



# Perspectives

Resources for  
minority applicants



**HARVARD UNIVERSITY**

*The GRADUATE SCHOOL of ARTS AND SCIENCES*

## A Message from the Dean

The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences is alive with intellectual energy. The distinguished faculty and unmatched resources of Harvard University provide an exceptional setting in which students can focus on the most compelling challenges presented by our 56 degree programs in departments and divisions across all disciplines. Our offerings include 17 interfaculty PhD programs, which bring the arts and sciences together with Harvard's professional schools. PhD students may also choose to complete a secondary field in one of 18 areas of study, including computational science and engineering, critical media practice, and science, technology, and society.



At Harvard, graduate students can take advantage of scores of seminars, lectures, performances, and exhibits, as well as opportunities to meet informally with fellow students and faculty for quiet study and focused experimentation. GSAS is a community where you can form and test your own ideas, expand your scholarly horizons, and deepen your knowledge.

Fostering an environment of inclusivity is central to the mission of GSAS. Our students come from a broad range of backgrounds; the variety of their experiences and perspectives greatly enriches the intellectual and cultural life of Harvard. As an institution, we are determined to recruit and mentor a community of scholars that reflects the ethnic and cultural diversity of contemporary society.

The W. E. B. Du Bois Graduate Society, along with other student organizations, provides our minority students with both academic and social support. Our GSAS offices of Diversity and Minority Affairs and Student Affairs work closely with these student groups to organize activities that will enhance the experience and professional development of our minority community. We emphasize and offer multiple opportunities for mentorship and career preparation.

I welcome you to explore this remarkable institution as you begin to write the next chapter of your academic and professional life.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Xiao-Li Meng'.

**Xiao-Li Meng, PhD '90**

*Dean, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences*

*Whipple V. N. Jones Professor of Statistics*

Visit [gsas.harvard.edu/diversity](https://gsas.harvard.edu/diversity) for more information about the graduate experience at Harvard.



#### GSAS at a Glance

- Degree candidates: 4,033  
(3,871 PhD candidates;  
162 master's candidates)
- Academic departments: 56
- Interfaculty programs (joint programs with Harvard Business School, Kennedy School of Government, etc.): 17
- 44 percent of GSAS students are women
- 34 percent of GSAS students are international
- 8 percent of GSAS students are underrepresented minorities

#### A Commitment to Diversity

To improve and enrich the academic experience of all members of our community, and to sustain the educational excellence that Harvard University offers, the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences is committed to enrolling a student body that represents the ethnic and cultural diversity of contemporary society. We welcome applications from members of US minority groups that are underrepresented in graduate education: Black and African Americans, Mexican Americans, Puerto Ricans, Native Americans, and native Pacific islanders (from Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, and Micronesia).

Harvard's policy is to make decisions concerning applicants, students, faculty, and staff on the basis of what each individual can contribute to the University's educational objectives and institutional needs. The University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, national origin, political beliefs, veteran status, or disability unrelated to job or course of study requirements.

## Finding a Home at Harvard

### LaVaughn Henry, PhD '91, economics

Vice President and Senior Regional Officer, Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, Cincinnati Branch; member of the Graduate School Alumni Association Council



In the spring of 1984, as I walked across Harvard Yard for the very first time—a yard so often crossed by past and future presidents, captains of industry, and renowned artists—a recurring question crossed my mind: “*Will I fit in here?*”

I recall meeting the other members of my entering doctoral class in economics. “Harvard,” “Yale,” “Stanford,” among many other well-known names, all seemed to recur as they introduced themselves. I was under no

illusion that Rockhurst College, or the University of Missouri, places I had attended, would be among the ones they named. Although . . . guess what? The stories they told of how they got to Harvard, where they came from, and what they wanted to achieve did not seem for me to be that distant.

