Michigan State University
Ecological-Community Psychology
Welcome / Resource Guide
for entering and continuing students



Index

The Basics	3
Getting your Student ID	4
Parking	5
Riding the Bus	7
Building Access	8
Getting Keys	8
Online Service Request Forms	8
Computer Access	9
Software	9
Copying Documents	10
Resource Center for Person with Disabilities	10
Restrooms and Nursing Rooms	11
Books and Readings	12
Think Ahead!	13
Students Entering with a Master's Degree	15
Developing a CV	18
Graduate School Resources	19
Graduate Employee Union	20
Self-Care, Wellness, and University Resources	.20
Applying to the Fairweather Fund	.21
Helpful Tips from Students	

The Basics

For students who are just starting, congrats again on joining us in the Ecological/Community Psychology Department at MSU! We're very much looking forward to having you. Before we dive into the things you need to know, here are some facts about the new place you'll call home!







ansing

- •Lansing is the capital of the state of Michigan
- •The population is 114,297
- •In 2010 it was named one of the 10 Great Cities for Young Adults
- •Dwayne Johnson's character in *Tooth Fairy* is a minor league hockey player for the fictitious Lansing Ice Wolves.

East ansing

- •The population is 48,579
- •The median age of the city is 21.6 years old
- •East Lansing was the major junction of two important Native American trails
- •In 1963, a visiting 3,000 lb. elephant escaped from its trainer in East Lansing. She led police on a 2-mile rampage, causing thousands of dollars in damage. The elephant was tragically killed by local police

Michigar State Iniversity

- •MSU was founded in 1855 and now has a 5,200-acre campus
- •MSU is a member of the Big Ten Conference
- •There are 38,996 undergraduates and 11,023 graduate and professional students
- •Homogenization of milk was discovered at MSU

Getting Your Student ID

You will need an MSU Student ID soon after you arrive at MSU. The information on the card will be necessary to set up your insurance, make doctor's appointments, get student discounts, etc.

You can get your Student ID at:

The International Center 427 N. Shaw Lane, Room 170 East Lansing, MI 48824

(517) 355-4500

Remember:
Bring a photo ID
With you when
getting your
Student ID!

The office is open M-F, 8 am-5 pm

For more information, visit: http:// idoffice.msu.edu/ requirements.html#st udents



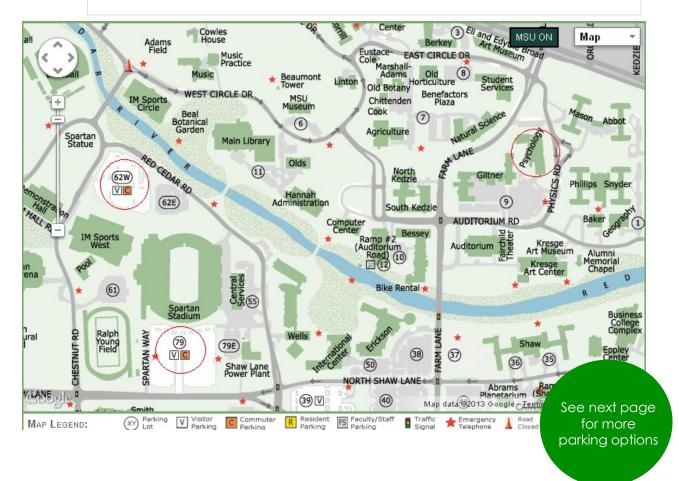
Parking

There are a couple different options for parking near or on campus. These range in price and accessibility. They include:

