

Welcome to Interdisciplinary Humanities

Tips & Shortcuts for getting what you need on campus & in Merced!*

UC Merced on Social Media

UC Merced Classifieds: <http://ucmerced.uloop.com/>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/UCMClassifieds/>

Main Twitter Page: <https://twitter.com/ucmerced>

Main FB Page: <https://www.facebook.com/ucmerced/>

Graduate Division FB Page: <https://www.facebook.com/ucmgraddiv/>

Other sites, which you either have to ask to join or have to be a member of the social media site to view:

- FB: [World Cultures/Interdisciplinary Humanities Graduate Group](#)
- FB: Merced Social Graduate Students (still a thing?)

“The advice I wish I had heard before starting graduate school . . .” (from 8/17/17 workshop)

(Older IH graduate students, add your own advice, truisms, etc.!))

- Graduate school is a marathon, not a race! Pace yourself with self-care and clear boundaries between your research/training (most important!) and your TA work/campus service. Take advantage of the resources on campus: health and mental health care services, tutoring, mentoring and methods training opportunities across campus! Start plotting your course now (i.e. I will take qualifying exams at beginning of 3rd year, write prospectus the next fall, fieldwork in AY4 & 5, so on) so you can plan out which fellowships to apply to, when you will need to be done with your methods training, etc. I'd also add that it is crucial to participate in program events and processes - if you aren't active, your absence will be noted and you could lose potential opportunities (Dorie Perez)
- You are the only person holding yourself accountable, no one else! While our advisors are there to help us along the way, the truth of the matter is that you must be proactive and hold yourself responsible for the progress you make toward your research and degree completion. No one will come to you with the answers; you have to actively seek help. Don't be afraid to email professors or other graduate students for assistance. Everyone here has different strengths and we can draw from one another to ensure we have productive and meaningful experiences while in grad school. *Practical advice regarding exams: ask your advisor for reading lists sometime in your first year. It helps tremendously to think about your exams as early as possible! (Neama Alamri)
- 1) Make yourself responsible for developing and continuing to refine your skills as an effective instructor. Without the ability to effectively communicate your research--be it to specialists who shares your depth of knowledge and discursive history, or to a student who will not necessarily be conversant in the details of your scholarship--in way that is both clear and accessible, and of legible importance, it remains isolated and its implications are unable to reach out into the world. Instruction is also the place in which you will be able to pass on and refine those vital and more general skills (critical thinking and all of the significance it entails) that allow the deepening of knowledge beyond your specialized subject, and so represents a space in which a great amount impact can be made on your part. 2) Locate a/the major journal in your disciplinary field or in the disciplinary field (this does not preclude interdisciplinary journals) you wish your work to speak to, and read it and its newly arriving issues in their entirety. This is both a meant to see what other scholars are writing about and how they are writing about it, and to remain current in a particular field. 3) Apply for everything, even if

connections to your own project or appropriateness to your candidacy seems tenuous. 4) Understand the work you do here as a vocation rather than a job. (Trevor Jackson)

- Approach all course materials with an open mind. Because of the nature of this program, you will be reading a lot of texts that utilize methods and theories outside of your core discipline, especially in the first year or two here. So if you are a historian, you will be asked to also read texts of critical theory, philosophy, anthropology, sociology, etc. You should try and apply the theories and ideas from these texts to your own work, even if you do so as a kind of thought experiment and never use them in your own dissertation. Because this is an interdisciplinary program, you should leave here with the ability to confidently engage scholarship from disciplines outside of your core field. You have a unique opportunity here to study things you wouldn't be encouraged to study in more traditional departments. Take advantage. (Christopher Caskey)
- Put some effort into finding places in Merced and the region where you can fulfill your personal needs outside of academic life. For better and for worse, this may take a little more work here in Merced than a typical college town. The Central Valley can be an alienating place at times, but it is fascinating and beautiful even at its most grotesque. The adventures are here (or only a drive/train/bus away) if you're willing to look for them with an open mind and open heart. If you're having a hard time finding them, feel free to drop me a line for some local knowledge. I'm always happy to offer suggestions. (Christopher Caskey, ccaskey@ucmerced.edu)

So you have . . .

General questions about graduate school?