In class, when we formed study groups, or met for lunch or drinks, I came to understand that the presumed difference between myself and the other students, even the faculty whom I had come to know, was a presumption based on ignorance, not on fact. I started to ask myself another question: “*Is it possible that I might belong here?*”

Harvard University is a cornucopia of information, insight, and involvement. While on the Yard, I became president of the Graduate Student Council of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, a member of the Student Advisory Committee of the Institute of Politics at the Harvard Kennedy School, and an active participant in the Student Coalition against Apartheid in South Africa. These are just a few examples of the diversity of opportunities and opinion that the University offers to all, regardless of background, who pass through its gates. I ultimately came to ask myself one more question: “*How much of a difference can I make while I am here, and after I leave Harvard?*”

“How much of a difference can I make while I am here, and after I leave Harvard?”

— LAVAUGHN HENRY



### The Application Process

Graduate admissions at Harvard is not a one-size-fits-all process. The department to which you are applying, rather than the Graduate School administration, will make the decision on your application, weighing all your materials, not grades or test scores alone. Admissions committees will pay special attention to your grades in your intended field of graduate study and/or closely related fields. Similarly, letters of recommendation by academics in your field who can comment on your scholarly work will be given considerable weight. Equally important to the decision process is your Statement of Purpose. The Statement of Purpose—an intellectual discussion of your past work and the questions you wish to pursue—should reflect your qualifications, enthusiasm, and commitment to graduate study in your field of interest. You may also be asked to provide a writing sample or portfolio of your work.

### Crafting a Compelling Statement of Purpose

Candidates can find it difficult to talk about themselves or to describe their reasons and motivations for pursuing a graduate degree. But a strong and convincing Statement of Purpose is essential.

Your Statement of Purpose should be a focused and informative essay, one that conveys your interests and qualifications in a scholarly manner. One effective approach is to proceed from what you have already done, showing the impact of past intellectual experiences on your goals for the future.

Some students find it best to present their academic experiences as a series of intellectual turning points; others focus on a single culminating one—often the undergraduate thesis. These experiences can be used to show why you wish to continue exploring a certain theme or why you wish to turn in a new direction. In either case, the discussion should provide a vivid picture of your intellectual profile: how you formulate research topics, how you pursue them, and how you articulate any interesting findings. It is also helpful to say why you wish to study in a particular department or with a particular faculty member.

The Statement of Purpose is also an important display of your writing skills. Be sure that it is a tightly organized and polished piece of work. Ask someone else to check your final draft for typographical and grammatical errors.

### About the GRE

The General Test of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required of all candidates. But no single factor determines admissions success at Harvard, and there is also no minimum test score that will ensure admission to the program of your choice. Common sense suggests that a score might make a greater difference if it is exceptionally high or low, or if other factors in your academic record are ambiguous.

If you have questions about your specific score results or whether or not you should consider retaking the test, consult with your professors or other advisors who are familiar with the graduate admissions process in the arts and sciences.

### How to Ask for a Letter of Recommendation

A letter of recommendation should provide an informative and well-documented evaluation of the quality of your academic performance, furnishing detailed information that grades alone cannot reveal. GSAS requires three letters of recommendation, all of which should focus on your academic qualifications and research accomplishments.



You should choose teachers who know your work best and who have been most positive and supportive about your work. These should be professors in your field or closely related fields who are able

*Continued on page 10*

“If it takes a village to raise a child, the Du Bois Society can be likened to that village, and we as graduate students are its children. Along my graduate journey, the Du Bois Society has provided a sense of community, solidarity, and security. Despite the challenges of graduate school, I always have the resources I need to succeed. Moreover, I’m never alone in my pursuit of success; I have a village!”

