
[f](#) [X](#) [@](#) [in](#)

1020 Main Campus Drive | Room 2300A | Raleigh, NC 27695-7102

This email was sent to hedgepethg@gmail.com by NC State Graduate School.

NC STATE
UNIVERSITY

Your Goals Are Still Within Reach
An NC State graduate education can help you move forward.



We're Here When You're Ready

Hi Greg,

A month ago, you took a step toward exploring what graduate education at NC State could make possible.

That interest matters. Whether your goal is to advance in your current field, change direction, grow your expertise, or prepare for leadership, an NC State graduate education can help you reach your goals.

Your next step does not have to be complicated. You can explore programs, review admissions requirements, or begin your application when you are ready.

The goals you set for yourself are worth pursuing. NC State is here to help you reach them.

[Explore Graduate Programs](#)

Continue Your Journey →

NC STATE
The Graduate School

[f](#) [X](#) [@](#) [in](#)

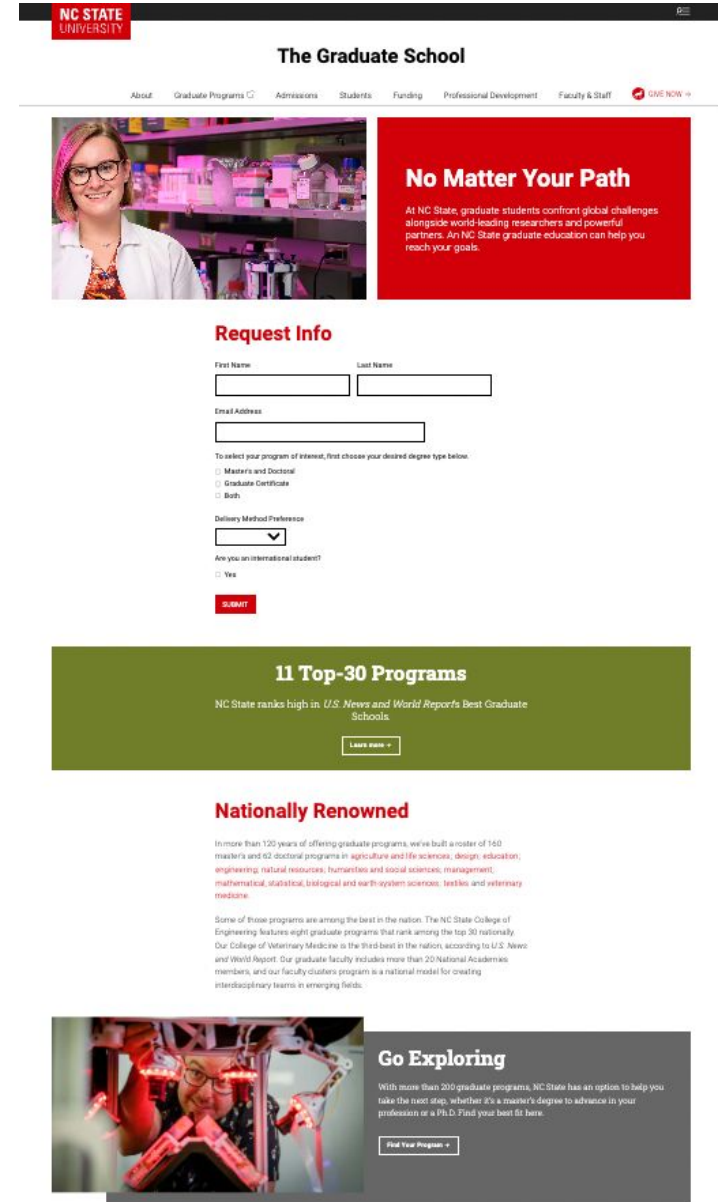
1020 Main Campus Drive | Room 2300A | Raleigh, NC 27695-7102

This email was sent to hedgepethg@gmail.com by NC State Graduate School.
Unsubscribe from NC State University Graduate School.

