

Subject: Welcome to Fall 2025! Grad School Updates, Resources & Events Inside

Date: Monday, August 25, 2025 at 5:42:00 PM Pacific Daylight Time

From: Graduate Studies and Research

To: [REDACTED]



Charles De Leone, Ph.D.
Dean of Graduate Studies and Research

Welcome to the Fall 2025 Semester!

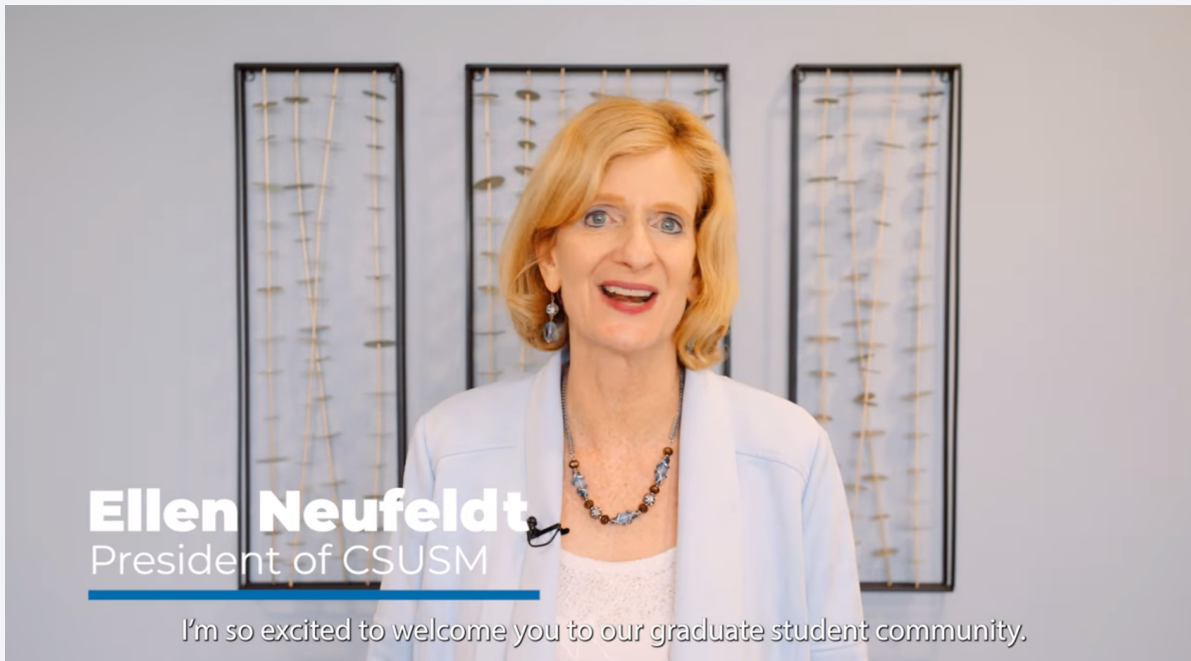
It's a pleasure to extend a warm welcome to both new and continuing graduate students at CSUSM. This year promises incredible achievements, groundbreaking discoveries, and meaningful personal growth for all of you.

We are proud to cultivate a supportive, inclusive, and innovative graduate community. Your participation, whether you are progressing in your studies or starting fresh, energizes the vibrant culture that defines our campus.

May your upcoming semester be engaging, successful, and full of inspiration!

Go Cougars!

Watch Dean De Leone's Welcome



Remarks from President Neufeldt to Our Graduate Community

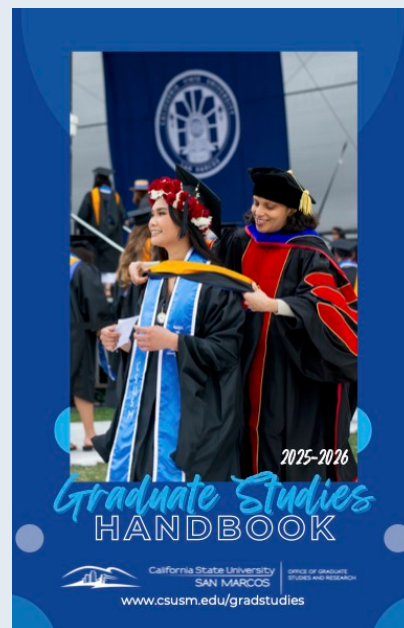
Watch President Neufeldt's Remarks

Graduate Studies Handbook

Reviewing the [Graduate Studies Handbook](#) is key to navigating University and CSU policies during your graduate coursework.