UCM Grad Division (admissions, enrollment, etc) - <http://graduatedivision.ucmerced.edu/>, (209) 228-4000

Grad Div [Forms](#), [Funding & Loans](#), Advising

Career (Humanities) Contact - Cassie Gunter (this is an evolving position, I believe - Dorie)

Internal UCM Fellowship information: <http://graduatedivision.ucmerced.edu/financial-support>

Internal Funding Information: <http://graduatedivision.ucmerced.edu/financial-support/internal-funding>

External Funding Information: <http://graduatedivision.ucmerced.edu/financial-support/external-funding>

Pivot: <https://pivot.cos.com>

Peer Mentorship (PMP) program http://graduatedivision.ucmerced.edu/GRC_Peer_Mentorship

The Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning: <http://crte.ucmerced.edu/>

Teaching Matters Workshops (The Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning):

<http://crte.ucmerced.edu/teaching-matters>

Instructional Internship (The Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning): <http://crte.ucmerced.edu/IIP>

Certificate in Undergraduate Learning Outcomes Assessment (The Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning):

http://crte.ucmerced.edu/CGS_grant

Monthly Graduate events (dinners, bowling, bbqs, etc.) via [UCM Grad Life](#), email Jen Quiralte, jquiralte@ucmerced.edu

Questions about your TAs/Teaching?

- Classroom IT helpdesk - (209) 228- 4357
- Classroom tech, admin, etc. or WHAT TO BRING TO TEACH:
 - Bring [VGA/HDMI converters](#) (PC), or Apple converters for classroom projectors if you use Mac
 - (Mac converter sometimes available in classrooms, HDMI not available from IT)
 - FYI in most classrooms, the projector display screen password is "2005"
 - Bring dry erase markers, as most classrooms don't have them on site
- Center for Engaged Teaching and Learning: <http://crte.ucmerced.edu>
- Mitch Ylarregui (for research units, other TA related questions) - mylarregui@ucmerced.edu

- ** for independent research units, avoid going through Mitch to get a Course Control Number that allows you to register for them. [Use this form](#) and submit it to Students First instead (faster, less annoying!)*
- Issues with TA employment/employer
 - TA Union UAW 2856, contact Campus Rep David Rios
 - UCM Ombudsman Dee Acker (FYI she can confidentially advise and inform on your behalf, but her actions are non enforceable and limited in scope, other than she legitimizes your claim with a formal inquiry) dacker@ucmerced.edu Phone:(209) 228-2598

Questions about the IH program?

IH [Handbook](#) (Current 2014 version) & IH [Bylaws](#)

IH Forms: [Language Exam](#), [Committee](#), Dissertation Prospectus

IH [Progress Report Form](#) (needed every semester- still a thing?)

Grad Div Milestone Forms: [Qualifying Exam](#), Qualifying Exam [Report](#), Master's Thesis Checklist, Dissertation Checklist

Form to Change Advisors & Reconstitute Committee

IH website: <http://ih.ucmerced.edu/>

IH Spring 2018 Conference: <http://ihgradconference.ucmerced.edu> Contact: IHGradConference@ucmerced.edu or IH Conference Chair Neama Alamri @ naalamri@ucmerced.edu

Also see semesterly IH program workshops on professionalization (CV & Job search), requirements for IH MA/PhD

You can also email 2017/18 IH Graduate Student Representative Gina Palefsky @ ginapalefsky@gmail.com

Questions about healthcare & benefits?

UC Merced Health Center (appts, requests) - (209) 228-2273 (M-F, 8-5)

Counseling (CAPS) & After Hours Hotline - (209) 228-4266

UCM SHIP Insurance campus contact - insurance@ucmerced.edu

Anthem Blue Cross Customer Service- 866-940-8306

Benefit Enrollment (adding spouses/children, send marriage/birth certs) studentinsurance@wellsfargo.com

or call 800-853-5899 . . as of 8/2017, spousal enrollment in health/dental/vision benefits is \$980/semester (Spring semester is usually more, as it covers all of summer).

Questions about research?