UNIVERSITY PARKING PASS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

You can park on campus for \$133 per semester (price may change for new school year). Those with valid parking permits affixed to their windshield may park in faculty/staff spaces south of the Red Cedar River and in the Brody Complex. Parking is not allowed north of the Red Cedar River (where the Psychology Building is) unless at a paid meter or when the posted employee restriction is no longer in effect. Parking with a graduate assistant parking permit is allowed in pay lots 79 and 62 West; in any other pay lots you must pay the hourly fee. For more information, please visit:

https://permits.police.msu.edu/start.aspx



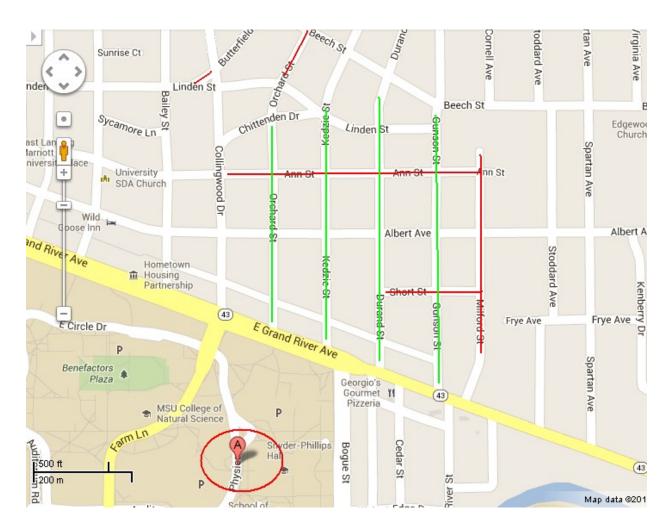
Parking

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FREE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKING

2

Most of us choose to park in the neighborhood north of campus close to the psychology building. While spaces are always open, the availability of closer spaces fluctuates depending on how busy the time of day is. Walks to campus can range from 5-15 minutes. On the map below, **GREEN** indicates 2-hour parking, while **RED** indicates all day parking.



Riding the Bus

Taking the bus can be an easy and inexpensive alternative to driving to campus. Depending on the neighborhood you're living in, this option might actually be faster than driving. Some lines run every 10 minutes, while others run every 45 minutes. A number of bus lines stop right outside of the psychology building. Lansing and East Lansing use the CATA system.

Students receive a discounted rate when riding CATA. To get a student fare on the bus (\$.60 as opposed to \$1.20), you just have to show your student ID. You can pay for this right on the bus.

Another option is to get a student bus pass. Each semester costs \$50 for an unlimited number of rides. To buy the pass in person requires cash or a check and your student ID. This may be done at the following locations: https://www.cata.org/Fares/Buy-In-Person

You can also buy passes online here: https://www.cata.org/Fares/Buy-

Online/Products

Campus Study Locations

MSU Interactive Map: https://maps.msu.edu/interactive/ MSU Main Campus Map:

https://maps.msu.edu/ public/pdfs/MSU main campus.pdf

Each dormitory has a common area for lounging and studying. Residence halls can be located on the interactive campus map. Other locations on campus include:

- 1. Broad Museum https://broadmuseum.msu.edu/
- 2. Chittenden Hall https://grad.msu.edu/grad-lounge
- 3. MSU Union https://www.msuunion.com/18/secondarypage/about
- Brody Square
- 5. Main Library https://lib.msu.edu/hours/
- 6. Erickson Hall

Psychology Website & Directory

Many program FAQs, faculty/staff/student directories, and important forms can be found on the department and Eco-Community website: https://psychology.msu.edu/programs/ecological-community

It is a good idea to explore this website thoroughly, especially the "Resources for Current Students" page.

Building Access

The psychology building is open from 6am-9pm. As long as you are inside the building, you can stay in as long as you want. If you want to come in between 9pm and 6am you must submit an Office Services Request (see



below) requesting that you get your MSU ID set up to gain electronic access to the psychology building after hours and provide your PID and the six-digit number following the asterisk on the back of your student ID.

Getting Keys

Once you figure out where your office is, you will need to contact your temporary advisor and request that they put in an Office Services Request for you to get your keys. You will need to get a key to your office and a key that opens room 134C. After your advisor submits an Office Services Request your will receive an email and be instructed to pick up your keys in room 262.

