

GRC NEWSLETTER

THE Graduate School @ Bowie State



October 1, 2026

Issue 20

ABOUT THE GRC

The Graduate Research Center's mission is to transform the graduate student experience. We cultivate a dynamic academic environment in which graduate students engage in innovative research, receive tailored academic support, and leverage resources for both academic and professional development. We are dedicated to nurturing emerging scholars, fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, and empowering individuals to excel in their academic pursuits through mentorship, fellowship opportunities, and transformative services.



OCTOBER EVENTS

- October 1st: GA Application Opens
- October 2nd: Last Day to Apply for Fall (December) 2026 Graduation
- October 3rd: Graduate Comprehensive Exam
- October 9th: Last Day of the 1st 7-Week Session
- October 10th: Last Saturday Class for 1st 7-Week Session
- October 10th: Saturday Writing Workshop
- October 12th: 2nd 7-Week Session Begins
- October 14th: Final Grades Due for 1st 7-Week Session
- October 16th: Last Day to Add/Drop Courses (2nd 7-Week Session)
- October 18-25th: Homecoming Week
- October 26th: Dissertation Writing Retreat Application Due
- October 28th: Success Fest
- October 30th: Last Day to Withdraw with a Grade of 'W' or Audit a Course (15-Week Session)



@BSUGradCenter



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Center for Business & Graduate Studies
Thurgood Marshall Library, 1185

HARMONIZING THE FUTURE: INTERDISCIPLINARY PATHWAYS FOR A RESILIENT SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 8 - 10, 2026

The Hotel at the University of Maryland

7777 Baltimore Ave 4th Floor, College Park, MD 20740

Discounted rates are available for conference attendees

In an era defined by rapid technological shifts, political instability, global health challenges, and social evolution, the traditional silos of academia are no longer sufficient. To build a truly resilient society, we must find the "Transformative Synergies" where the precision of STEM, the soul of the Arts, the necessity of Health, the strategic scale of Business, and the foundation of Education converge.

This conference serves as a dynamic forum for faculty, scholars, and graduate students to showcase cutting-edge research that transcends disciplinary boundaries. We invite submissions that explore how these diverse fields can harmonize to create innovative solutions for the complex problems of the 21st century.

REGISTRATION FEE

Bowie State University \$100

Students, Faculty, and Staff Conference and Gala

Conference Only \$75

Gala Only \$50

[Register Here](#)

Organized by
**THE GRADUATE SCHOOL
AT BOWIE STATE
UNIVERSITY**

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Graduate Assistantship Application is NOW Open!

Bowie State University graduate assistantships offer students the opportunity to gain professional and academic experience in their field of study while receiving tuition remission and a monthly stipend. Graduate assistants work 20 hours per week in various academic departments and campus programs, supporting research, teaching, and administrative responsibilities.

Applications are open to all graduate students who are enrolled in at least nine credit hours each semester and in good academic standing (3.5+ GPA). The deadline to apply is October 31st, 2026. **Please note that, in accordance with the terms of the Graduate Assistantship appointment, graduate assistants are not permitted to hold other employment during their assistantship.**

[Apply Here!](#)

[DEANS/DEPARTMENT
CHAIRS/DIRECTORS:
Request GA's/TA's/RA's
Here](#)



Dissertation Writing Retreat

Friday, January 15 – Sunday, January 17, 2027

THE GRC's Graduate Writing Services is excited to announce the 2027 Dissertation Writing Retreat, a *selective* opportunity designed to help doctoral students make significant progress on their dissertations through focused writing time, accountability, and mentorship.

Includes:

Private lodging

Meals

Structured writing sessions

Independent writing time

Supportive environment

CLICK HERE
TO APPLY

Eligibility:

- Enrolled in a dissertation course at the time of retreat
- Minimum 3.25 GPA
- **Submit all required materials by October 26, 2026**

Application Requirements:

- Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Work Plan Proposal (min. 500 words)
- Research abstract
- Faculty Letter of Support from dissertation chair/advisor

SPOTLIGHT

DEMERE COKER

Counselor Education and Supervision

Meet Demere Coker, LGPC, a doctoral student in the Counselor Education and Supervision program whose scholarship centers on Black men's mental health, culturally responsive counseling, and community-based approaches to healing.