- UCM Librarian 24/7 Reference Chat: <http://library.ucmerced.edu/about/contact/ask#chatScreen>
- Reference management tools (reference workshops @ library via Refworks)
- Other methodology training
 - -SPARC Lab (mapping & GIS) @ UCM
 - - [Engineering Service Learning](#) events (See [calendar](#) for dates of workshops)
 - - 2017/18 Graduate Statistics Tutor- Thaddeus Seher, tseher@ucmerced.edu
- *Where to print academic posters in Merced?* [Brite Dart Printing](#) (2x3 poster \$22 as of 2016) (209) 385-3800, email high resolution jpegs/pdfs to jobs@brightdart.com or Staples (209) 626-3916 (open until 9pm)
 - [UCM seal](#) for poster templates & examples of poster templates

Questions about IT/facilities on campus?

- IT helpdesk: COB1-132A (M-F, 8-5), (209) 228-4357 and helpdesk@ucmerced.edu
- Free Software (Microsoft, etc.): <http://it.ucmerced.edu/software-list/>
- Setting up UCM's VPN: <http://it.ucmerced.edu/vpn-installation-guide/>
- Transportation and Parking Services taps@ucmerced.edu (209) 228-8277
- Reserve UCM classrooms via SSHA Administration
 - SSHA main desk in COB 1- 259 (M-F 8-5, closed 12-1), ssha.reception@ucmerced.edu

- Reserve [UCM Library study rooms](#) via <http://crs.ucmerced.edu/> (up to 48 hours in advance, 2 hour slots)

Some Guidebooks on Graduate School (not exhaustive! Links to Amazon, but can find used at Abe, etc.)

General (non-discipline-specific) Guides & Job Market Texts

- [The Professor Is In](#) (Karen Kelsky, 2015)
- [Getting What You Came For](#) (Peters, 1997)
- [Graduate School for the Twenty-First Century](#) (Semenza, 2005)
- [How to Survive Your PhD](#) (Karp, 2010) - this should really be an example of what NOT to do . . . (Dorie)
- [How to Tame Your PhD](#) (Mewburn, 2015)

Writing & Dissertation-Specific Guides

- UCM's [Dissertation Bootcamps](#) (run through Dean Chris Kello via Graduate Division)
- [How to Write A Lot](#) (Silveira, 2004)
- [Writing Your Dissertation in 15 Minutes A Day](#) (Bolker, 1998)
- Destination Dissertation (Foss & Waters, 2007)
- Writing Your Journal Article in 12 Weeks (Belcher, 2004)

Some Texts/Resources on Research (methods training, general research guides, some key texts)

****Everyone: please add to the section of your own speciality, these are very general suggestions from my work-Dorie****

<p><u>Cultural Anthropology/Archeology</u> <i>Anthropology: A Student's Guide to Theory & Methods</i> <i>Anthropology & Social Theory</i> (Ortner, 2013) <i>Research Methods in Cultural Anthropology</i> (Bernard & Gravlee, 2015) <i>Ethnographer's Toolkit</i> - 7 books (LeCompte & Schensul)</p>	<p><u>Literature (thanks Trevor!)</u> <i>The Critical Tradition: Classic Texts and Contemporary Trends</i> (Richter 1989) <i>Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory</i> (Barry, 2002)</p> <p><u>General</u> <i>Pedagogy of the Oppressed</i> (Freire, 1970) <i>Clueless in Academe: How Schooling Obscures the Life of the Mind</i> (Graff, 2003)</p>
<p><u>History</u> <i>The Pursuit of History</i> (John Tosh, 2015) <i>History: A Very Short Introduction</i> (Arnold, 2000) <i>The Content of the Form</i> (White, 1987)</p> <p><u>American Studies</u> <i>Cultures of United States Imperialism</i> (Kaplan & Pease, 1993) <i>American Studies in a Moment of Danger</i> (Lipsitz, 2001) <i>Border Matters: Remapping American Cultural Studies</i> (Saldivar, 1997) <i>Empire</i> (Negri & Hardt, 2000) <i>The Post-colonial Studies Reader</i> (Ashcroft, 1995)</p>	<p><u>CRES (US-specific) & Philosophy</u> <i>Critical Race Theory: Key Texts</i> (Crenshaw, et. al. 200??) <i>Borderlands/La Frontera</i> (Anzaldua, 1987) <i>Wisdom Sits in Places</i> (Basso) <i>The Undercommons</i> (Moten & Harney, 2013): Free PDF here-http://www.minorcompositions.info/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/undercommons-web.pdf</p> <p><u>Other general resources:</u> Comprehensive list from UCSD Ethnic Studies Program Stanford Philosophy Encyclopedia</p>

Examples of precis for seminars & qualifying exams . . .

