

Section 1

Welcome to Graduate Studies!



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, DR. JUDY GENSHAFT

Thank you for your interest in graduate education at the University of South Florida System. USF is a Top 50 research university that has been named by the *Chronicle of Higher Education* as one of the fastest growing research universities in the nation in federal funding. We are distinguished by our excellent research and graduate education and our location in a major urban region that is among the nation's most diverse and desirable places to live.

Strong interdisciplinary programs put USF on the leading edge of research and graduate education in a number of areas. For example, collaboration among researchers throughout the university has made USF a leader in the neuroscience of aging and USF's interdisciplinary doctoral program in Aging Studies was the first of its kind in the nation. Recently, USF's Industrial/Organizational Psychology program was ranked highest in the nation for publication in peer-reviewed journals and the Princeton Review has named USF's Center for Entrepreneurship one of the Top Entrepreneurial Graduate Programs in the country.

In addition to doctoral programs, USF offers many opportunities for postgraduate study through our many Master's and Graduate Certificate programs, many of which are designed to prepare graduates to make immediate contributions to the economic, cultural and social vitality of communities. A growing focus for the university is enlisting leading industries in our area as partners in graduate programs as evidenced by our new partnership with the Tampa Bay Lightning, The Lightning Foundation and USF's Muma College of Business in an MBA in Sport and Entertainment Management, a program emphasizing the business fundamentals of the sports and entertainment industry.

Our commitment to discovery and the application of knowledge relevant to urban communities has earned USF frequent citations as a model of an "engaged university." The opportunities for graduate education at USF are vast, and we have worked hard to build an environment that supports and encourages innovation. In many areas, USF offers programs that prepare you to make your best contribution to a challenging world. I invite you to inquire further about USF programs of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judy Genshaft". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Judy Genshaft, Ph.D.
President
Office of the President

<http://system.usf.edu/president/about-president-genshaft.asp>

A MESSAGE FROM THE PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, DR. RALPH WILCOX

As one of the nation's best and fastest-growing research universities, the University of South Florida is attracting in ever growing numbers many of the world's best and brightest students, which today, as you read this, includes *you*. Thank you for considering USF to be your academic home as you prepare to embark on the challenging yet ultimately rewarding journey of graduate education.

It is a serious commitment, and one to which the dedicated faculty and staff at USF attach utmost importance. Our shared promise is to engage you in meaningful programs and initiatives that support the educational, health, and socio-economic wellbeing of the local, national, and global communities we all serve — efforts that embrace interdisciplinary inquiry and collaboration as the keys to success not only within our academic programs, but also in the globally interwoven world of 21st century business, communications, and culture.

Reflective of this innovative approach to research with real-world impact is the university's new College of Global Sustainability, the first in the United States, focused on preparing students for a new generation of "green collar" careers finding solutions for the increasing dangers to our fragile environment and limited resources. Its graduate program in global sustainability integrates various disciplines such as natural and social sciences, engineering, economics, government, public health, and policymaking in courses — many available online — led by USF faculty members and researchers eager to inspire tomorrow's leaders for global challenges never before imagined.

Among our professors are leading scholars in their respective fields, who readily engage new graduate students in the laboratory, the library, and other research areas. Their number includes Professor of Mechanical Engineering and 2012 U.S. Professor of the Year Autar Kaw, known around the world for his innovative use of technology and social media to expand learning opportunities for students, as well as 15 faculty colleagues elected as fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2012 — the fourth-highest total among all U.S. universities. USF also ranks as a Top Producer of Fulbright Scholars. Such recognition speaks to both the professional regard afforded to our faculty members by their peers worldwide and the quality of academic mentoring available to our graduate students across a broad range of scholarly endeavors.

At USF, we encourage students and faculty to forge real relationships that replace the more academic department-centered experience common of most other graduate schools. We believe, too, that interdisciplinary partnerships between students, faculty, and researchers across campus, in the community, and around the world strengthen both the university and the graduate student experience at USF, creating a "collaboration for competition" that often leads to new knowledge and exciting, innovative solutions to pervasive and emerging problems.

Continuing to deliver top-quality graduate programs remains a leading priority for USF as it enhances further its position as a premier research university with state, national, and global impact. The University of South Florida is a place where you can challenge yourself and focus on how you are able to contribute to your chosen discipline, your community, and the world-at-large in a meaningful and sustainable way. Whether your career aspirations are to remain in academe or to pursue professional positions in the public sector, business or industry, I am confident that your investment of time, talent, and energy as a graduate student at USF will present you with wonderful and exhilarating prospects for the future.

Ralph Wilcox

Ralph C. Wilcox, Ph.D.
Provost and Executive Vice President
www.acad.usf.edu





A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN OF THE OFFICE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

It gives me great pleasure to write this introduction for the University of South Florida (USF) Graduate Studies Catalogue. As you will see, we are a vibrant University providing opportunities for student success and outstanding achievement. USF has nearly 170 masters and doctoral programs, several dual degree programs, and over 130 graduate certificates. We also have many opportunities for non-degree seeking students. At the three institutions across the USF System, we serve more than 48,000 students. Of these, over 10,000 are a socially and disciplinarily diverse body of students pursuing their graduate education. USF has student success, research and innovation, community engagement, global literacy and impact, and integrated, interdisciplinary inquiry as its strategic priorities. Our tuition provides affordability and we also offer a number of financial aid options. We recognize that graduate students have very different responsibilities and needs, so many of our programs offer flexible day, evening, and weekend classes in addition to online course and degree program offerings.

The mission of the Office of Graduate Studies is to serve as the center of leadership for graduate education at the University of South Florida. As a graduate student at the University of South Florida, you can be proud that USF is one of the nation's top public research universities and one of only 40 public research universities nationwide that holds both very high research and community engaged designations by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Graduate students at USF can apply for research, teaching, and graduate assistantships, enhancing their educational experiences by putting knowledge to action. At the same time, a number of our Masters Programs, as well as Graduate Certificates, offer varied opportunities for professional development and advancement. In fact, as a perusal of the Catalogue will show, there's something for everyone!

We urge you to become the leader you are destined to be, so I personally invite each of you to learn more about graduate education at the University of South Florida. Welcome to our community of scholars and family of learners!

M. Dwayne Smith, Ph.D.

Senior Vice Provost & Dean, Office of Graduate Studies
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