—BRANDON WOODS,  
PHD CANDIDATE  
IN BIOLOGICAL AND  
BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

## Programs Offered in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, 2015–2016

GSAS, founded in 1872, grants degrees in 56 departments, divisions, and committees in the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences. It is the only Harvard school that confers the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree.

| Programs of Study                              | Fields of Study Include  | Degree(s) Offered  |
|--|--|--------------------|
| <b>Natural Sciences</b>                        |  |                    |
| Astronomy                                      |  | PhD                |
| Biological Sciences in Dental Medicine (HILS*) |  | PhD                |
| Biological Sciences in Public Health (HILS*)   |  | PhD                |
| Biophysics (HILS*)                             |  | PhD                |
| Biostatistics                                  | Biostatistics; Bioinformatics  | PhD                |
| Chemical Biology (HILS*)                       |  | PhD                |
| Chemistry and Chemical Biology (HILS*)         | Physical-Materials Science; Physical-Surface Science; Organic-Chemical Biology; Organic-Synthesis; Organic-Organometallics/Catalysis; Organic-Physical Organic; Inorganic-Bioinorganic; Inorganic-Physical Inorganic; Inorganic-Solid State/Materials; Physical-Biophysical; Physical-Computation, Simulation, and Theory; Physical-Energy/Climate/Environment   | PhD                |
| Chemical Physics                               |  | PhD                |
| Division of Medical Sciences                   | Immunology; Neuroscience (PhD in Neurobiology); Virology; Biological and Biomedical Sciences (BBS); Bioinformatics and Integrative Genomics (BIG); Speech and Hearing Bioscience Technology (SHBT)   | PhD                |
| Earth and Planetary Sciences                   |  | PhD                |
| Engineering and Applied Sciences               | Applied Mathematics (PhD, AB/SM); Applied Physics (PhD, AB/SM); Engineering Sciences, Bioengineering (PhD, AB/SM); Engineering Sciences, Electrical Engineering (PhD, AB/SM, SM, or ME); Engineering Sciences, Environmental Sciences and Engineering (PhD, AB/SM); Engineering Sciences, Materials Science and Mechanical Engineering (PhD, AB/SM); Computer Science (PhD, AB/SM); Computational Science and Engineering (SM, ME, or AB/SM) | PhD; AB/SM; SM, ME |

|   |  |         |
|---|--|---------|
| Mathematics                                 |  | PhD     |
| Molecular and Cellular Biology (HILS*)      | Molecules, Cells and Organisms; Engineering and Physical Biology   | PhD     |
| Organismic and Evolutionary Biology (HILS*) |  | PhD     |
| Physics                                     | Theoretical Physics; Experimental Physics; Theoretical Astrophysics; Experimental Astrophysics; Engineering and Physical Biology   | PhD     |
| Population Health Sciences                  | Environmental Health; Epidemiology; Global Health and Population; Nutrition; Social and Behavioral Sciences  | PhD     |
| Statistics                                  |  | PhD; AM |
| Systems Biology (HILS*)                     |  | PhD     |
| <b>Social Sciences</b>                      |  |         |
| American Studies                            |  | PhD     |
| Anthropology                                | Archaeology (PhD only); Social Anthropology (PhD only); Medical Anthropology (AM only)   | PhD; AM |
| Business Economics                          | Behavioral Economics; Development; Econometrics; Economics of Organizations; Economic Theory; Entrepreneurship; Finance; Industrial Organization; International Economics; Labor Economics; Macroeconomics   | PhD     |
| Education                                   | Culture, Institutions, and Society; Education Policy and Program Evaluation; Human Development, Learning, and Teaching   | PhD     |
| Government                                  | Political Thought and Its History; American Government; Comparative Politics; International Relations  | PhD     |
| Health Policy                               | Decision Sciences; Economics; Evaluative Science and Statistics; Management; Political Analysis  | PhD     |
| History                                     | Ancient History; Medieval History; Early Modern European History; Modern European History; Latin American History; United States History; East Asian History; African History; Russian History; British History; Byzantine History; International History; Middle Eastern History; South Asian History | PhD     |
| History of Science                          | Ancient/Medieval; Early Modern; Physical Sciences; Life Sciences; Medicine; Human/Behavioral Sciences  | PhD; AM |
| Human Evolutionary Biology                  |  | PhD     |