[Cameron Blevins](#) (History, 2006 @Stanford)

Other [guides](#) to writing [precis](#) for graduate seminars

Other interesting resources (job market, advising, etc.)

Connected Academics, specifically [faculty advising handout](#) for graduate students
[Humanists@Work](#) (UCHRI) - grants & [workshops](#) for 2017-2018
 Versatile PhD

Helpful Sites & Apps for Graduate School (your mileage may vary!)

Research & Teaching	Digital Humanities Tools	Time/Project Management	Mental Health & Wellness
Citation/References Zotero, Refworks , Endnote Writing UCM Dissertation Bootcamps (SP/SUM) 2017/18 Graduate Writing Tutor Dorie Perez, dperez6@ucmerced.edu <i>Sit Down & Write!</i> (UCM Fall 2017 Weds, 3-5, Grad Pad (SSB 350)) Writing Organization https://gingkoapp.com/Pressbooks	Mapping Tools SPARC Lab , SSM @ UCM <i>Other (intro to map) Sources</i> Google Tour Builder ESRI Story Maps CARTO Mapbox Social Explorer (contains access to demographics data)	Data Management Trello , Asana (“freemium” project tools) Basecamp Slack (group messaging chat) <i>Other digital collaboration tools:</i> “Tools for Collaborative Writing” http://piratepad.nl/ http://primarypad.com/ (for young students) https://draftin.com/ https://poetica.com/ - “write better together”	Meditation Apps Stop.think.breathe Calm (IOS only) Headspace (And/IOS) CBT/Therapy Resources <i>On Campus</i> CAPS (209)228-4266 <i>Apps & Services</i> Depression CBT Self Help Guide (And) 7 Cups of Tea Pacifica (And/IOS)
How To Teach Guides UCM Center for Engaged Research & Learning Supplemental TA training from Berkeley Icebreaker Ideas for easier introductions	Data Visualization Voyant Wordle (requires Flash)	Data Protection Dropbox Box (free UCM account!) Google Drive (native apps) Microsoft OneDrive iCloud Drive	UCM SHIP (Health) App (IOS and Android) Anthem Blue Cross (UCM SHIP) database for behavioral health
Polling in Class Socrative (like clicker training, 5 minute what questions Poll Everywhere Google Forms	Data Presentation Prezi Haiku Deck Google Slides Slide Share	Scheduling Cozi (family scheduling) Google Calendar Google Forms Survey Monkey Doodle	Academia Think Pieces Academic Kindness Blog How not to suck @ grad school Lifehacker grad school article
Grading/Feedback iAnnotate (tablet/ipad)	Other Tech Skills . . . Lynda (free UCM account)	Toggl (Time management) Blog Get A Life PhD	Resources on Quitting & Giving up academia

General questions about Merced, CA (totally subjective . . . feel free to add your own)

Transportation Resources

If you don't plan to have a car, living near CatTracks or The Bus will serve you well. Some people with cars also take public transportation to save the cost of parking on campus. Be aware that during breaks and on weekends public transport is minimal or discontinued in some areas.

CatTracks: This is the UC Merced bus system. Show your CatCard to the driver and it is free to ride. Details and routes can be found here: <http://cattracks.ucmerced.edu/>

- Getting on CatTracks requires being at the stop at the time listed. CatTracks may arrive early, but never departs before the listed stop time. It almost never arrives late.
- The CatTracks website also has alternative transportation information.

The Bus: The local bus system, creatively called “The Bus,” has a UC Route that is also free to ride with your CatCard. Details for The Bus can be found here: <http://www.mercedthebus.com/> and the UC Route page is here: <http://www.mercedthebus.com/220/UC---UC-Merced>

- The Bus operates by a “flag-down” system. As long as you are waiting somewhere along the route in a safe-stopping zone, you can wave at the driver to pick you up.

