<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Introduction</th>
<th>Advice</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Genevieve Agulou</td>
<td>Genevieve is in her final year of doctoral work in the Public Health Department. Her research interests include Infectious Disease Epidemiology, Health Disparity, Health Education, and Cultural Competence in Healthcare. When not buried in textbooks, she loves spending time with her family. They love to try out new restaurants, go to the movie theater, or travel. Sometimes, we visit libraries, too! Her favorite place in Kent is the University Plaza.</td>
<td>Genevieve’s biggest advice is to make sure you have time to take care of your body and soul—a healthy body is a healthy mind! Have good time management skills from day one. Do not procrastinate. Ask questions when you do not understand. Also, seek out professors working on researches on your areas of interest and collaborate.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ezi Anaba</td>
<td>Ezinne Anaba was born in Nigeria and moved to Columbus, Ohio, when she was 10. She is a Hospice Nurse for Cleveland Clinic Akron General Visiting Nurse Service, Hospice Care Center. She has her Master’s in Public Health, and she is a Masters Student at the College of Nursing with a concentration in Adults and Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner. Ezi likes to spend time with her family and friends, travel, watch foreign movies for fun. Find her on Snapchat and Instagram @Ezinness.</td>
<td>Something Ezi wishes she knew before starting graduate school is how to use SAS and some basic research 101 skills, like result interpretation and analysis. To be successful, patience is key. Also, try to find joy in the little things because graduate school will get frustrating, tiring, and stressful. Keep your support groups phone numbers on speed dial because you will definitely cry/vent at some point.</td>
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Joe Bean

Chicago, Illinois

History, PhD

wbean1@kent.edu

Joe has lived most of his life in the Chicago area, and he is a graduate of Northwestern University and the University of Illinois Springfield. Before returning to academia, Joe was a professional freelance writer. He enjoys traveling, scuba diving, canoeing and wilderness camping, in addition to photography and serving as a soccer referee instructor.

Preya Bhattacharya

Kolkata, India

Political Science, PhD

pbhatta1@kent.edu

Preya is from Kolkata, India, and she is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Political Science. Her research focuses on the empowerment of women, impact of microfinance programs, and post-conflict economic reconstruction in Southeast Europe. In her free time, she loves to read, paint, and/or watch movies. Her favorite shows include BBC classics like Jane Austen, Agatha Christie’s Miss Marple series, and Sherlock. Her favorite places in Kent are the Kent Free Library and Insomnia Cookies.

Introduction

Advice

Graduate school is not easy. It is demanding, rigorous, and incredibly rewarding. Your success depends solely on your commitment to be an effective scholar, regardless of your academic discipline. His "advice" is simple: get a calendar and use it. Plan ahead by paying attention to the challenges you will meet every month, week and day. Respect your time and deadlines and give yourself the time to study, rest, and relax.

As a graduate student with both work and study commitments, you will need to develop good time management tactics. Try to create your own daily and weekly goals, and always remember to reward yourself once you achieve them! Graduate school is also about meeting new people and developing your own professional connections. Take time out to make new friends, develop contacts through the different workshops, enjoy, and most importantly, have fun!
# Teaching Fellows: 2017—2018

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Loubna Bilali</th>
<th>El-Jadida, Morocco</th>
<th>Translation Studies, PhD</th>
<th><a href="mailto:lbilali@kent.edu">lbilali@kent.edu</a></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Introduction</strong></td>
<td>Loubna Bilali is a Ph.D. candidate in Translation Studies at Kent State University. Her research interests revolve around localization (the translation of website and software apps), terminology management, and translation pedagogy. She loves swimming, all racquet sports, and writing. Her favorite place in Kent is the Cuyahoga River (Crooked River) in downtown Kent, which has gorgeous park views.</td>
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<td><strong>Advice</strong></td>
<td>Grad school is amazing! Have goals and invest everything they have to get to it. Stay focused, get your priorities straight, and make sure to lead a balanced and healthy life and get the best out of it. Enjoy learning more about your discipline, and don’t forget to take the time to socialize with other grad students, attend different campus events, visit the recreation center, or discover the Kent area. Welcome to Kent State!</td>
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<th>Morgan Chaney</th>
<th>Fairborn, Ohio</th>
<th>Biomedical Sciences, PhD</th>
<th><a href="mailto:mchaney1@kent.edu">mchaney1@kent.edu</a></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Introduction</strong></td>
<td>Morgan is starting his third year in his PhD program. His research focuses on the evolutionary biology of primates. Morgan sincerely believes in the importance of work-life balance, and he demonstrates this by setting aside time to brew his own beer, which he has done now for several years, and to read pleasure books, which have recently focused on revolutionary American history. He and his wife, Caylee, love to take walks around their neighborhood in Kent, especially through Standing Rock Cemetery.</td>
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<td><strong>Advice</strong></td>
<td>Take stock of how much money you'll have coming in and make up a formal budget early on. Then, monitor how much money you spend with an app or whiteboard. Stipends can be very low, and part-time jobs never seem to pay enough. A big stressor in graduate school is money, and being proactive about your meager income can greatly alleviate that problem. Additionally, make sure that you know about all of the awards that GSS gives out to sponsor conference travel and research!</td>
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Aubrey Crosby

Lakewood, Ohio

English, PhD

acrosby3@kent.edu

Introduction

Aubrey is completing the second year of her doctoral coursework in the LRSP program in the English Department. Her research interests include body language psychology and theories of embodied cognition. Aubrey enjoys being active and can often be found hiking or biking in the parks of NE Ohio. She also enjoys board game socials, live music and comedy, or just relaxing at home with wine and her girl dog, Thomas.