\*Harvard Integrated Life Sciences (HILS) federation

|   |  |         |
|---|--|---------|
| Middle Eastern Studies                                    | Anthropology and Middle Eastern Studies (PhD); History of Art and Architecture and Middle Eastern Studies (PhD); History and Middle Eastern Studies (PhD); Regional Studies: Middle East (AM)  | PhD; AM |
| Organizational Behavior                                   | Sociology Track; Psychology Track  | PhD     |
| Political Economy and Government                          | Government; Economics  | PhD     |
| Psychology  | Cognition, Brain, and Behavior; Experimental Psychopathy and Clinical; Developmental; Social Psychology  | PhD     |
| Public Policy   | Judgment and Decision Sciences; Environment and Natural Resources; International Development; Security Studies/International Relations; Social Policy; Science and Technology Policy; Macroeconomic and Growth Policy  | PhD     |
| Regional Studies–East Asia                                | China; Japan; Korea  | AM      |
| Regional Studies–Russia, Eastern Europe, and Central Asia |  | AM      |
| Social Policy   | Social Policy and Government; Social Policy and Sociology  | PhD     |
| Sociology   |  | PhD     |
| <b>Humanities</b>   |  |         |
| African and African American Studies                      | Anthropology; Economics; English; Government; History; History of Art and Architecture; Linguistics; Music; Philosophy; Psychology; Religion; Romance Languages and Literatures; Sociology; Comparative Literature   | PhD     |
| Celtic Languages and Literatures                          |  | PhD     |
| Classics  | Classical Philology; Classical Archaeology; Classical Philosophy; Ancient History; Medieval Latin; Byzantine Greek; Modern Greek   | PhD     |
| Comparative Literature                                    |  | PhD     |
| East Asian Languages and Civilizations                    | Religion/Philosophy; Chinese History; Chinese Literature; Japanese History; Japanese Literature; Korean History; Korean Literature; Inner Asian; Tibetan; History and East Asian Languages; East Asian Arts/Film/Cultural Studies  | PhD     |
| English   | Medieval; Renaissance/Early Modern; 18th Century/Enlightenment; 19th Century British/Romantics/Victorian; Early American (to 1900); 20th Century British; 20th Century American; Criticism and Theory; The English Language; Transnational Anglophone/Postcolonial; African American Literature; Drama; Poetry | PhD     |

|   |  |         |
|---|--|---------|
| Film and Visual Studies                 |  | PhD     |
| Germanic Languages and Literatures      | German Literature; Other Germanic  | PhD     |
| History of Art and Architecture         | Medieval; Northern Renaissance; 17th Century; Modern (18th and 19th Century); Islamic; Chinese; African American; Early Christian and Byzantine; American; Modern (20th Century); South Asian and Indian; Photography; Latin American; Southern Renaissance; Japanese; Contemporary; 19th and 20th Century Architecture; Renaissance Architecture; Africa (historic, diaspora, contemporary)                               | PhD     |
| Inner Asian and Altaic Studies          |  | PhD     |
| Linguistics                             | Linguistic Theory; Historical Linguistics  | PhD     |
| Music                                   | Musicology/Historical; Musicology/Ethnomusicology; Music Theory; Composition; Cross-Disciplinary Music Studies; Performance Practice (AM only)   | PhD; AM |
| Near Eastern Language and Civilizations | Ancient Near Eastern Studies; Jewish History and Culture; Histories and Cultures of Muslim Societies   | PhD; AM |
| Philosophy                              | Classical Philosophy   | PhD     |
| The Study of Religion                   | African Religions; Buddhist Studies; Comparative Studies; East Asian Religions; Ethics; Greco-Roman Religions; Hebrew Bible; History of Christianity; Islamic Studies; Jewish Studies; New Testament and Early Christianity; Philosophy of Religion; Religion and Society; Religion, Gender, and Culture; Religion in the Americas; Religions of Late Antiquity; Judaism and Christianity; South Asian Religions; Theology | PhD     |
| Romance Languages and Literatures       | French; Italian; Portuguese; Spanish   | PhD     |
| Slavic Languages and Literatures        | Linguistics; Literature  | PhD     |
| South Asian Studies                     |  | PhD; AM |

GSAS students may also pursue joint degrees with other Harvard schools. The MD/PhD Program is a joint degree program with Harvard Medical School for students who plan careers in biomedical research and academic medicine. GSAS PhD students from any program may participate in a coordinated degree program with Harvard Law School that leads to a JD/PhD. Prospective students must apply to and be separately admitted to each school to participate.

