

TIMELY TOPICS

Spring 2026 Student Track



TIMELY TOPICS

Timely Topics is a series of opportunities to engage with subject matter experts on topics relevant to graduate education. Every session is open to all who wish to attend, however, The Graduate School highlights three tracks (student, faculty, and administrative) to help registrants identify which sessions may be most relevant to their interests. This flyer includes sessions for graduate students and postdocs. Sessions for the faculty and administrative tracks are listed on the [Timely Topics webpage](#), along with slides, recordings, and resources from past sessions.

REGISTRATION

All sessions are virtual. To register for any of this semester's Timely Topics series, click the button below.

[REGISTRATION](#)

CONTACT

DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDENT ADMINISTRATION

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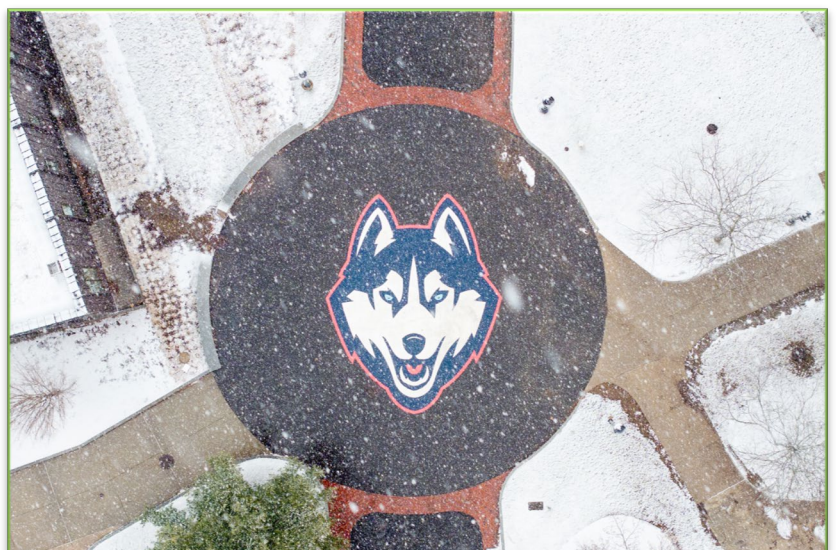
THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

Whetten Graduate Center

gradschool@uconn.edu

grad.uconn.edu/timely-topics

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

GETTING TO CONFERRAL: MASTER'S DEGREES AND GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

This session will discuss the Office of the Registrar's degree audit process for master's degrees and graduate certificates, including 6th Year Certificate programs. Degree Audit staff will share auditing terms and timeline, degree requirements for Plan A and Plan B, as well as the thesis submission process. Time will be available at the end of the session for participants' questions.

DATE: Wednesday, February 11, 2026

TIME: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

FACILITATOR:

Sandra Cyr, Master's Degree and Graduate Certificate Programs Registrar Specialist

GETTING TO CONFERRAL: DOCTORAL DEGREES

This session will discuss the Office of the Registrar's degree audit process for doctoral (Ph.D.) students. Degree Audit staff will share auditing terms and timeline, degree requirements, the master's on the way process, and the dissertation submission process. Time will be available at the end of the session for participants' questions.

DATE: Wednesday, February 11, 2026

TIME: 2 :00 PM - 3:00 PM

FACILITATOR:

Jenn Horan, Doctoral Degree Registrar Specialist

YOU'RE NOT AN IMPOSTER! (WE PROMISE.)

Many graduate students struggle with feeling like an imposter, including feeling like they don't belong in graduate school and will be "found out". This session will dive into Imposter Phenomenon, including its roots, how it impacts our academic and personal lives, and strategies to combat it.

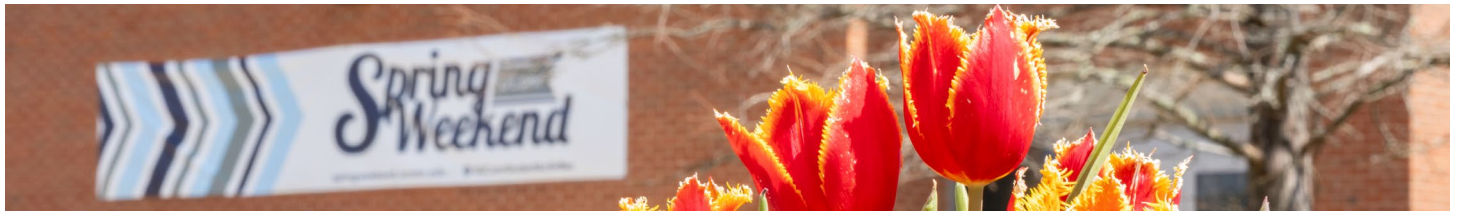
DATE: Wednesday, February 25, 2026

TIME: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

FACILITATORS:

Kimberly Curry, Director of Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Support, The Graduate School & **Megan Petsa**, Director of Graduate Student Administration, The Graduate School





ACCESSIBLE SCHOLARSHIP: BUILDING INCLUSIVE THESES AND DISSERTATIONS

Your research deserves to be accessible to everyone. In this workshop, you'll discover how simple choices like using descriptive headings, true tables, and alt text, can remove barriers and make your dissertation or thesis inclusive for all readers. These same practices will strengthen your ability to create accessible materials in your future academic or professional work. In addition, with new Title II regulations taking effect by April 2026, now is the perfect time to understand accessibility standards and ensure your work meets these upcoming requirements.

DATE: Wednesday, March 11, 2026

TIME: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

FACILITATOR:

Karen Skudlarek, IT Accessibility Coordinator, ITS

FROM GRAD STUDENT TO POSTDOC: NAVIGATING A SUCCESSFUL TRANSITION

Are you considering a position as a postdoc after you graduate? Moving from graduate school to a postdoctoral position marks a significant shift in your education and training. This workshop will help you prepare for that transition by addressing key topics such as selecting a postdoc, understanding expectations, establishing productive mentoring relationships, and setting professional goals. Participants will also explore how to balance research, career development, and personal wellbeing during this pivotal stage.

DATE: Wednesday, April 22, 2026

TIME: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

FACILITATOR:

Melanie Sinche, Director of Graduate Student and Postdoc Success, The Graduate School

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REGISTRATION

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