It is designed to be used together with the [University Catalog](#) and your Graduate Program's specific policies.

Handbook





Important Fall 2025 Dates

August 24

Deadline to drop all courses using MyCSUSM until 11:59pm PST and receive full refund of fees, less any administrative charge. Students who drop after this date will be charged prorated fees for each day that has elapsed from the first day of the semester

August 25-September 8

Add/drop period: Students may add classes and drop classes in MyCSUSM without academic penalty. Note: students may continue to drop 16-week classes without penalty (no W grade) through the day before census.

September 8

Last day to add classes that meet full session with permission numbers or with instructor approval

September 21

Last day to drop class(es) with no academic record for courses in the full session of the term (i.e. students must submit withdrawal petition in order to officially withdraw from courses after 11:59pm PST on Sep 21)

Last day to submit an approved Graduate Leave of Absence for Fall 2025

After September 22

Census Day - Withdrawal from course(s) require approval and may be granted by petition for serious and compelling reasons only

November 1

Deadline to [Apply to Graduate](#) through MyCSUSM if you will be completing your program/degree requirements this Fall 2025

November 16

Last day to petition for a Mid-Session Withdrawal with an approved serious &

compelling reason (not eligible for a refund); see [Course Withdrawal](#) page for more information.

December 13

Last day of Fall semester.

January 9, 2026

Fall 2025 official grades available on MyCSUSM.

Note: Academic Programs operated through Extended Learning have refund policies that do not necessarily coincide with the University Add/Drop period. In addition, courses that are less than 16 weeks will have a different refund policy. Please refer to that terms Enrollment Calendar and Extended Learning for specific details.

Additional Fall 2025 Deadlines

2025 Graduate Studies Orientation

On August 20, 2025, OGSR hosted the 19th Annual Graduate Studies Orientation, welcoming our incoming graduate students into the CSUSM community.

The evening was filled with energy, connection, and inspiration as students had the opportunity to hear from campus leadership, alumni, and peers, as well as explore resources to support their success.

We are so grateful to all our campus partners, alumni, and student leaders who helped make this event a success and to our new graduate students for bringing their excitement and enthusiasm.

If you were unable to attend the Orientation in-person, please contact gradstudies@csusm.edu for access to our Virtual Orientation.



Academic Requirements

Students have access to all their

Report



[ARR Viewing Instructions](#)

academic information and progress through the Academic Requirements Report (ARR) found in the Student Center of their on-line MyCSUSM account.

The ARR lists all your program requirements needed to complete your degree and students are encouraged to run the report often to ensure timely progression.

For assistance or correction on the ARR, please contact your Faculty Graduate Coordinator.



Thinking of Earning a Doctorate Degree?

The CSU Chancellor's Office offers two excellent programs that help students prepare for doctoral studies. These initiatives provide faculty mentorship, financial support, research opportunities, and more to enhance students' academic journeys.

The **CA Pre-Doctoral Program** awards funds to juniors, seniors, and graduate students to enable them to explore and prepare to succeed in doctoral programs in their chosen field of study. These \$5,000 awards are for travel to prospective institutions and professional meetings, fees for applications tests, test prep. In addition to working with their faculty mentor, they also have an opportunity to conduct research at a UC or other doctoral-granting institution located in the United States.

The **Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program (CDIP)** prepares promising doctoral students for CSU faculty positions by providing financial support, mentorship by CSU faculty, and professional development and grant resources. Benefits include bi-annual \$1,500 travel grant for fellow and mentor, \$2,500 annual grant for professional development and scholarly activities, up to \$30,000 in forgivable loan, NCFDD

membership, faculty mentorship, and more!

The application windows for the 2026-2027 CA Pre-Doctoral Program (Sally Casanova) and Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program (CDIP) are set to open in late Fall, making this the ideal moment to explore these valuable funding prospects. Both opportunities involve a multi-stage application procedure, so it's essential to commence your planning early if you have a keen interest in applying

Congratulations to our 2025-2026 CDIP Fellows and Sally Casanova Scholar!