Advice

It's okay if you don't have all your research interests or dissertation figured out right away. You got accepted for a reason, and despite how unprepared you might feel, you are here for a reason. You belong here. So, relax. The people in your program are part of your unique, shared experience, and they can offer support, perspective, and guidance. Use it. Seek it. There is kindness and support all around you.

Colleen Dragovich

San Diego, California

Educational Psychology, PhD

cdragovi@kent.edu

Introduction

Introducing GSO Team Leader Colleen Dragovich from San Diego, CA. Colleen is working on her PhD in Educational Psychology. Currently, her research interests are focused on the development of scientific reasoning and informal science learning. She enjoys traveling, spending time with family and friends, reading comic books, and eating good food. Her favorite place in Kent is River Edge Park downtown. Follow her on Twitter @CDragovich.

Advice

Graduate school is different for every person, but as you begin your studies, it’s important to ensure that you have a good support network, whether that be family, friends, or colleagues. Graduate school is stressful. Having these supports will help you succeed. Also, learn how to communicate with your advisors. It’s important that they know what your goals and aspirations are, so they can help you achieve your goals and graduate in a timely manner.
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<td>Danielle French</td>
<td>Danielle is entering her fourth year of doctoral work. Her dissertation focuses on memoir, psychoanalysis, and trauma studies. Danielle loves to do daily weight training, hang out at local coffee shops, make bath products, listen to music, volunteer for local animal rescue groups, and watch Netflix with her Siamese, Keely. You can see all her coffee and animal pictures on Instagram by following @ohhhellocoffee.</td>
<td>You will need a support system and to set healthy boundaries for your health. Learn how to say no, how to collaborate, and how to maintain balance. Your peers may conference more, publish more quickly, or seem to have things all figured out, but everyone faces unique struggles. Take time to build relationships, set non-academic goals, take care of your body and mind, and do things that make you happy to be alive.</td>
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<td>Rosann Gage</td>
<td>Rosann is entering her third year of doctoral study in the English department. Her research interests include the senses in late medieval romantic and ecclesiastical literature. When not fulfilling her obligations as a GA or researching for her dissertation, she loves to take walks in the MetroParks, spend time with her children, attend performances at Opera Cleveland, read Manga, and volunteer for children's programs within her community. Her favorite thing to do in Kent is to check out new places to eat.</td>
<td>Set daily, achievable goals to help you progress. Although it may be difficult at times, practice being assertive. There will be times when you need to get things done, and you must be ready to ask for what you need. Empower yourself: The only person capable of making your life better is you. Don't sweat the small stuff. Learn to let go of things that keep you from your goals. When in doubt, breathe. Make connections with people and make it a point to keep contact with them. Enjoy what you do.</td>
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Teaching Fellows: 2017—2018

Anuj Gurung

Introduction
Anuj is a PhD candidate in Political Science. His research focuses on conflict analysis and resolution and refugee rights. As part of his research, Anuj performed his fieldwork with former refugees from Bhutan. He enjoys reading (Murakami novels to investigative biographies) and sports (from summer jogging to FC Barcelona). He recommends checking out Ray’s and Last Exit Books in Downtown Kent.

Advice
The academic journey can be fun as well as challenging; it is uniquely personal. From his experience, Anuj would recommend making friends, especially outside of your department – try events like Gradfest to meet new, cool, inspiring individuals from all over the world. And, it’s ok to ask for help when you’re struggling academically or personally. Welcome to Kent State, and good luck!

Odeh Halaseh

Introduction
Odeh is a graduate of The University of Akron with an M.A. in American Politics and Institutions, and is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Political Science with a focus on American political behavior. Outside of graduate school, he enjoys reading for pleasure, exploring random parts of Akron/Cleveland, and spending inordinate amounts of time drinking coffee. His favorite coffee shops in Kent are Tree City and Scribbles Coffee Co.

Advice
As graduate student, your responsibilities will vary, and at times will seem overwhelming or difficult to manage. Odeh’s advice for graduate students is to learn how to stay organized and balance your coursework, research, teaching or research responsibilities, and personal life. The earlier you can master that balance, the more likely you are to succeed. Remember, graduate school is a marathon not a sprint; stay focused on finishing, and let nothing stop you.
Kate Klonowski

Cleveland, Ohio

Cultural Foundations of Education, PhD

kklonows@kent.edu

Kate is in dissertation phase of her doctoral program in Cultural Foundations. Her research focus is on voice, power, and trust in creating high school media production programs. She is the Executive Vice Chair of Graduate Student Senate (GSS) and works as a GA for her college’s graduate dean. She loves to bike the CVNP, and knit while binge-watching sci-fi shows. Follow her on Twitter/Instagram @tartaruca314.