**The fields of study noted do not necessarily reflect all areas of study available in a given program.**

■ *Applying to Harvard, continued*

to discuss your critical-thinking skills and ability to do original research. Therefore, it is important to keep in touch with former course professors and research mentors who were supportive of your work. Keep them informed of your activities in the field and your interest in doing graduate study.

It is wise to start acquiring general letters of recommendation from courses in your potential field of interest shortly after the completion of such courses. Whenever possible, make your request for a letter in person, by appointment, or during office hours. Bring along any materials that could help a recommender produce a well-documented evaluation of your qualifications; be prepared to explain why you want to do graduate work and something about your career goals.

Colleges often make provisions for maintaining letters of recommendation on file, so be sure to avail yourself of this service as you start acquiring letters.

When the time comes to apply, select letters from those professors who have shown the strongest interest and most sustained support for your future goals as a graduate student. You may want to have the professor customize the recommendation for the program to which you are applying—if it is not already on file, be sure to ask for the letter at least one month in advance of the application deadline, since a good letter takes time to write.



## The Application Timeline

### Summer/Early Fall

- Gather application materials; visit or contact GSAS.
- Take the GRE General Test; Subject Test may be taken earlier.
- Begin drafting Statement of Purpose.
- Request letters of recommendation and official transcripts.
- Apply for national fellowships.

### Late Fall/Winter

- Submit application materials. GSAS does not have rolling admissions. Deadlines for admission and financial aid applications are December 1 and December 15, 2015, or January 4, 2016, depending on the program. Visit the prospective students section of the GSAS website for program-specific information.
- Contact the Admissions Office to check that your application is complete.

### Spring

- Look for a decision letter in late February or March.
- Visit campus.
- Replies are due by April 15.

## GSAS Application Fee Waiver

The fee to apply to the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences is \$105. You may request that the fee be waived by contacting the GSAS Admissions Office at [admiss@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:admiss@fas.harvard.edu) or the Office of Diversity and Minority Affairs at [minrec@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:minrec@fas.harvard.edu).

## Detailed Guidance Online

For detailed advice on obtaining letters of recommendation, writing your Statement of Purpose, and taking the GRE, visit [gsas.harvard.edu/diversity](https://gsas.harvard.edu/diversity).

## To Apply

Visit [gsas.harvard.edu/apply](https://gsas.harvard.edu/apply) to apply online and to learn more about programs of study at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University.

## Financing a Graduate Education

The Graduate School will offer admitted students the financial assistance needed to make graduate study possible.

All PhD candidates receive at least five years of full financial support, with students in the humanities and social sciences receiving a dissertation completion fellowship in their final year. Students in the sciences typically receive funding until they complete their degree. Support comes from a range of resources, including internal