Beyond the Click:

Creating Opportunities to Further Connect

- **Host virtual events:** Offer live program previews, faculty Q&As and student panels that give prospective students a clear sense of academic opportunities and the graduate student experience. *Virtual Graduate Open-House
- **Create authentic social media content:** Share student takeovers, research highlights, campus resources and short-form videos that show how graduate students learn, collaborate and make an impact. *Include Call-to-Action when appropriate
- **Build personal connections and tailored pathways:** Invite prospects to speak with current students, alumni, faculty or graduate program staff through one-on-one conversations, office hours and peer ambassador programs. ***Connect with existing undergraduates and promote ABM opportunities**
- **Engage prospects through targeted experiences:** Use webinars, campus visits, graduate fairs and discipline-specific workshops to provide relevant information and clear next steps throughout the decision process. *Plug in to what's happening



The screenshot displays the NC State University Graduate School website. At the top, the NC State University logo and 'The Graduate School' title are visible. A navigation bar includes links for About, Graduate Programs, Admissions, Students, Funding, Professional Development, and Faculty & Staff, along with a 'GIVE NOW' button. The main content area features a large red banner with the text 'No Matter Your Path' and a sub-headline 'At NC State, graduate students confront global challenges alongside world-leading researchers and powerful partners. An NC State graduate education can help you reach your goals.' Below this is a 'Request Info' form with fields for First Name, Last Name, and Email Address. It also includes a dropdown for 'To select your program of interest, first choose your desired degree type below' with options for Master's and Doctoral, Graduate Certificate, and Both. There is a 'Delivery Method Preference' dropdown and a checkbox for 'Are you an international student?'. A red 'SUBMIT' button is at the bottom of the form. Below the form is a green banner titled '11 Top-30 Programs' with the text 'NC State ranks high in U.S. News and World Reports Best Graduate Schools' and a 'Learn more' button. Further down is a section titled 'Nationally Renowned' with text about the university's history and programs. At the bottom, there is a 'Go Exploring' section with a video thumbnail and text about the university's programs and a 'Find Your Program' button.

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

The Graduate School

About Graduate Programs Admissions Students Funding Professional Development Faculty & Staff GIVE NOW

No Matter Your Path

At NC State, graduate students confront global challenges alongside world-leading researchers and powerful partners. An NC State graduate education can help you reach your goals.

Request Info

First Name Last Name

Email Address

To select your program of interest, first choose your desired degree type below:

☐ Master's and Doctoral

☐ Graduate Certificate

☐ Both

Delivery Method Preference

Are you an international student?

☐ Yes

SUBMIT

11 Top-30 Programs

NC State ranks high in U.S. News and World Reports Best Graduate Schools

Learn more

Nationally Renowned

In more than 120 years of offering graduate programs, we've built a roster of 160 master's and 62 doctoral programs in agriculture and life sciences, design, education, engineering, natural resources, humanities and social sciences, management, mathematical, statistical, biological and earth-system sciences, textiles and veterinary medicine.

Some of those programs are among the best in the nation. The NC State College of Engineering features eight graduate programs that rank among the top 50 nationally. Our College of Veterinary Medicine is the third best in the nation, according to U.S. News and World Report. Our graduate faculty includes more than 20 National Academies members, and our faculty-chairs program is a national model for creating interdisciplinary teams in emerging fields.

Go Exploring

With more than 200 graduate programs, NC State has an option to help you take the next step, whether it's a master's degree to advance in your profession or a Ph.D. Find your best fit here.