Online Service Request Forms

This resource and its utility will be explained during your orientation, but as a helpful reminder, to put in a request:

- 1) Go to psychology.msu.edu
- Click on "Dept Files & Services" at the upper right of the screen. You will 2) be prompted to log in using your NetlD and password.
- Select Office Services Request, Tech Support Request, Grad Office 3) Request, or Maintenance and Building Request from the left column
- 4) Fill out the corresponding form

Travel Authorizations

Travel pre-authorization is required for all school or research-related travel (e.g., conferences, workshops, travel for RA duties). To obtain travel authorization, use the steps above to complete an Office Services Request. Select the "travel" radio button and be sure to include the following information in the request: name of traveler, departure date, return date, destinations (City, State, and Country), hotel, and purpose of travel. TIP: in the box labeled "Additional FULL email address(s)," be sure to CC your advisor or other faculty associated with the travel. This will enable them to resolve any questions or concerns that arise.

Computer & Shared Drive Access



To gain access to the MSU network, email your temporary advisor and request that they put in a Tech Support Request. After this is done, you will be able to log in to any computer in the psychology building using your NetID. You should also submit a Tech Support Request to be added to the PsySHARE and PsyRESEARCH drives on the psychology server.

VPN Access

Many of you will ultimately want to gain access to the network drives from your personal laptops or home computer. The psychology department has developed a few guides that can walk you through the process of installing the VPN software that's necessary to be able to access the drives from off campus you can find them here: https://psychology.msu.edu/general/department-resource-files and then look near the end of the items listed for the section on connecting to the department network shares using the MSU VPN.

You will likely need to contact the psychology technology department for the path to specific directories for your research group, but one that everyone like will need is:

PC: \\35.8.48.12\userfiles\psy_sharegroups\psyshare

Mac: smb://35.8.48.12/userfiles/psy_sharegroups/psyshare
For more information, we recommend speaking with whoever you'll be doing research with.

Software

For PSY 815, SPSS will be necessary. Department computers should have the most recent version of SPSS on them, but most people also want to have the program on their personal computers. If you don't already have it on your personal computer, you will have to purchase a license from the MSU Tech Store for only \$20 (https://techstore.msu.edu/software/spss-student-license-valid-until-01312020), and then get the media for installing it from msu.onthehub.com (media can be downloaded for free from there). For further questions on installing SPSS, contact Gary Schrock (gary@eyelab.msu.edu)



Copying Documents

Depending on where your office is, you may be able to use its printing facilities. You may also make copies in room 262. Using facilities in room 262 is useful for making a small amount of copies, such as your master's plan of study. The copy code is 3763. Room 262 is open from 8-12 and 1-5 M-F. Room 262 is really strict about their lunch hour so don't chance being in there after noon!

Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD)

If you want to request accommodations for your disability, you will need to identify and register your disability with RCPD. You can do this once you have an MSU email address by following the instructions on the RCPD website (https://www.rcpd.msu.edu/services/register). It is recommended that you start this process as soon as possible because it can take some time to be paired with a specialist and receive accommodations. You'll want to ensure that you have documentation of your disability that you can provide to RCPD as that will be one of the first things you are asked for.

Restrooms & Nursing Rooms

The Psychology Building has male and female restrooms on each floor. There is one single-occupant restroom located on the first floor in the Psychology Clinic (by the north end of the building). A campus all-gender restroom map can be found here:

http://lbgtrc.msu.edu/trans-msu/unisex-and-accessible-bathroom-facilties-at-msu/_

Room 225B in the Psychology building is designated pumping/nursing space. Visit room 262 for more help in reserving room 225B.

Adams House | Color Content |

Map of Nursing Rooms Near Psychology

According to some graduate students, and if you find yourself on the west side of campus, the Brody Complex has nice spaces to pump/nurse. Student parents also recommend Erickson Hall (3rd floor), which has a spacious and dedicated space. For more information and locations, visit: https://apps.gis.msu.edu/nursing-mothers/map/.



Books and Readings



BUYING BOOKS

For all book purchases, we recommend using **bigwords.com** This site compares book prices across multiple sites and has been very useful.

