Welcome to the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS)!

It is a pleasure to welcome you to Dalhousie and the Faculty of Graduate Studies. I often say that I’m the luckiest dean at the university because I represent and work with students from every faculty. While you may study in departments and schools across our four campuses, you are all Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) students and we are here to support and encourage you along every step of your graduate program. Think of FGS as a travelling companion on this exciting journey. When you don’t know which way to go, just ask. We’ll help point you in the right direction.

– Dean Marty Leonard, Faculty of Graduate Studies

Rights and responsibilities

If you’re a thesis student, you have an exciting and challenging path ahead of you that includes important rights and responsibilities related to your supervisory relationship. We recommend you read the full list in the graduate calendar, but here are some key things to remember.

You have the **RIGHT** to:
- a clear understanding of what is expected when writing your thesis;
- expect help in establishing a topic, solving problems and assessing progress; and
- a new supervisor when you can offer convincing reasons for a change that can be reasonably made.

You have the **RESPONSIBILITY** to:
- choose a topic and produce a thesis that meets the standards of the university;
- acknowledge assistance or material from other scholars; and
- give serious attention to your supervisor’s advice.

Ongoing orientation

Throughout your first year, FGS will present a series of orientation events featuring resources at the university to support you, including the Dalhousie Libraries, Writing Centre and others that will be integral to your success. Sessions will be announced through the weekly FGS eNewsletter and listed on the website.

Three-Minute Thesis

Plan to take part in Dalhousie's annual battle of brains and brevity in March. Each year thesis-based students from across the university take the stage to present their research and compete for cash prizes. Look for updates in the FGS eNewsletter.
RESOURCES FOR DAL GRADUATE STUDENTS

Academic support
The Faculty of Graduate Studies is here to help you manage your degree. Please see page 14 of the Student Success Guide for the list of services provided.

Dedicated grad student space
*Killam Memorial Library (4th floor)*
The Grad Pad in the Killam Library is reserved for your exclusive use. Accessible with your DalCard, the area has social and quiet study spaces, kitchenette, seminar room, and two group study rooms. Lockers are available to rent by contacting library@dal.ca.

Career support
*dal.ca/careerservices*
The Bissett Student Success Centre will assist you in developing your career goals. From peer advising and career counselling to online resources, workshops, and events, the Centre will help you develop your skills, build your network and discover your ideal career path.

Dalhousie Association of Graduate Students (DAGS)
*dags.ca*
*Student Union Building (4th floor)*
If you want to play an active role in supporting and shaping the graduate student community, DAGS provides meaningful opportunities to get involved. The student-run organization hosts events and advocates for grad students with the larger Dalhousie Student Union and university administration.

Support for entrepreneurs
*dalinnovates.ca*
If you’re interested in gaining experience in entrepreneurship or commercializing your research and innovations, Dal Innovates provides a range of programs to support you.

Financial support
*dal.ca/grad/funding*
Manage your funding: To ensure you continue to receive your funding, make sure you register in your classes or program before the start of each term. Check with your department for deadlines.

Scholarships: Master’s and PhD students are eligible for a wide number of scholarships, each with different eligibility criteria and deadlines. Consult the “New Students” section of the FGS website to ensure you don’t let a great opportunity pass.

Travel grants: If you’re travelling to present at a conference you can receive up to $500 in support. Just remember to submit your travel grant application to FGS at least one month in advance.

MAKE SURE YOU:

- Register for classes before the September 18 deadline.
- Check your Dalhousie email regularly for correspondence from the university, including the weekly FGS eNewsletter.
- Familiarize yourself with the “Current Students” section of the FGS website.
- Check in with your graduate coordinator and make them aware of issues you encounter.