Find Your Program

Break

Program Development & Assessment

Pierre Gremaud
Associate Dean

Menu

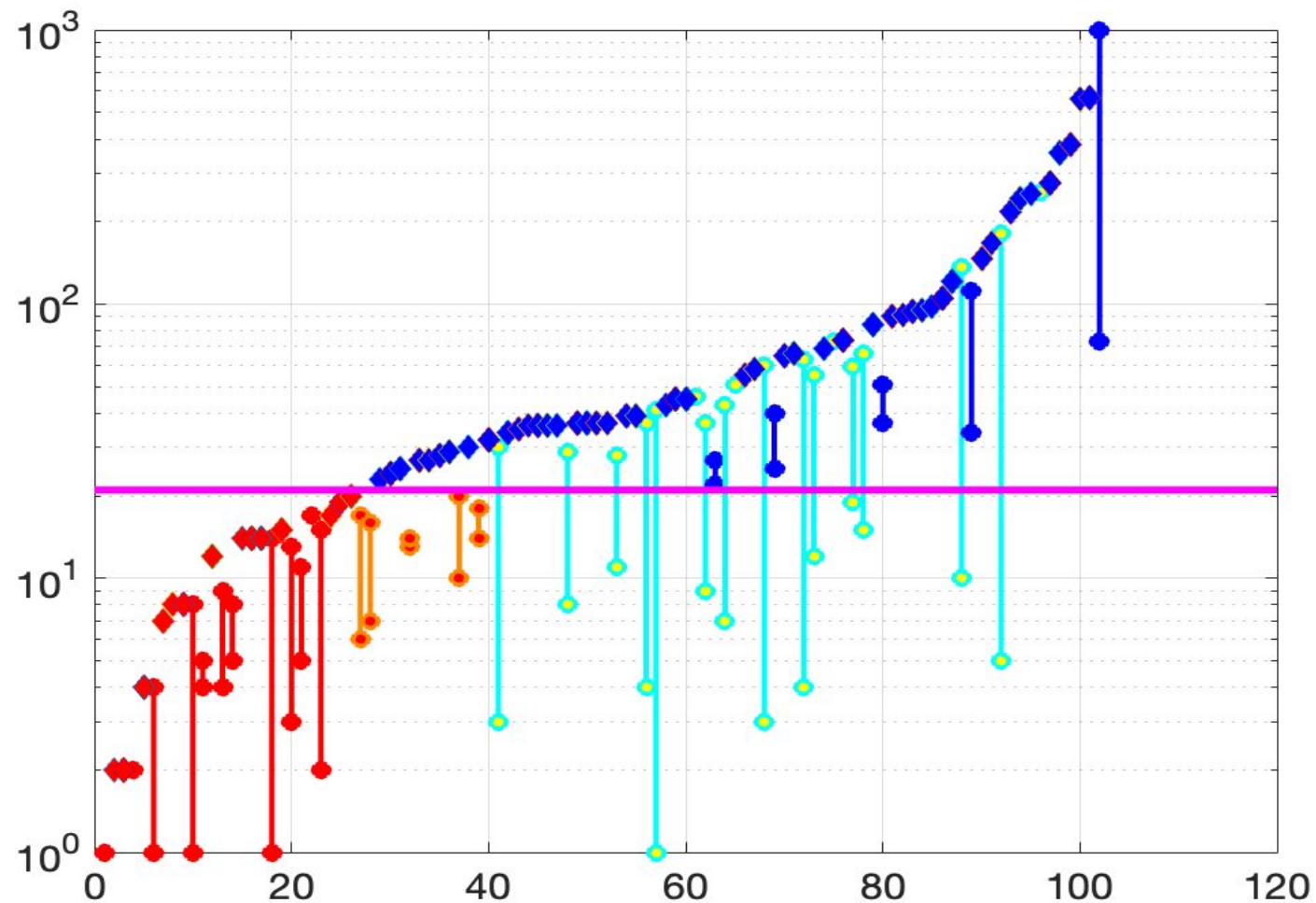
- Master's degrees
- AI & Assessment
- Yearly outcomes assessment

Master's degrees: theory vs. practice

CT = committee and thesis required, CO = committee required and thesis optional, Cap = capstone project required, OO = committee and thesis optional, nothing = no committee and no thesis

	CT	CO	Cap	OO	nothing	total
MS	58	1	1	13	2	75
MR	0	14	3	0	48	65
MA	1	1	4	0	1	7
MED	0	1	0	0	15	16
MFA	1	0	0	0	0	1
total	60	17	8	13	66	164

Our portfolio of master's degrees



Conclusion from the above

Proposed Action

Consider master's degree “pairs”

Evaluating current program structures to identify opportunities where separate degree plans can be strategically consolidated

Strategic Benefits

Combining a “pair” into a single degree:

- Be coded as two subplans rather than a plan
- Simplify management and reporting
- Convey excellence in managing our credentials
- Address increased pressure in justifying existence of every single degree

AI & Teaching

What is it we want our students to learn and be able to do?

University Level

Prepare students to help determine how and where AI is used for the betterment of society.

Program Level

Establish/update discipline-based competencies. What does it mean to be a mathematician or ... in the AI era?

Course Level

Develop specific, course-based Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) that integrate relevant tools.

[MIT Report on AI Use](#) in Teaching, Learning and Research Training

 **This requires significant time and effort**

AI & Assessment

Learning Measurement

It has never been harder to measure learning effectively. More experiential or project-based learning? One size does not fit all...

Curriculum Velocity

Moving Targets

Program-level competencies change rapidly; courses and lectures require constant updating to remain relevant.

Time Constraints

The demands are significant. Instructors need:

- guidance
- support
- community

yearly outcomes assessment

- **Due September 25**
- Threshold: number of graduates over last 3 years
 - CGERTS: 15
 - Master's degrees: 21
 - Doctoral degrees: 6
- the GCERT mess...

ETD Timeline Tool

Malaka Friedman

Director of Communication Skills Training

A high-angle photograph of three graduates in black academic regalia with red stoles. They are crouching on a light-colored, speckled floor. The graduate on the left is smiling and holding a smartphone, showing something on the screen to the other two. The graduate in the middle is looking down at the phone, and the graduate on the right is also looking at it. The text 'Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD) Timeline Tool' is overlaid in red on the right side of the image.

Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD) Timeline Tool

Context of ETD Timeline Tool

- Doctoral Dissertation Completion Grant Program
- Engineering Research Cohort
- ETD Workshops

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

LIBRARIES Spaces Services Collections About

One Stop MyU Give

My Library Account

Libraries search Search

U Card required to access all libraries
A U Card is required to access all libraries. Some campus libraries are now open to members of the public by appointment. Learn more about [public access](#).

Home Services Assignment Calculator Dissertation Calculator

Dissertation Calculator

Assignment start and due dates

Enter the date you plan to start work and the due date of your assignment.

Start date			Due date		
Required. Example: 12 31 2020			Required. Example: 12 31 2020		
Month	Day	Year	Month	Day	Year
9	2	2026			2026

Calculate!

Assignment steps

Identify and refine your research question

24/7 chat

Developing an ETD Timeline

A photograph of a group of graduates at a commencement ceremony. They are wearing black mortarboard caps with gold tassels and blue stoles over black gowns. In the foreground, a man with glasses and a mustache is giving a thumbs up with a wide, joyful expression. Other graduates are visible in the background, some looking towards the camera and others looking away. The background is slightly blurred, showing more graduates and a banner with the word 'VALLEY' in yellow letters.

Understanding the ETD Deadlines can help students make a plan for writing to build momentum during this process.

Main Steps to Building an Effective Timeline

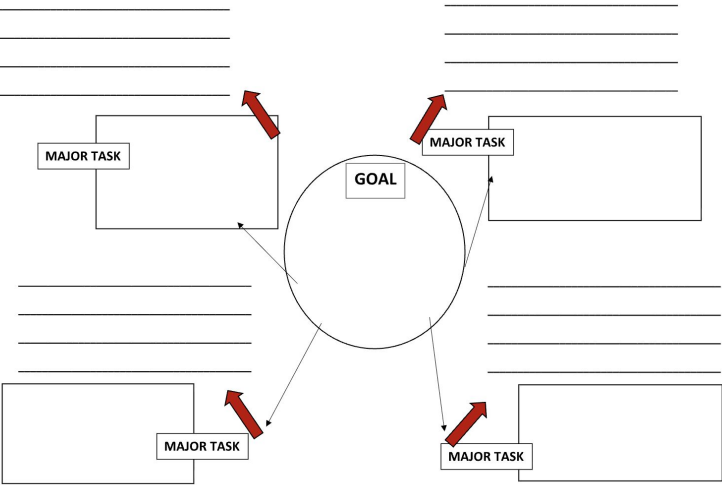
1. Take a self-inventory of all required components
2. Address student assumptions of this process
3. Plan backwards to accommodate goals in the structure that fits student needs



Taking Inventory of Required Components

Think through all of the components (written and unwritten) of a thesis/dissertation as pieces making up a whole through the use of concept or mind mapping.

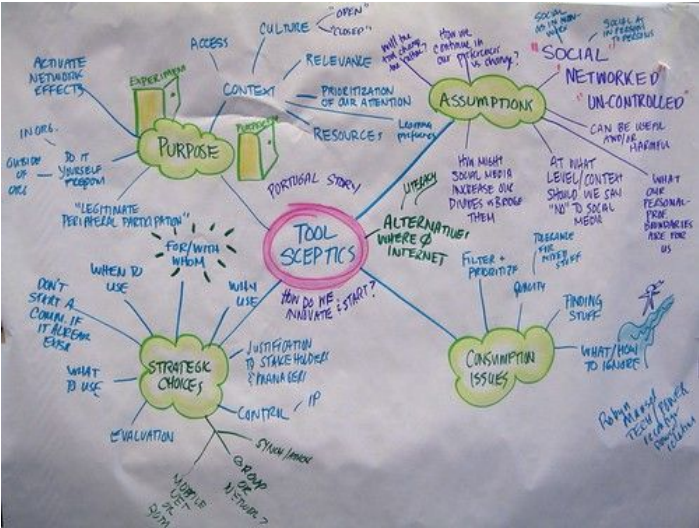
MIND MAPPING EXERCISE: IDENTIFYING ACTION-ORIENTED GOALS
(p. 91 in "The Success Principles" by Jack Canfield and Janet Switzer)



Source: Rhonda Sutton, PhD

#	Working title	Time Period	Research Questions	Provisional Argument	Fit into dissertation project	Primary sources already collected	Primary sources still needed	Historiographies engaged and my intervention
Chapter 1								
Chapter 2								
Chapter 3								
Chapter 4								
Chapter 5								
Chapter 6								