Arianna Monterrosa
Sally Casanova
Scholar

Sociological Practice
Master's Student -
CSUSM

Faculty Mentor:
Dr. Lori Walkington



**Hugo Peralta-
Ramírez**
CDIP Fellow
CSUSM c/o 2023

History Doctoral
Student - UCLA

Faculty Mentor:
Dr. Alan Malfavon



Karissa Tran
CDIP Fellow
CSUSM c/o 2024

Health Psychology
Doctoral Student -
UCLA

Faculty Mentor:
Dr. Richard Armenta



Policy Spotlight: Graduate Student Leave of Absence

Graduate degree students may take an authorized leave of absence for up to two (2) semesters. Leaves of absence can be authorized for conditionally classified or classified graduate students providing the student is:

- In good academic standing (as defined by the program's requirements)
- Has completed at least six credit hours of CSUSM coursework toward the graduate degree in the program, and
- Has filed a completed [Request for Graduate Student Leave of Absence form](#). The completed form, including signatures of the student's faculty advisor (where applicable) and the graduate program coordinator, must be filed with the Office of Registration and Records before the end of the add/drop period of the term for which the leave has been requested.

[View the Full Policy](#)



Meet your 2025-2026 GRC Officers!

Eloïse Barret, President
Psychological Science

Luz Barragan-Isidoro, Vice President
Social Work

Cory Jordan, Treasurer
Psychological Science

Brittney Abundis, Social Media
Psychological Science

The **Graduate Representatives Council (GRC)** actively champions the interests of graduate students, working closely with the Office of Graduate Studies and Research (OGSR) to address key concerns and enhance the graduate experience. The Dean of OGSR regularly consults the GRC to gather valuable student insights, ensuring that solutions are student-centered and impactful at CSUSM.

GRC also hosts events to spread awareness and support services within the grad student community.

Follow GRC on [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#)

Add us on [Teams](#) to ask questions and post events/resources for CSUSM graduate students.

Next GRC Meeting is via Zoom, September 4th, 12-12:50pm

[RSVP for the Meeting](#)



Need Professional Headshots?

CSUSM [Media Production Studios](#) offers professional headshots for our graduate community at no cost.

Studio times are available Monday-Friday, 8am-4:30pm. For more information, contact mps@csusm.edu

[Schedule a Photo Session](#)



Upcoming Fall Events

[Student Life Centers Annual Block Party](#) | August 28 | 5:30-9:30pm | Campus Way Circle
[Casino Night](#) | August 29 | 5-8pm | USU Ballroom
[Part-Time Job Fair](#) | September 2 | 11am-1pm | USU Ballroom
[Library Resource Fair](#) | September 2 | 11am-1pm | Kellogg Library
[Student Organization Fair](#) | September 4 | 11:30am-1pm | Forum Plaza, USU Arcade
[Annual Block Party](#) | September 7 | 5-9pm | Forum Plaza Kellogg Terrace, Kellogg Plaza
[Get Your Resume and Cover Letter Noticed](#) | September 9 | 12-1pm | Virtual
[Suicide Awareness Walk and Candlelight Vigil](#) | September 25 | 5-7pm | Forum Plaza
[ASI Fresh Market Mondays](#) | October 6 | 11am-1pm | Chavez Plaza
[Student Org Market Day](#) | October 9 | 11:30am-1pm | Forum Plaza, USU Arcade
[Latine Heritage Month Celebration](#) | October 9 | 5-8:30pm | USU Ballroom
[Dina Gilio-Whitaker's Book Launch "Who Gets To Be Indian?"](#) | October 13 | 6-8:30pm | Kellogg Library 5400
[All Peoples Luncheon](#) | October 16 | 12-1:30pm | USU Ballroom
[Fall 2025 Job and Internship Fair](#) | October 21 | 11am-2pm | USU Ballroom
[Harvest Fest 2025](#) | October 23 | 6-9:30pm | USU Ballroom
[Graduate and Professional School Fair](#) | October 28 | 11am-1pm | USU Ballroom
[Dia de los Muertos](#) | October 30 | 5-8pm | Forum Plaza

CSUSM Student Calendar



California State University
SAN MARCOS

OFFICE OF GRADUATE
STUDIES AND RESEARCH

Your Graduate Studies Team

Charles De Leone | Dean of Graduate Studies and Research

Nam Nguyen | Graduate Studies Program Lead

Jake Stewart | Graduate Assistant

Contact us at gradstudies@csusm.edu or at (760)750-4066

Stay Connected with Us!

- [OGSR Instagram](#)
- [OGSR LinkedIn](#)
- [GRC Teams Channel](#)

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