Introduction

One of the things Kate wishes she knew before starting grad school was how to really read for understanding and synthesis. While she reads often, Kate didn’t always take good notes, which really hurt her further down the line when it was time to write her thesis/dissertation. Kate suggests making the most of library research tools and finding an effective way to organize reading right away!

Jennifer Mani

Melbourne, Florida

Counselor Education and Supervision, PhD

jmani@kent.edu

Jenn's hometown is Melbourne, Florida, but she has called Kent home since 2005. She is a third year PhD student in Counselor Education and Supervision. Her interest areas include suicide, the best practice for teaching counseling students, and best practices for helping employees function at their peak. When not studying, she enjoys binge watching Netflix, hanging with her friends and family, taking pictures of her two cats Binxie and Belle. Her favorite place in Kent is the Zephyr.

Introduction

Make friends with people who are above you in your program, they will have tons of advice on classes, professors, and your comprehensive exams. Make friends outside your program! Use GSO to connect with people and keep talking with them. Take time for yourself and don’t feel guilty about it. It's ok to take a day off and do nothing but relax and watch Netflix. Your assignments will get done, and that email will get answered, so take that moment for yourself.
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<td>Julien Roland</td>
<td>Coming to you straight from Bordeaux, France—by way of Ibadan, Nigeria—Julien is a Ph. D. candidate in Translation Studies. He is a goofy over-analyzer, a sarcastic dreamer, and an embracer of contradictions. When he is not studying or teaching (or grading), Julien can be spotted at Scribbles, devouring novels (and/or muffins). He worships Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and Meryl Streep.</td>
<td>Your world can easily become one-dimensional: same department, same schedule, same people. Julien thinks it is important to do a few things to spice things up a bit. Join an organization, go to a Cavs game or a yoga class... and keep in touch with people you met at GSO (graduate student socials are a great way to do that)!!! GSO is a unique opportunity to meet people with diverse interests and backgrounds.</td>
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<td>Mayagul Satlykgylyjova</td>
<td>This is Maya’s last year in her Ph.D. program. She is studying the construction of identity in female students from Central Asia. Maya’s work examines the process of identity transformation of Central Asian students. Maya is from Balkanabat, Turkmenistan, and being originally from this particular geographical location triggered her interest in such dissertation topic. Maya enjoys spending quality time with her friends, and her favorite place in Kent is One Love Yoga on South Water Street.</td>
<td>For Maya, the biggest challenge in my Ph.D. program was finding a topic that she was passionate about. She changed my topic several times, thus she did more work than was necessary. If Maya knew for certain which line of inquiry was suitable for her during the time while she was taking courses, she would be much better prepared for the lonely dissertation writing process. Think about your interests early so that you can build and strengthen your topic with the help of many intellectuals and peers.</td>
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Sommer Sterud
Columbus, Ohio
English, PhD
ssterud@kent.edu

Sommer is entering her second year of the doctoral program in LRSP. Her research interests involve writing as therapy, emotion in student writing, and how comedy processes tragedy. In the spare time she no longer has, Sommer does stand-up comedy and is co-host of a monthly live talk show called The Not So Late Show. She lives with her person and two cats, Betty White and Vesper, in Grandview, Ohio.

Kristen Traynor
Boardman, Ohio
Political Science, PhD
ktraynor@kent.edu

Kristen was born and raised in Boardman, Ohio. She is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Political Science, and her research focuses on elite and media portrayals of prisoner treatment at Guantánamo Bay. When she is not teaching or writing, her favorite things to do are attending concerts, hiking, and traveling. When she is in Kent, she enjoys going to Wild Goat's Cafe for dinner.

Advice

Everyone in graduate school is smart. This can be maddening as you find your place in an often very competitive arena, but remember "everyone" includes you. When professors and peers push back on your ideas, they are merely being helpful. People will say, "It's not personal," which is what the mafia says before they whack you. Learning how to take constructive criticism is essential to grad students' sanity and their success.

Advice

Time management is the key to graduate school. It is tough balancing your time between classes, research, teaching, work, your personal life, and yourself. Put one of those things onto the back burner, but all of your roles and responsibilities are important. Find a balance that works for you and your workload, but make sure you don't neglect your own needs on your journey toward the degree.
Shakhnoza Yakubova

Almaty, Kazakhstan

Higher Education Administration, PhD

syakubov@kent.edu

Shakhnoza Yakubova holds M.A. in Higher Education Administration and an M.A. in Linguistics. In 2010, she founded and directed a nonprofit organization, Academic Resource and Career Consulting Center, to educate and counsel secondary and high school students in rural Kazakhstan. Shakhnoza is a recipient of 2012 EHHS Hall of Fame Alumni Award. Since 2013, she mentored high school-aged students within the Kent State Upward Bound Summer Institute. She serves on Kent State International Student Advisory board to advocate and support international students on campus. In her spare time, she enjoys being outdoors and meeting people from different cultures.

Introduction

Focus on what matters. Live one day at a time. Do one thing at a time.