Source: Rachel Newman, PhD



Source: Raul Pacheco-Vega, PhD

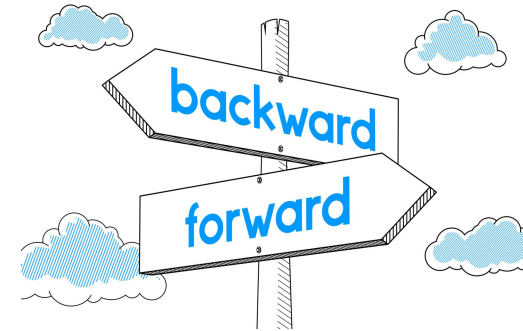
Help Addresses Student Assumptions

- When do they want to defend?
- How much time do they think each chapter and ETD formatting will take to write/edit?
- Is there any flexibility with an anticipated defense date?
- How much of their writing progress is dependent on additional factors?



Plan Backwards to Move Forward

- **Planning backwards** allows students to set hard/set deadlines and flexible deadlines.
- Builds accountability that students can set up for themselves and that also incorporates feedback expectations from their committee/department.
- Breaks down a large project (thesis/dissertation) and scales it down to be manageable.



grad.ncsu.edu/professional-development/etd-timeline-tool/

Please note this template contains known ETD Deadlines (Present-Summer 2028)

ETD Timeline Tool

Website page is linked on several Graduate School website pages:

- [Oral Examination Information](#)
- [ETD Landing Page](#)
- [Schedule an Exam Page](#)
- [Other Degree Planning Tools](#)

Questions regarding the ETD Timeline Tool can be directed to:
grad-communication-skills@ncsu.edu.

Professional Development Updates

Rhonda Sutton

Assistant Dean for Professional Development



**NC STATE
UNIVERSITY**

The Graduate School

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMS**

THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TEAM



Kelly Rownd
Director of Career Readiness



Malaka Friedman, Ph.D.
Director of Communication Skills



Phil Tietjen, Ph.D.
Director of Teaching Programs



Rhonda Sutton, Ph.D.
Assistant Dean for Professional Development

OVERVIEW AND UPDATES



LEVELING UP YOUR CAREER

The **skills** you build today.
The **impact** you make tomorrow.



NC State Graduate School's Professional Development programs help graduate students and postdocs grow with purpose and lead with confidence.



BUILD
SKILLS



EXPAND YOUR
NETWORK



ACHIEVE
YOUR GOALS



MAKE AN
IMPACT

LEVEL UP
YOUR IMPACT

CONFIDENT LEADER.
STRONG COMMUNICATOR.
CAREER READY.
WORLD READY.



LEADERSHIP

Lead teams. Drive change.



COMMUNICATION

Share your ideas. Inspire others.



CAREER READINESS

Explore paths. Build your future.



TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Teach with impact. Empower learners.



WELLNESS & RESILIENCE

Stay well. Thrive daily.

DISCOVER, DEVELOP.
MAKE YOUR MARK.

go.ncsu.edu/professional-development



Microlearning Modules

- Lessons in under 10 minutes
- Moodle site
- Different programmatic areas
- Complete the quizzes
- Earn digital badges in career readiness, communication skills, leadership and teaching
- go.ncsu.edu/microlearning-graduate-school
- Can add Credly badge to LinkedIn profile
- grad.ncsu.edu/professional-development/microlearning/



Accelerate to Industry⁺
FOUNDED BY THE NC STATE UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL

Accelerate to Industry is now Expanded to include graduate students in non-STEM fields

Accelerate to Industry+ Certificate

The A2i+ Certificate recognizes graduate students and postdocs who have taken intentional steps to explore non-academic career pathways and translate their academic experiences into workforce-relevant skills.



Learn more:

grad.ncsu.edu/professional-development/careers-outside-of-academia/a2i/accelerate-to-industry-a2i-certificate

Translating Research for Impact: The Power of Storytelling

NEW!

Your research matters to you – but how do you make it matter to others? This certificate, grounded in the KEEN Framework and the College of Engineering's *Wolfpack Way* program, equips you with the skills to translate your complex research into compelling stories that resonate with a variety of audiences.

This certificate is open to all graduate students and postdocs – regardless of discipline.

Learn more: go.ncsu.edu/translating-research-certificate



A ROADMAP FOR DOCTORAL STUDENTS

This is meant to serve as a general resource for doctoral students.