WHICH BOOKS TO BUY

You will not have to buy very many books your first year of grad school. While the books for your Methods course will be necessary, the books for Statistics (PSY 815) are NOT necessary. If you ever feel like you need them (some of us never did) see if you can borrow a copy from another student in your class or in the eco-community department.

TO PRINT OR NOT TO PRINT

Instead of textbooks, most of your courses will have readings posted online. These vary in length, but most are relatively long. While some people like to print these readings, most do not find it necessary and are comfortable reading off of their computer screens. If you do choose to print, know that the readings will likely fill multiple large binders.

ALTERNATIVES TO PRINTING

If you don't already use a reference manager, now might be the time to start! Some students might recommend EndNote or Zotero, but many in our program have become fond of Mendeley. This free program allows you to store all of your articles in one place (on your desktop but accessible online, like Dropbox). There are functions for highlighting, commenting on, and taking notes within each article. It makes organizing and citing all of your resources pretty simple!





You might already be wondering about funding for the coming semester or what you should be doing for your thesis/dissertation. Don't stress! Here's what you need to know:

UNIVERSITY ENRICHMENT FELLOWSHIP/ UNIVERSITY DISTINGUISHED FELLOWSHIP

For students who received a UEF or a UDF, congratulations. However, it is important for graduate students who receive the fellowship to know that taxes are not accounted for in the final amount distributed. Fellowship recipients should also be made aware of the state of Michigan's tax rates. Specifically, in the state of Michigan there are three taxes: (1) federal tax; (2) state tax; and (3) city tax. Because taxes are not removed from your UEF/UDF, be sure to separate the allotted amount for each of these. Given the amount of the fellowship, it is recommended that you make these payments to the federal government quarterly to avoid any penalties.

To calculate the amount needed for quarterly payments and quarterly dates, go to this link: https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f1040es.pdf *Information is for 2018.*

IRB TRAINING

You will need to be IRB certified before beginning any research activities. Go here to find on training requirements and a link to the HRPP Certification page where the online modules can be found:

https://hrpp.msu.edu/required-training

Note: even if you have previously completed human subjects' protection training (e.g., through the CITI program), make sure to visit this page to upload documentation of your training and complete any additional requirements.

RCR TRAINING

It is required by the Graduate School for all students to complete RCR training. The requirements of RCR training can be found on the Graduate School website (https://grad.msu.edu/researchintegrity). It is ultimately the student's responsibility to ensure they are meeting these requirements. As such, familiarize yourself with the requirements and contact the Graduate School if you have any questions.

SUMMER FUNDING

You will receive an email fairly early in the fall semester about summer TA positions. TRY YOUR BEST TO RESPOND TO THIS THE SAME DAY! Slots can go rather quickly and the department does not guarantee summer funding.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The **Fairweather Fund** is another great funding opportunity just for Eco students. Dr. George William (Bill) Fairweather founded the MSU Ecological/ Community Psychology program in 1969. The Fairweather Fund was established in 1990 to honor him upon his retirement. Through donations from faculty, alumni and friends who are invested in social change, the fund provides small grants to current Eco students for thesis or dissertation research projects. For more information on Dr. Fairweather and how to apply for the fund, see page 22.

The **Psychology Department** also provides some funding for travel and conferences! Visit this link for information on how to apply: https://grad.msu.edu/sites/default/files/content/fellowships/Travel%20funding%20application.pdf. For further questions, contact Brooke Rosek (brosek@msu.edu) or Emily Durbin (cdurbin@msu.edu).

The **Council of Graduate Students** also has funding opportunities for things such as conferences and travel. Visit https://cogs.msu.edu/resources/funding/ for more information and how to apply!

Handshake, a database with job and intern opportunities, is good place to look for on-campus part-time jobs, as well as other funding opportunities. You can log into Handshake using your NetID and password. Visit https://msu.joinhandshake.com to learn more.

Make sure to check https://grad.msu.edu/funding for more funding opportunities. Try to always look out for emails from the program or department for funding opportunities!