## Contact Us

### Harvard University Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

Office of Admissions  
and Financial Aid

1350 Massachusetts  
Avenue, Suite 350  
Cambridge, MA 02138

#### Admissions:

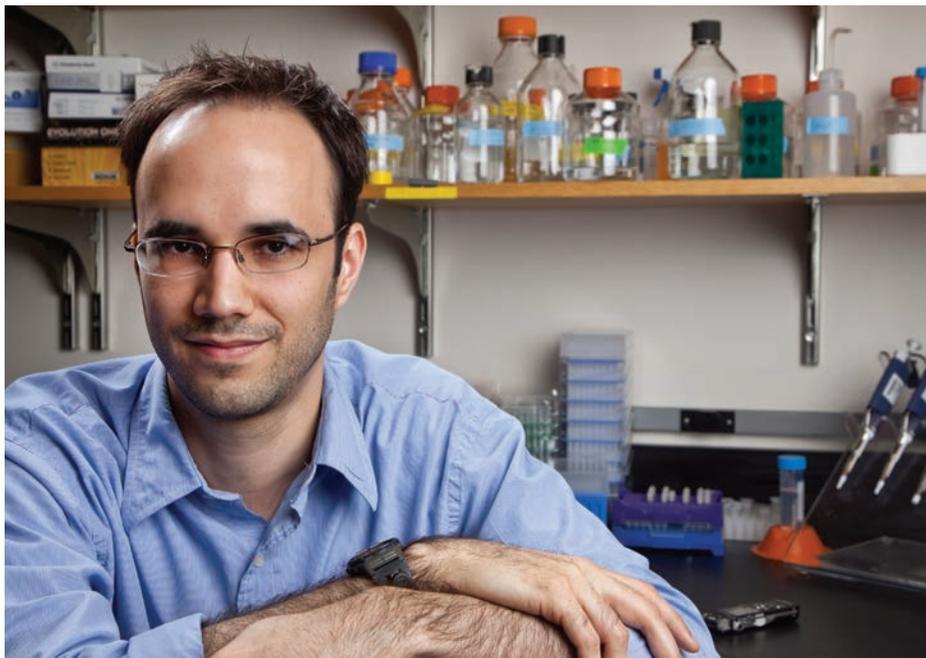
617-495-5315  
admiss@fas.harvard.edu  
[gsas.harvard.edu](https://gsas.harvard.edu)

and external grants, research fellowships, teaching fellowships, and research assistantships. In 2015–2016, the maximum award includes payment of tuition and required medical and insurance fees, plus a stipend of at least \$26,800.

You are encouraged to apply for outside sources of funding, which can provide additional support. For detailed information about the fellowship opportunities that await you, including the Ford Foundation minority fellowship and the National Science Foundation fellowship, visit [gsas.harvard.edu/diversity](https://gsas.harvard.edu/diversity).

#### Non-Degree Programs

GSAS offers two options for study within a non-degree program—the Special Student status and the Visiting Fellow status. For information, contact the Special Students and Visiting Fellows Office at [special@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:special@fas.harvard.edu) or 617-495-5392, or look at the programs of study section at [gsas.harvard.edu](https://gsas.harvard.edu).



## A Network of Support

### Minority Biomedical Scientists of Harvard (MBSH)

**Kellie Jurado** may be one of the only Latinas in her program, but the PhD candidate in virology refuses to let this intimidate her. “It ignites me,” says Jurado. “It motivates me to work my hardest and to be my best because I understand that I am representing more than just myself.”

Dedicated to supporting and strengthening the minority student community at Harvard and beyond, Jurado has led programs to promote science in underserved and underrepresented Boston high schools and has served as a mentor to visiting minority high school, undergraduate, and post-baccalaureate students—two of many opportunities afforded to her as a member of the Minority Biomedical Scientists of Harvard (MBSH).

Intent on building a community among minority PhD students and postdocs on the medical campus in Boston’s Longwood area, MBSH is a student-led endeavor that matches up new and advanced students through a mentoring program fostering friendship and guidance among its participants. The group also hosts a series of professional development events—on fellowship proposals, grant writing, presentation skills, choosing a lab, and career planning, for example.

**Ivan Valdez**, another MBSH leader and a PhD candidate in biological and biomedical sciences, understands the challenges of being a minority student in the sciences. “The road will be rough, no doubt, especially during the first couple years,” says Valdez, but he encourages new students to take full advantage of the many resources available to them. “Thanks to MBSH, I have connected with other minority students and faculty members across various departments at GSAS,” says Valdez. “MBSH has allowed me to establish friendships that, I am sure, will go far beyond my time in graduate school.”