Visit and Bookmark:
go.ncsu.edu.
professional-development and then click on the “Getting Started” tab



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ROADMAP

NC STATE
The Graduate School

This roadmap is designed to help you navigate your doctoral journey, build career-ready skills, and prepare for a variety of career paths. Use it as a guide – not every recommendation will apply to you, and your department may have additional suggestions tailored to your field and goals.

	DISCOVER FIRST YEAR	DEVELOP MIDDLE YEARS	DEMONSTRATE FINAL YEAR
RESEARCH	- Familiarize yourself with best practices for data management - Attend a mentoring workshop - Complete lab/safety/compliance trainings - Attend departmental seminars and research talks - Get to know the NC State University Libraries	- Review the university's Authorship Guiding Principles - Practice explaining your research to those both within and outside your discipline - Organize your research documents in preparation for your written and oral comprehensive/qualifying exams	- Lead collaborative projects - Develop research statement and communicate to diverse audiences - Publish papers and/or submit pending papers to the field - Prepare a research portfolio for scholarly sharing
TEACHING	- Attend The New TA Workshop - Explore resources through the Graduate School, libraries, etc. - Develop appropriate balance between teaching and research - Review the criteria for the Teaching certificate	- Incorporate active learning strategies - Observe teaching by other TAs and/or professors - Make progress on Teaching Certificate (basic and/or advanced) through the Graduate School - Begin creating your teaching philosophy	- Finalize teaching philosophy - Build teaching portfolio for the academic job market (if applicable) - Apply to participate in Preparing the Professoriate (PTP) - Finish progress on skill-based learning (i.e. Teaching Certificate)
COMMUNICATION SKILLS	- Join professional associations and start building relationships with peers in your field - Create/update your LinkedIn profile with your graduate student status - Attend networking events within your department and local area	- Build your career network and set up informational interviews among your digital networks - Write and present your work for public audiences through conferences and resources - Make progress on skill-based learning through the Graduate School's Communication Skills Certificate	- Prepare for job talks and interviews by tailoring communication presentations and materials based on career goals - Practice for your oral defense presentation with peers and mentors - Maintain professional network and reach out to individuals who can serve as references
LEADERSHIP	- Lead yourself and treat your doctoral role as a professional one; manage your success by engaging in Academic Integrity - Identify your communication and work styles - Identify areas of strengths and areas for development by taking The Graduate School's Competencies Assessment	- Initiate conversations about career interests with advisor and start building a career strategy - Attend a networking event - Build a mentorship network with individuals both on and off campus - Engage in skills-based learning opportunities to develop leadership skills	- Lead a project, mentor a group of students, and/or collaborate with others - Prepare tailored job application materials - Develop a career strategy and reach out to career services for support - Document the impacts you are having and the leadership skills you are acquiring

FOR MORE DETAILS, PLEASE VISIT [GRAD.NCSU.EDU/PROFESSIONAL-DEVELOPMENT](https://grad.ncsu.edu/professional-development)

A ROADMAP FOR DOCTORAL STUDENTS

What if departments want to create their own roadmap for their doctoral students?

Contact Kelly Rownd, Director of Career Readiness, at kmrownd@ncsu.edu and she will send you a copy that can be filled in.

INSERT DEPARTMENT NAME

NC STATE
The Graduate School

This roadmap is designed to help you navigate your doctoral journey, build professional competencies, and prepare for future career opportunities. It complements The Graduate School's professional development roadmap and can be adapted by departments to reflect the expectations, milestones, resources, and opportunities most relevant to their discipline.

	 DISCOVER FIRST YEAR	 DEVELOP MIDDLE YEARS	 DEMONSTRATE FINAL YEAR
 ACADEMICS			
 INSERT HEADER			
 INSERT HEADER			
 INSERT HEADER			

FOR MORE DETAILS, PLEASE VISIT (INSERT WEBSITE PAGE)

The First 100 Challenge

- Take the Competencies Assessment (five competencies employers want in their new hires)
- Enroll in a certificate
 - A2i+
 - Communication Skills
 - Leadership
 - Teaching
 - Translating Research for Impact: Storytelling
- Register for and ATTEND at least three (3) of our workshops
- Complete a microlearning module
- Be one of the first 100 to complete all of the above before Dec. 1st and earn prizes



Specifically for DGPs and GSCs

***THANK YOU for sharing information with your
graduate students about our professional development programs***

You are our partners who help:

- Enhance the graduate education experience through co-curricular offerings
- Graduate students develop personally and professionally
- Students experience success now and in the future
- Better prepare students for post-graduate careers
- Strengthen teaching skills
- Build awareness and exposure to industry careers
- Increase the engagement of our graduate students
- Share information with students and encourage them to participate in our programs