Discount travel: As a student, you can log in here <http://travel.ucmerced.edu> to find and book rental cars, flights, and hotels at UC negotiated rates. Tip: Scroll down and click “Connexus” to log into the Connexus Portal.

How can I leave for Merced for the weekend w/o a car?

Boutique Air (from Merced Airport (city bus drops off there), \$19 to Oakland International, \$50 to LAX)

YARTS Bus (To Yosemite National Park, ~ \$25 RT (is this true? Or just one way?))

Amtrak RR (To LA/SD, SB, Oak/SF, Sac)

Lyft & Uber are also in Merced (Merced Taxi Co. service can be spotty . . .)

Housing Resources

****Note:** Due to limited housing (and no on-campus graduate student housing) you should start your search a few months early. Most leases start on July 1. It is highly recommended to make arrangements ahead of time. The following resources should get you started in the right direction. ******

Graduate students looking for housing information can contact the Graduate Resource Center within the Graduate Division, gradresources@ucmerced.edu. In addition, here are some tips:

UC Merced Off-Campus Resources:

- Main Page: <http://housing.ucmerced.edu/off-campus>
- System for finding rentals and roommates:
<http://housing.ucmerced.edu/housing/campus-housing/finding-place/campus-housing-och-system>

Craigslist is popular for available rentals: <https://merced.craigslist.org/>

Apartment Complex Listings

****Sorted from more desirable and located near campus to less expensive and far. Apartment management will most likely accept international students without credit history (U.S. revolving credit card payment history) and with minimal references. ********

- Northwood Village (NE Merced – prime location near CatTracks + The Bus – near Raley’s – 4 miles from campus – car not needed)
 - o (209) 383-6000
 - o <http://www.northwoodvillagemerced.com/>
- Village Landing (NW Merced – prime location near CatTracks + The Bus – 5 miles from campus – car not needed)

- o (209) 418-7092
 - o <http://www.villagelandingmerced.com/>
- Village Terrace (NW Merced – prime location near CatTracks + The Bus – 5 miles from campus – car not needed)
 - o (209) 809-4375
 - o <http://www.villageterracemerced.com/>
- The Villages (NW Merced – prime location near CatTracks + The Bus – not far from Target – 5 miles from campus – car not needed)
 - o (209) 383-1616
 - o <http://www.thevillagesapartmenthomes.com/>
- Yardley Gardens (alright location – 15-minute walk to Raley's – more affordable rent – 5 miles from campus – very close to busy G Street – car not needed)
 - o (209) 383-3280
 - o <http://www.rentatyardleygardens.com>
- Brookdale Gardens (alright location near small shopping center – affordable rent – 5 miles from campus – close to G line CatTracks – car may be needed)
 - o (209) 383-3564
 - o <http://www.brookdalegardensapts.com>
- Castle Apartments (so so location near Bear Creek Village shopping center – affordable rent – 6 miles from campus – close to G line CatTracks – car may be needed)
 - o (209) 722-8642
- Sahara Apartments (so so location near Bear Creek Village shopping center – affordable rent – 5 miles from campus – close to G line CatTracks – car may be needed)
 - o (209) 723-7262
- Osito - Las Palmas - River Glen Apartments (so so location – affordable – 6 miles from campus and grocery stores – 25-minute walk from CatTracks – car likely needed)
 - o (209) 233-9649
- Olivewood Apartments (near Merced Mall and Olive Ave shopping centers – 6 miles from campus – more affordable – car likely needed)
 - o (209) 722-3922
 - o <http://www.olivewoodapartments.com>
- Grand Resort Apartments (nice property near Merced Mall and Olive Ave shopping centers – 7 miles from campus – more affordable – near C1 CatTracks – car likely needed)
 - o (209) 384-2394
 - o <http://www.grandresortapartments.com>
- Woodbridge Place Apartments (near Walmart but walkable paths may be limited – very modern and recently built – 7 miles from campus – near C1 CatTracks – car likely needed)
 - o (209) 233-9479
 - o <http://www.merced.pwapt.com/>