TAX PREPARTION

When it comes to preparing your taxes, MSU VITA provides free tax preparation. Learn more here: https://www.vita.msu.edu/

MASTER'S PLAN OF STUDY

You will not have to complete this until the end of spring semester. In order to get a jump start though, you can fill out all of the classes you will be taking for your first year on your Master's Plan of Study form, which is accessible here: https://psychology.msu.edu/students/grad/current-student/mastersforms. Essentially, the plan of study is the paperwork that outline the 30 credits you will take in order to qualify for your masters. It can be amended as you go, and you will need 3 faculty to sign off as committee members. You will talk about this at your Annual Review (which happens in April and is not a big deal for first year students) and your professors will help you prepare as well.

STUDENTS ENTERING WITH A MASTER'S DEGREE

For students entering with a Master's degree, congratulations! You're well on your way to a Ph.D. already! However, we know it can be difficult to find information about next steps, since most incoming student information is directed towards those coming in with a Bachelor's. Plus, when we talk about Master's degrees, we don't limit it to an M.A. Here are a few resources to get you started:

Program Handbook & Policies:

On this page, you can find a link to the current version of the program handbook. Because the handbook changes slightly each year, be sure to refer to the handbook for the year you entered the program, as these are the requirements that will apply to you:

https://psychology.msu.edu/programs/ecological-community/degreerequirements

Courses:

When you enter with a master's degree, you may have already taken courses that will count for credit here. These course requirements may be waived; however, the credit hours will not be. For example, you may not have to take statistics, but you are still responsible for ensuring you take the amount of credit hours (3) necessary. These can often be made-up through other courses. It is best to talk with your advisor about what courses you think you've already taken and may count. Be prepared to provide a syllabus from that class and a short paragraph about why it should be waived. Waived courses will be reported on your plan of study. Popular courses waived by master's students include statistics (PSY 815) and psychometrics (PSY 818).

Thesis:

If you have already written a thesis, you will need to submit it to your advisor to see if it will be accepted at MSU. Only an empirical thesis will be accepted by the department. If you do not have an empirical thesis you will need to complete one.

Plan of Study:

- <u>If your master's thesis is accepted</u>, you will come in at the doctoral level and need to complete a doctoral plan of study.
- <u>If your master's thesis is not accepted</u>, you will come in at the master's level and need to complete a master's plan of study (see pg. 11 of the welcome guide).

Cognate:

- It is important for students entering with their master's degree to identify their cognate early. This is particularly true of students who are entering with a master's degree and are being waived out of any of the first-year course load. Students receiving waivers from the typical first year course load should identify a cognate and take classes that work towards that cognate. The requirements for developing a cognate can be found in the Ecological-Community Psychology handbook.
- Master's students who do not have their thesis accepted should be wary of restrictions placed on the master plan of study and doctoral plan of study. That is, each course taken towards a cognate should not be listed in the master plan of study. If listed on the master plan of study, they will not be applied to a cognate. Moreover, if master students who do not have their thesis accepted decide to take cognate courses early on in their semester due to waived classes, the doctoral plan of study would technically begin within that year or semester. For example, if the first cognate course was taken in Fall 2018, then this would be the starting date for the doctoral plan of study regardless of whether your second master's has been conferred. This helps account for the credits taken toward the cognate early on in the course but would otherwise not be applied.

Milestones

• For those who do not have a master's thesis accepted, completing the master's thesis is the first milestone to begin working towards. The master's thesis will involve compiling a three-person committee, to include a committee chair (generally your advisor).

For those who have completed a master's thesis that is accepted,
comprehensive exams are the next milestone. The comprehensive exams
process involves compiling a four-person committee, to include a chair.
Additionally, students have the ability to choose a comprehensive exam
option (writing a grant, completing a lit review, etc.) and this should be
discussed with your advisor.