**Have a great
semester!**



GSSP/Funding

Dare Cook

Graduate Student Support Plan Manager

Richard Corley

Graduate Appointments & Fellowships

Lunch Discussion



NC STATE
The Graduate School

2026
DGP/GSC Workshop
Welcome

OIS Updates

Elizabeth James

Director, Office of Global Engagement

Hillary Patton

Associate Director- Advising

New DHS Rule for F and J visa holders

- DHS Rule Eliminating D/S
 - Published July 17, 2026
 - **Effective September 15, 2026**
 - Changing how extensions of status are managed and establishing an initial four year (or length of program/OPT if shorter) period of authorized stay or “Admit Until Date” (AUD)
 - Compelling academic reason needed (outlined on next slide)
 - Establishing restrictions on changing “educational objectives” for F-1 students (similar to J-1 restrictions on changing program objectives, which have not changed)

Compelling Academic Reason for Extension

- The rule eliminates reference to “normal progress” and replaces it with “compelling academic reason” such as change of major (presumably only undergrads), or research topic, or unexpected research problems.
- Acceptable delays may include documented illness or medical condition or other circumstances beyond students control (e.g., natural disaster, national health crisis, or closure of institution).
- Unacceptable delays include those caused by academic probation, suspension, or repeated inability or unwillingness to complete the program.

OIS will continue to provide updates

- We completed a session for DGPs and GSCs on August 10, 2026.
- We had a separate session for students applying for OPT and STEM OPT in the next year on August 14, 2026
- We will conduct additional information sessions on the I-539 process as soon as instructions from USCIS are available; and
- Information sessions on international travel as we get closer to Fall Break and Winter Break

Curricular Practical Training (CPT) Updates

- On August 24, 2026, the Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) issued guidance for university immigration officials that further specifies how Curricular Practical Training (CPT) operates for F-1 students.
- This guidance states that SEVIS approved institutions may only issue CPT for employment if it meets degree requirements that are in place for *all* students in a given program of study (“core” courses or “core” degree requirements).
- Employment based on elective internships, elective co-op experiences or elective research will not qualify for CPT.

Curricular Practical Training

- OIS has been working with general counsel's office to work on a cooperative agreement for employers (also required by guidance for all CPT)
- We understand that programs have questions about creating subplans etc.- that should be routed through the Graduate School, OIS will consult with them.
- Some programs will need to clarify their requirements going forward, and ensure that the requirement is for the minimum amount of time necessary to complete the requirement.