“MBSH has allowed me to establish friendships that, I am sure, will go far beyond my time in graduate school.”

— IVAN VALDEZ

“I would urge incoming students to get involved in the student organizations at Harvard, as they are very instrumental in building a sense of community and support for its diverse student body. In particular organizations like Harvard Graduate Women in Science and Engineering (HGWISE) and the Minority Biomedical Scientists of Harvard (MBSH) provide many opportunities for scholastic development, mentoring, and professional and social networking. They have definitely enriched my graduate school experience!”

— WHITNEY HENRY,  
2014 HARVARD HORIZONS  
SCHOLAR AND PH.D  
CANDIDATE IN BIOLOGICAL  
AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

### Advising and Mentoring

The Graduate School of Arts and Sciences is committed to helping you develop and sustain a productive and supportive relationship with your advisor. Although the advising structure and role may vary by program, all entering graduate students will have one or several advisors to assist them in navigating their academic path. Harvard faculty are uniquely invested in the success of their graduate students, and GSAS places great emphasis on making the advising role as meaningful as possible. It is important to take advantage of the resources your faculty advisor can offer.

No one individual, however, can meet all of your needs, so be proactive about seeking out other mentors, both within and outside of your field, for support both academic and professional. The Graduate Student Council—the student governing body at GSAS—can help you connect and build relationships with mentors, as can a number of other mentoring programs based in the disciplines.

### Dudley House: The Graduate Student Center

Through activities at Dudley House, GSAS supports graduate students in their intellectual, professional, and social lives beyond the classroom and laboratory. Centrally located in Harvard Yard, Dudley House provides a place for students in any of the 56 GSAS departments to grab lunch or coffee and to take part in a wide range of engaging and entertaining activities.

The Graduate School also sponsors approximately 50 graduate student organizations, ranging from religious and environmental groups to those affiliated with an ethnic group or academic discipline.

The Graduate Student Council, an elected student group that works closely with the faculty and administration on academic and quality-of-life issues, represents students’ interests.

Visit [dudley.harvard.edu](http://dudley.harvard.edu) for information.

### Du Bois Graduate Society

The W. E. B. Du Bois Graduate Society sponsors numerous activities and meets with GSAS administrators to address issues of concern to Harvard’s minority community. Named for the first African American to receive the PhD at Harvard, the Du Bois Society is a multicultural student group and plans potluck dinners, student research forums, faculty-student lunches, and a student-run conference.

Visit [duboisgrad.fas.harvard.edu](http://duboisgrad.fas.harvard.edu) for information.

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## Finding Your Place

### The W. E. B. Du Bois Graduate Society

“It can be challenging to be a student of color at any institution,” says Kyrah Daniels, a PhD student in African and African American studies. “That’s one of the reasons why it’s so fulfilling to connect with like-minded students on campus through the Du Bois Society and other campus groups that remain committed to their communities.” Founded in 1983, the W.E.B. Du Bois Graduate Society was formed to serve the needs of underrepresented minorities at GSAS. Daniels has participated since her first year at Harvard, helping to provide social support and networking opportunities for her peers, including a monthly series of gatherings called First Fridays at the Queen’s Head Pub in Memorial Hall, in addition to faculty-student lunches and mentoring programs.

“My friends and I have cultivated friendships as both colleagues and cohort-family members,” says Daniels of her experience with the Society. “We spend time talking about problems we face in our research, as well as sharing exciting breakthroughs, and getting feedback on our work.”

Du Bois Society members help support admitted and first-year students through a variety of social gatherings, starting with an orientation for admitted minority students held each spring. “For many people of color, being away from friends and family is a big deal, especially if you’ve gone to college near home,” says Funlayo Wood, a Du Bois Society leader and a PhD student in African and African American studies. “It’s extremely important for people to be able to recreate that space for friends and family, to be able to share concerns, and to share or bond over the common triumphs and trials of graduate school.”