Coker's research explores how gambling behaviors intersect with racial identity, stress, masculinity, and systemic inequities among Black men. Through qualitative research, interviews, and narrative inquiry, Coker examines how culture, family, community, and lived experiences shape attitudes and behaviors surrounding gambling. Grounded in Afrocentric thought, Black Male Studies, and decolonial perspectives, the work seeks to identify prevention and intervention strategies that emphasize collective healing, resilience, and culturally grounded care.

Coker's scholarship has been shared through more than 10 local, national, and international conferences, presentations, and professional development experiences. A notable milestone was presenting at the International Conference on Education in Paris, France, where Coker engaged in global conversations surrounding education, culture, and equity. Coker is also a recipient of the HBGI Scholarship, awarded to graduate students in recognition of their academic achievement.

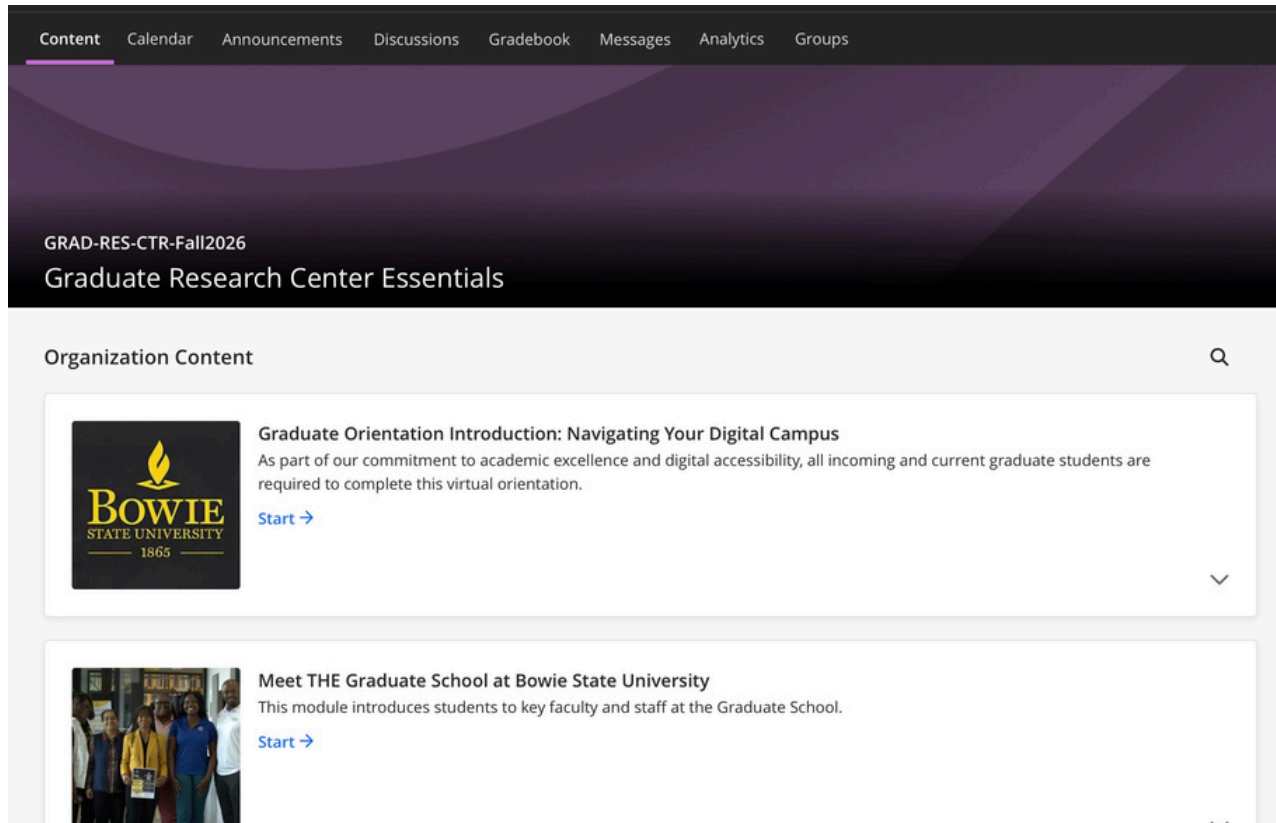
Beyond research, Coker brings together scholarship and creative expression as the author of two published poetry collections, *Irrational Love* and *Cookouts and Confessions*. Coker describes storytelling as an important avenue for affirming Black experiences and promoting healing.

