



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

Welcome to the Spring 2026 Semester!

I want to extend my warmest welcome to our graduate students, faculty, and staff. Your dedication to advanced scholarship, research, and creative inquiry continues to shape the intellectual life of CSUSM.

Spring brings new opportunities to connect, innovate, and celebrate the impactful work happening across our graduate community, and I look forward to all that we will accomplish together.

As you move forward this term, please know that the Office of Graduate Studies and Research team is here to support you throughout every stage of your graduate journey.

Have a wonderful semester and GO



Important Spring 2026 Dates

February 15

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 Feb 15)

February 16 (and after)

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

March 15

Deadline to [Apply to Graduate](#) through MyCSUSM if you will be completing your program/degree requirements this Spring or Summer 2026.

March 30- April 4

Spring Break

March 31

Campus Closed - Cesar Chavez Day (Observed)

April 13

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.

May 15-16

Commencement

May 29

Spring 2026 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 Spring 2026 Deadlines

Congratulations to our Fall 2025 Graduates!

We celebrate all of our fall graduates and those who walked and were hooded during the December commencement ceremonies. Your hard work, dedication, and achievements inspire us all, and we are so proud to honor this milestone in your graduate journey!

For those completing degree requirements Spring or Summer 2026, we'll see you at Commencement in May!



Academic Requirements Report

You can track your academic progress anytime using the Academic Requirements Report (ARR) in the Student Center of your MyCSUSM account. The ARR shows all the requirements you need to complete your degree, and we encourage you to check it regularly to stay on track for graduation.



If you notice anything that looks incorrect or need help understanding your report, please reach out to your Graduate Program Coordinator.

[ARR Viewing Instructions](#)



Thinking of Becoming Future Faculty at the CSU?

The CSU Chancellor's Office offers two outstanding programs designed to prepare students for doctoral success—providing mentorship, funding, research opportunities, and professional development.

CA Pre-Doctoral Program (Sally Casanova): \$5,000 awards for juniors, seniors, and graduate students to support doctoral exploration through travel, test prep, application fees, and research experiences at doctoral-granting institutions.

Chancellor's Doctoral Incentive Program (CDIP): Comprehensive support for doctoral students pursuing CSU faculty careers, including mentorship, professional

development funding, travel grants, NCFDD membership, and up to \$30,000 in forgivable loan support.

Applications for both programs are now open and due soon. Contact OGSR to learn more and apply!



Compete at the Annual Grad Slam on March 13th

Grad Slam is a campus-wide showcase where undergraduate and graduate students transform their research into clear, compelling stories for a non-specialist audience. In just a few minutes, participants rise to the challenge of distilling complex ideas into presentations that are engaging, accessible, and impactful.

This is not a competition about *what* you research—it's about *how* you communicate why it matters. Top presenters will take home cash prizes, and representatives from [Lilly Research Laboratories](#), Grad Slam's sponsors, will be in attendance—making this an excellent opportunity to network with industry professionals and share your work beyond the classroom.

Register Today!



Graduate Dean's Award

If you are completing your master's or doctoral degree this spring, talk with your graduate program coordinator about the [Graduate Dean's Award](#).

This prestigious honor recognizes an outstanding master's or doctoral graduate whose achievements reflect the value and impact of graduate education at California State University San Marcos. Recipients demonstrate excellence in advanced coursework, meaningful collaboration with faculty mentors, and strong engagement in independent research, scholarship, or creative activity.

Nominations open in late February—don't miss the opportunity to celebrate exceptional graduate achievement.



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.

Follow GRC on [Instagram](#)/ [LinkedIn](#) and add us on [Teams](#) to ask questions and post events/resources for CSUSM graduate students.



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](#)

Graduate Studies Handbook

The Graduate Studies Handbook is your go-to guide for understanding University and CSU policies during your graduate journey.

Be sure to use it alongside the [University Catalog](#) and your program's specific requirements.

[Review Handbook](#)



[CSUSM Student Calendar](#)

Campus events and activities play a vital role in shaping the fabric of graduate education at CSUSM. From research symposia and guest lectures to networking mixers and cultural events, these opportunities foster connection, collaboration, and a sense of community among graduate students. Engaging in campus life not only enriches your academic experience but also strengthens the culture of curiosity, innovation, and shared learning that defines graduate education here.



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](#)

© 2025 Microsoft Dynamics. All rights reserved.
333 S Twin Oaks Valley Rd, San Marcos, CA 92078
[Unsubscribe](#)