“Making time and room for friendships in graduate school is key.”

—KYRAH DANIELS

### Harvard University Native American Program

The Harvard University Native American Program (HUNAP) is committed to advancing the well-being of indigenous peoples through self-determination, academic achievement, and community service. In addition to public forums, lectures by tribal leaders, and an annual powwow, HUNAP offers the 1665 Fellowship (commemorating the graduation in 1665 of Harvard's first American Indian graduate) to assist advanced PhD students whose work will specifically benefit Native people.

Visit [hunap.harvard.edu](http://hunap.harvard.edu) for information.

### Minority Biomedical Scientists of Harvard (MBSH)

Minority Biomedical Scientists of Harvard is a student organization of the Division of Medical Sciences, the Graduate School's interfaculty PhD program with Harvard Medical School. MBSH supports the career development of students from groups traditionally underrepresented in academia by fostering the growth of successful scientific careers. Through workshops and networking events, MBSH offers professional development opportunities that hone the skills required for excellence in the competitive world of the biomedical sciences.

Visit [www.hms.harvard.edu/dms/diversity/mbsh](http://www.hms.harvard.edu/dms/diversity/mbsh) for information.

### Summer Programs for Promising Undergraduates

Harvard sponsors or takes part in a variety of summer initiatives designed to encourage and support talented minority students and to increase the pool of minority students entering PhD programs. Visit [gsas.harvard.edu/diversity](http://gsas.harvard.edu/diversity) to connect with summer opportunities that will help you prepare for graduate study in a variety of fields.

### Other Resources

For students whose intellectual interests involve issues of race and ethnicity, Harvard offers a wide range of relevant research groups and programs, including the Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research, the Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality and Social Policy, and the Center for the Study of World Religions.

### Sources of Advice

**Sheila Thomas**, PhD, is the associate dean for academic programs and diversity at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. **Stephanie Parsons** is the assistant director of diversity and minority affairs. Both can answer general questions about the application process, student life, and minority recruitment. Please call 617-495-5315 or e-mail [minrec@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:minrec@fas.harvard.edu) or [stthomas@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:stthomas@fas.harvard.edu).



**Sheila Thomas**, PhD,  
Associate Dean for  
Academic Programs  
and Diversity



**Stephanie Parsons**,  
Assistant Director  
of Diversity and  
Minority Affairs

## At-a-Glance Web Resources

▶ **Minority Resources**  
[gsas.harvard.edu/diversity](http://gsas.harvard.edu/diversity)

▶ **GSAS News and Events**  
[gsas.harvard.edu/news](http://gsas.harvard.edu/news)

▶ **Dudley House, The Graduate Student Center**  
[dudley.harvard.edu](http://dudley.harvard.edu)

▶ **Du Bois Graduate Society**  
[duboigrad.fas.harvard.edu](http://duboigrad.fas.harvard.edu)

▶ **Harvard University Native American Program**  
[hunap.harvard.edu](http://hunap.harvard.edu)

▶ **Minority Biomedical Students at Harvard**  
[www.hms.harvard.edu/dms/diversity/mbsh](http://www.hms.harvard.edu/dms/diversity/mbsh)

▶ **The Harvard Foundation**  
[harvardfoundation.fas.harvard.edu](http://harvardfoundation.fas.harvard.edu)

▶ **One Harvard**  
[faculty.harvard.edu/oneharvard](http://faculty.harvard.edu/oneharvard)





# HARVARD UNIVERSITY

*The* GRADUATE SCHOOL *of* ARTS AND SCIENCES

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RICHARD A. AND SUSAN F. SMITH CAMPUS CENTER 350  
1350 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE  
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138-3846

Minority Recruitment: 617.495.5315; [minrec@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:minrec@fas.harvard.edu)

Admissions: 617.495.5315; [admiss@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:admiss@fas.harvard.edu)

**[gsas.harvard.edu](https://gsas.harvard.edu)**

8/2015