Coker's leadership extends into professional and community engagement as Director of Program Development, where culturally responsive behavioral health programming is developed and advanced. As a conference proposal reviewer, guest lecturer, and Licensed Graduate Professional Counselor, Coker continues to connect research, teaching, and clinical practice.

Through these efforts, Coker demonstrates a commitment to culturally responsive mental health care, meaningful scholarship, and creating opportunities for individuals and communities to grow.



GRC ESSENTIALS ORIENTATION NOW AVAILABLE ON BLACKBOARD



The Graduate Research Center (GRC) Essentials Blackboard orientation is now open to all graduate students. This **mandatory** orientation is designed to acclimate students to GRC services while also providing access to essential Graduate School resources.

Students can easily access the course by visiting [Blackboard](#), logging in, and selecting “Organizations”.

The orientation will remain available throughout the academic year, serving as a convenient point of reference for all things related to the Graduate Research Center and the Graduate School.



Graduate Writing
Services

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS

*Guiding Masters & Doctoral Students Through Writing
and Refining Key Sections of the Thesis/Dissertation*

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Via Zoom

Every last Saturday
of the month!

Saturday, September 12th – Chapter 1: *Introducing Your Study.* Learn how to define your research problem, justify its importance, and position it within the broader academic context

Saturday, October 10th – Chapter 2: *Crafting a Comprehensive Literature Review.* Discover how to synthesize existing research, critically evaluate sources, and build a literature review that supports your study.

Saturday, November 14th – Chapter 3: *Detailing Your Research Design* Get expert guidance on writing a well-structured research methodology description, explaining your methods, and justifying your choices.

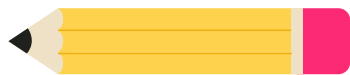
SIGN UP TODAY!



grc@bowiestate.edu

Tailored Academic Support

GRADUATE WRITING SERVICES



Research editors at the Graduate Research Center focus on helping graduate students grow as academic writers and scholars across disciplines. We support students at any stage in the writing process. We provide feedback on a range of work including research papers, literature reviews, dissertation chapters, grant proposals, and conference presentations.

Offerings:

Brainstorming Consultations

Students talk through approaches they are considering for starting an assignment, drafting sections of longer manuscripts, or even working through structural issues in a current draft. The consultation focuses on using dialogue to explore ideas, ask questions, and gain clarity. Brainstorming consultations are scheduled 24 hours in advance and require an assignment sheet or a short project description.

Read Ahead Consultations

Students will identify a specific challenge that they are facing in a current draft. An editor will read student work before the consultation. The consultation centers on using dialogue to provide constructive feedback, potential strategies, and resources for overcoming the challenge. Consultations are scheduled 48 hours in advance. Requirements for making the appointment include an assignment sheet or a short project description in addition to 5-8 double-spaced manuscript pages or slides.

Thesis/Dissertation Support Groups:

Weekly, noncommittal groups will offer a supportive, flexible space for writers to meet the demands of revising manuscripts and take advantage of dedicated writing time. Sessions will also feature brief workshops focused on enhancing your writing process, trying new revision strategies, using feedback effectively, maximizing writing time, and more.

Dissertation Workshop Series:

The Dissertation Workshop Series guides doctoral students through writing and refining key sections of the dissertation. Workshops will focus on writing a clear problem statement, crafting a comprehensive literature review, describing research methodologies, presenting findings, and highlighting a study's significance.

[Schedule a GRC Service](#)

ACADEMIC ADVISING



Academic advisors at the Graduate Research Center support new and continuing graduate students through the enrollment and registration process, help them understand program requirements, and provide ongoing guidance throughout their academic journey.

Offerings:

In-person and online advising sessions by appointment only.