Employment Reminders

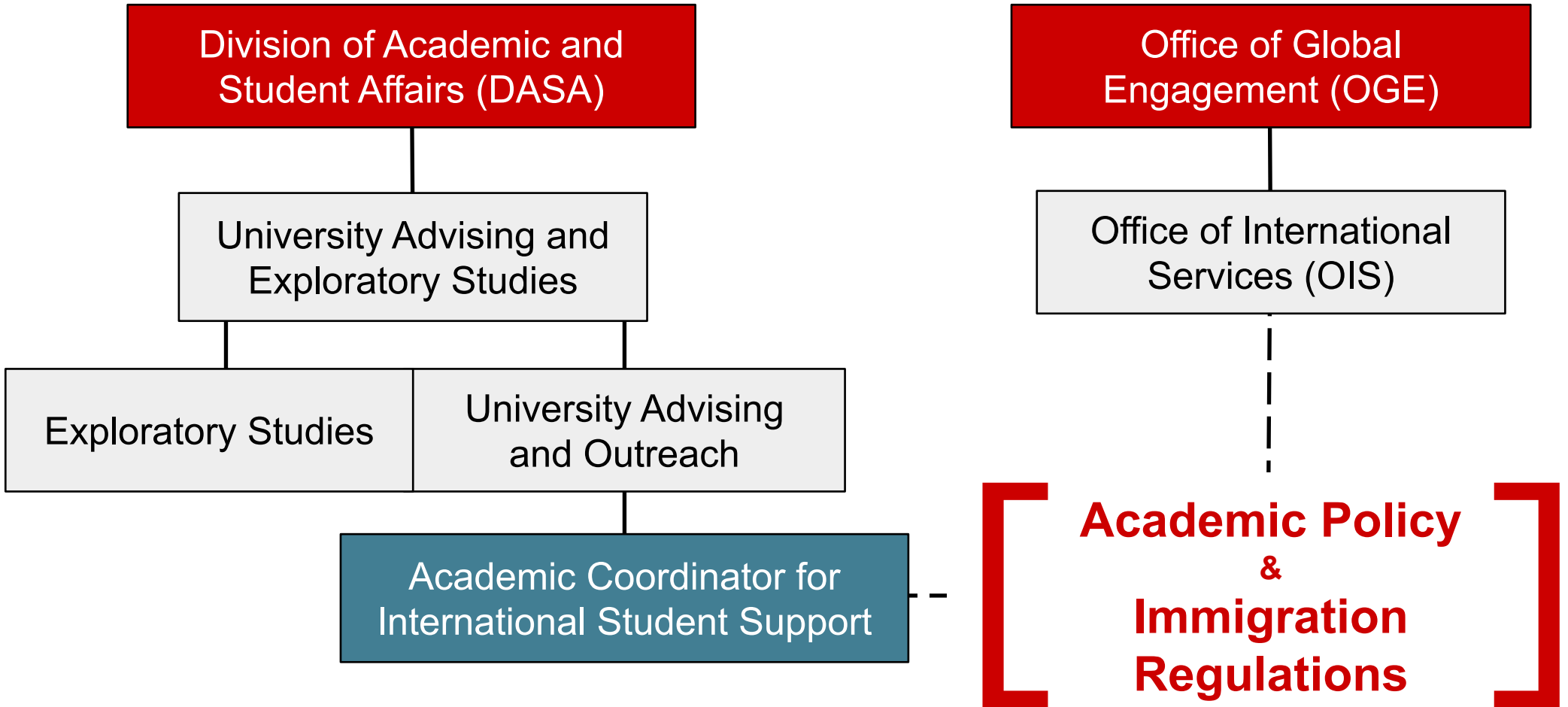
- **Hours Limit:** Max of 20 hrs/wk when classes are in session (Fall & Spring).
 - This is a regulatory limit. **No one** can make an exception or “approve” >20.
 - For students who were enrolled in Spring ‘26 & are required to enroll in Fall ‘26, Fall 2026 20 hour/week limitation began **8/17**. Last day of on-campus employment eligibility for Fall graduates (and Spring no-registration students) will be **12/12/2026**.
- **REMINDER: Unpaid Appointments for student on OPT**
 - Have to go through HR as unpaid appointments

International Student Support

Tony Shurer

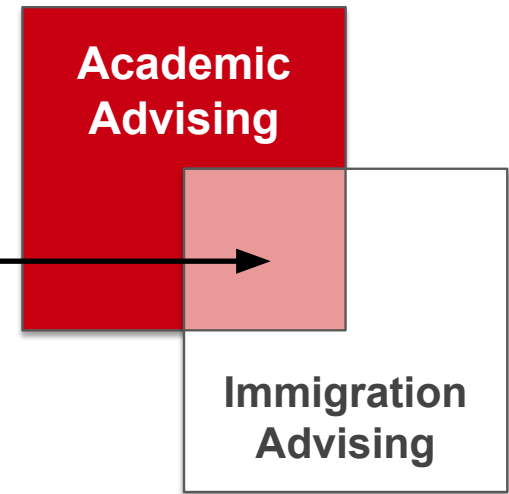
Academic Coordinator for International Student Support

International Student Support



Academic Coordinator for International Student Support

- Viewing “academics” as a culture
- Exploring individual definitions of success
- Normalizing help-seeking behavior
- Validating the uniqueness of the international student experience



International Student Success

Academic Coordinator for International Student Support

- Proactive intervention and advising support
- Expanded outreach and student support
 - *What is hidden by the GPA?*

Current Outreach

- Warning & Probation
- Major GPA
- GPA drop
- Reinstatement

Expanded Outreach

- Course repeats (w/ CODA)
- Term withdrawals
- Credits attempted vs. earned
- D, F, W, U counts

Why Advising Matters

Uncovering academic distress before it impacts a student's immigration status.

- **Barriers:** role confusion, high power distance, isolation, fear of academic consequences, fear of immigration/legal consequence
- **Advising Support:** Asking open-ended questions, guided reflection. Create safe spaces and reframe your role as a trusted resource. Ask about a student's personal story; demonstrate that they matter.

Academic Advising: Meaning-Making

Help students reflect on their experience abroad.

- What surprised you about US Culture? About NC State?
- What do you like the most about NC State?
- What is something you wish you would have known when you first arrived in the United States/NC State?
- What are some strategies you have used when things were not going well—when you were feeling bad/homesick?
- How do you feel about your social life at NC State?

GradPath & Dashboards

Raj Bhosale

Director of Information Systems

Open Forum

NC STATE

The Graduate School



Thank YOU