Merced Downtown Lofts

- M-Lofts (affordable and very nice – located on Main Street at Canal Street – 7 miles from campus – near G Line and The Bus UC Route)
- For more information call Gonella Property Management at (209)383-6277

Local Property Manager Listings:

- Bear Creek Properties
 - (209) 233-9229
 - <http://www.bcpmerced.com/>
- Gonella Property Management
 - (209) 383-6277
 - <http://gonellapropertymanagement.com/>
- Gsf Properties Inc
 - (209) 724-9560
 - <http://www.gsfpri.com/>
- Heritage Management
 - (209) 383-2244
 - <http://www.hmgt.com/>
- Maxwell Homes
 - (209) 383-6145
 - <http://maxwellhomes.com/index.html>
- Merced Old 99 Realty Inc
 - (209) 722-1594
 - <http://www.mo99realty.com/>
- Merced Yosemite Realty
 - (209) 722-5400
 - <http://www.my-realty.org/>
- Olivewood
 - (209) 772-3922
 - <http://www.olivewoodapartments.com/>
- Real Property Management Valley Wide
 - (209) 722-7761
 - <http://www.valleywiderpm.com/>
- Sahara Apartments
 - (209) 723-7262
 - <http://www.vwplaces.com/Home/Index/3>
- Salvadori Realty Armando Diaz
 - (209) 777-9955
 - <http://www.c21salvadori.com/>

- Sunshine Investment
 - o (408) 252-8899
 - o <http://www.sunshineinvestment.net/>
- Tinetti Realty Group
 - o (209) 384-3885
 - o <http://www.mercedrealestate.com/>
- Tioga <http://www.mercedrealestate.com/>
 - o (209) 723-3254
 - o <http://blrcomm.wt.rentmanager.com/>

Other Housing Websites to Search:

- <https://www.hotpads.com/>
- <http://www.realtor.com/>
- <https://www.zillow.com/>

Food Services

UC Merced Food Pantry: <http://studentlife.ucmerced.edu/content/uc-merced-food-pantry>

- You must sign up every month that you want to pick up food. Bring your CatCard.

Raley's Discount + Something Extra: <https://www.raleys.com>

- Some people say there are more affordable grocery stores, but Raley's is close to campus and offers student discounts.
- Sign up online for their Something Extra rewards.
- Bring your CatCard and get 10% off (excluding "sin" items).

Produce on the Go: <https://www.facebook.com/produce.onthego/>

Non-chain restaurants in Merced/Turlock/Atwater area

****very few places open Sunday/Monday****

Breakfast/Brunch	Lunch/Happy Hour	Dinner/Drinks
Toni's Courtyard Cafe* Cinema Cafe* Coffee Bandits Bagel Time	Paul's Place* 17th Street Pub Hangar 1* Sam's Cafe* Thai II* Dustbowl Brewery* La Mo Cafe	Bella Luna* Bistro 510* Pinocchio's* Taste of Little India* Turmeric Indian Restaurant* King's Asian Cuisine J & R Tacos

*serves lunch and/or dinner too

Health & Wellness (gyms, fitness etc.)

Merced/Atwater	Atwater/Turlock/Modesto	Fresno
In Shape (3 locations in Merced) Fitness Evolution	In Shape (Atwater) In Shape (Turlock)	Zen Den Coil Yoga Fulton Yoga Collective

The Studio (Pilates) Seasonal pop-up yoga classes (MMAC, Vista Ranch, Yoga in the Park), Carrie Menke (Physics) teaches yoga at UCM Massage Therapist Yolanda Gonzalez @ Ezekian Holistic Exchange That other (untested!) massage place (via instagram Aug 2017) Crossfit Merced Fitness Evolution	I Am Yoga (Turlock) The Studio (Pilates) Fitness Addiction (Atwater)	GB3 MetalMark (Climbing & Fitness) RIDE54 (spinning) Skywalk (trampoline park)
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Random Off-Campus Brain/Soul Candy

Merced Shakespeare Festival (September (in the park), January performances)
Merced Playhouse Theater Science Cafe @ Coffee Bandits
Merced Roller Derby Merced Art Hop (quarterly- Jan/April/July/Oct)
Fresno Art Museum Artes Americas (Fresno)
In-Shape Fitness (20% off dues for students)