New Student/Doctoral/Certificate Program Advising:
Ms. Oji

New Student/Master's Program Advising: Ms.
Bradford-Yancey

STATISTICS ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE



Statisticians at the Graduate Research Center provide academic support to graduate students by assisting with statistical concepts, data analysis techniques, and software applications. We help students understand probability, hypothesis testing, regression analysis, and other advanced statistical methods. Services include one-on-one or group sessions, guidance in applying statistical methods to research projects, and clarification on complex topics to enhance comprehension and confidence.

Offerings:

One-on-One or Group Sessions to address challenges directly related to coursework.

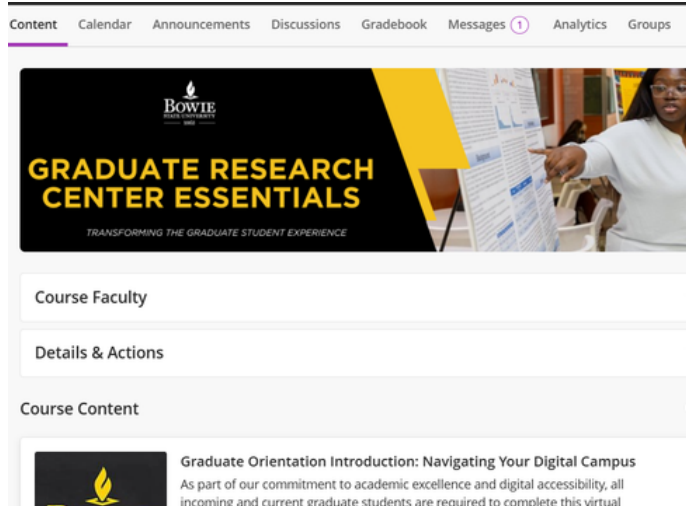
Need to Print?

Graduate programs or students in need of printing large images for conference presentations, abstract presentations, posters, etc., may complete the request form below. Materials will be ready for pickup on Mondays and Wednesdays in room 1185 of the Thurgood Marshall Library.

[Print Services Submission Form](#)



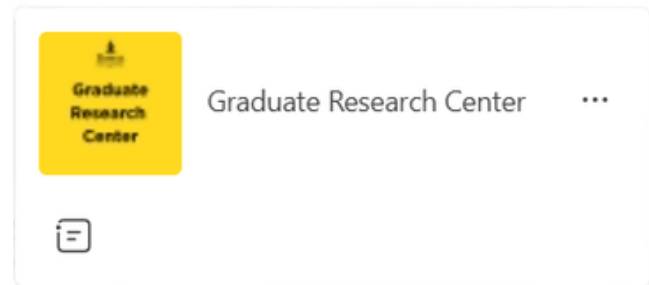
GRC ESSENTIAL INFORMATION ACCESSIBLE ON NEW PLATFORMS



The Graduate Research Center (GRC) Essentials Blackboard organization is now open to all graduate students. This module is designed to orient students to GRC services while also providing access to essential Graduate School resources.

Students can easily access the organization by visiting [Blackboard](#), logging in, and selecting “organization” on the navigation pane located on the left. Within the GRC Essentials module, students will complete a brief orientation and earn a digital badge to recognize their participation.

The module will remain available throughout the academic year, serving as a convenient point of reference for all things related to the Graduate Research Center and the Graduate School.



In addition to Blackboard, we are excited to announce the launch of the GRC Team Hub, now available to all graduate students and faculty. The hub serves as a centralized resource, offering easy access to pertinent information about GRC services, university personnel, policies, and more. By streamlining these resources into one convenient space, the Team Hub is designed to support academic success, strengthen communication, and foster engagement across the graduate community.

**JOIN THE
HUB
HERE!**



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VISIT THE GRADUATE LOUNGE!

Looking for a space to study, collaborate with peers, or work on assignments? Visit the Graduate Lounge in **Thurgood Marshall Library (Room 1185)**.

This modern space features seating for 30, 7 computers, 3 private study pods, and a large 80" interactive screen with virtual and touchscreen capabilities.



Thurgood Marshall Library, Room 1185



Bulldog
Card
Required
for Entry

RESERVE THE
GRADUATE
LOUNGE



STAY CONNECTED WITH THE GRC !



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YOUR FEEDBACK MATTERS!**GRC Feedback Survey****INTERESTED IN BEING
FEATURED?**