



LOYOLA
UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

The Graduate School Fall 2025 Professional Development Events

The Graduate School and our partners offer many professional development events specifically tailored to graduate students. Up to date information on registration is available on the Graduate School website at <https://luc.edu/gradschool> and in weekly Graduate School Announcements emails. Email gradschool@luc.edu with any questions.

Discussion with MA Alum Rachel Ramirez-Wilmette History Museum

September 18, 2025 1:00 – 2:00 PM Zoom

Rachel will share how she used her MA to land a non-academic job. She will detail her career path from an intern to curator, and to the director of a highly regarded Chicago area museum. She will discuss:

- Steps graduate students can take now to prepare to be career flexible
- How to translate and highlight your graduate school skills to employers
- Using your graduate degree to land a position in a research and learning institution
- Utilizing intern and volunteer positions to build contacts that can enhance job opportunities

Presenter: Rachel Ramirez, MA Public/Applied History, Loyola University Chicago; Director, Wilmette History Museum, Wilmette, IL

Networking to Gain Competitive Advantage in Your Job Search and Career Journey

September 23, 2025 1:00 – 2:00PM Zoom

Networking is a vital part of any modern job search. Join us to learn how you can tap into resources at Loyola—and beyond—to discover connections and build meaningful relationships with industry professionals.

Presented by LUC Career Services and The Graduate School, this session will offer practical guidance on how to:

- Identify and reach out to alumni and industry professionals
- Prepare for networking opportunities such as mentoring, industry events, career fairs, and conferences
- Build and maintain strong professional relationships
- Integrate networking into your long-term career management and job search strategy

Workshop Instructor: Brian Campbell, PhD, Associate Director, Graduate Career Community, Career Services, Loyola University Chicago

Introduction to Graduate Writing

October 16, 2025 1:00 – 2:30 PM In Person – Damen Student Center - Room 214 LSC

This Graduate Writing workshop introduces students to three elemental areas of scholarly writing: organizing around a complex and worthwhile purpose, framing paragraph structure, and reassessing the source relationships. It is open to Master's and Doctoral students from all disciplines.

Workshop Instructor: Michael Meinhardt, PhD, Senior Lecturer, Department of English, Loyola University Chicago

Understanding the Academic Job Search

October 21, 2025 1:00 – 2:00 PM Zoom

Understanding the nuances of this academic search and hiring process can be complex, challenging and/or overwhelming. Join a panel of Loyola faculty to gain insights on:

- Recommended resources to support your progress on your academic job search and career goals
- Specific professional materials you will need to prepare, apply, and compete as a strong candidate
- Discipline-specific insights and personal stories from faculty sharing experiences, tips, and solutions for navigating your academic job search

Workshop Panelists will be early career Loyola faculty in discussion facilitated by Brian Campbell, PhD, Associate Director, Graduate Career Community, Career Services, Loyola University Chicago

Academic Grant Writing

November 7, 2025 11:00AM – 12:30PM Zoom

Dr. Hopwood will discuss different types of fellowships and grants, such as short-term archival fellowships and dissertation-completion fellowships, including where to find them and how to compose a successful grant application.

Topics discussed include:

- Demystifying the grant process
- Locating grants
- Developing budgets
- Effectively framing research questions
- Designing work plans and managing time

Workshop Instructor: Dr. Elizabeth Hopwood, Director, Center for Textual Studies and Digital Humanities, Loyola University Chicago

**No grant-writing experience necessary. Open to all students in The Graduate School. The main focus will be toward the Humanities with best practices useful for all disciplines.*

Discussion with MA Alum Matthew Prochilo– College of the Holy Cross

November 13, 2025 1:00 – 2:00P Zoom

Matthew will share how he utilized his MA to land a non-academic job. He will share his career path from an MA in Philosophy to top fundraising professional at one of the nation's leading four-year liberal arts colleges.

He will discuss:

- Identifying transferable skills and building essential new ones
- The steps graduate students can take now to prepare for a career outside the academy
- How to craft application materials that highlight your strengths and meet employer needs
- Effective non-academic job search and networking strategies

Presenter: Matthew Prochilo, MA Applied Philosophy, Loyola University Chicago; Major Gifts Officer, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester, MA

Making a Statement

December 4, 2025 1:00 – 2:00PM Zoom

The Graduate School is offering a workshop for graduate students applicable for personal, research, and teaching statements that can be used for job searches, fellowships, assistantships, and scholarships. This workshop will include tips and strategies, followed by a Q&A. This program is open to Master's and Doctoral students from all disciplines and schools at Loyola.

Workshop Instructor: Heather Sevens, MA, Associate Dean, Student Academic Services, The Graduate School, Loyola University Chicago