Social Life

For students entering with a master's degree (or without a master's degree), finding ways to engage with peers can be challenging. Those who waive courses, move right to comprehensive exams, or enter on a fellowship may not spend as much time with their cohort. It is encouraged that students seek opportunities to work on research projects or join on-campus organizations. Don't be scared to search for and engage in opportunities within or outside of the department such as:

- Writing Groups
 - student-run within the program
 - through the Writing Center
 - through University Outreach and Engagement (in collaboration with the Writing Center)
 - Community-Engaged Scholarship Write-Ins
- Professional Development Organizations
 - The Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP)
 - African Graduate Students Association (AGSA)
 - Asian Pacific American Graduate Alliance
 - Black Graduate Student Association
 - Michigan Indigena/Chicanx Community Alliance (MICCA)
 - Queer and Trans(*) Graduate (Research,) Resources, Academics, and Development
 - SACNAS-Michigan State University Chapter
- Volunteering
 - Research labs or projects
 - Interest group, department, or university committees
- Community organizations

Further Questions?

- Current Students Who Entered with Master's Degrees:
 - Tyler Virden (4th year, Fellowship Student)
 - o Tatiana Bustos (3rd year, Fellowship Student)

WHAT IS A CV AND HOW DO I GO ABOUT CREATING ONE?

A **curriculum vitae (CV)** is a record of academic productivity and experiences, and is used in place of a resume for most academic/research positions. Whereas resumes are typically restricted to one page, CVs are usually unrestricted in length. CVs for experienced scholars are very long; however, a graduate student CV will likely be much shorter, perhaps 2-5 pages.

Key sections to include in your CV:

- -Education & Area(s) of interest
- -Honors & awards
- -Research experience: include all current and prior research-related positions
- **-Teaching experience:** include all current and prior teaching, TA, or training positions
- **-Publications**: include sections for peer-reviewed and non-peer-reviewed writing as applicable (e.g., article in journal newsletters, technical reports), and for manuscripts in preparation and under review
- -Conference presentations

Sections to include if applicable:

- -Academic reviewing
- **-Community volunteer service:** include volunteer activities outside of the academic context if appropriate
- **-Professional memberships** (e.g., Society for Community Research & Action, American Evaluation Association)
- -Specific technical skills (e.g., multi-level modeling, program evaluation)
- **-Professional service:** include activities such as service on departmental committees, planning conferences and events, student leadership in professional organizations, etc. Our program has the following committees that generally involve, but are not limited to, to 2 faculty members and 2 students:
 - -Admissions
 - -Brown Bags & Special Events
 - -Social Climate & Inclusion
 - -Website & Social Media

To join a committee, look out for an email at the beginning of fall semester.

For more detailed information on developing your CV, visit these helpful links:

- -MSU CareerSuccess webpage: https://careersuccess.msu.edu/phdcareers/search/resumes
- -CV format guide and sample CV from MSU Anthropology department:

-Sample CV with annotations: https://www.prepscholar.com/gre/blog/wpcontent/uploads/sites/3/2017/02/Annotated-CV-Sample.pdf

-University of Illinois CV Tips & Samples: http://www.grad.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/pdfs/cvsamples.pdf

Many current Eco-Community students have also posted their CVs on the MSU Psychology website. These are a great resource for developing your own CVs!

To view, select a current student from the directory at https://psychology.msu.edu/people/graduate-students

If the student has posted a CV, a clickable icon will appear at the top of her/his personal page next to the student's name.

Graduate School Resources

WORKSHOPS OFFERED BY THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

The MSU Graduate School offers excellent one-time and recurring workshops that are open to all grad students, with topics ranging from professional development and writing to mindfulness and stress management. Attendance is free, but for many workshops you must register online ahead of time at: https://grad.msu.edu/calendar

Examples of recent & frequently attended workshops include:

- Write-Ins at the Graduate School: This is a popular workshop among our grad students. Write-ins are held once a month on Fridays from 9 amnoon, with drinks and a pizza lunch provided! These are a great way to set aside writing time, and consultants from the Writing Center are available to help.
- Navigating the PhD (series):
 - -Managing Time and Academic Relationships
 - -Writing Processes & Strategies for Academic Writing
- Electronic Thesis/Dissertation Formatting Workshop
- Personal Finance Seminar
- Healthy Motivation & Productivity in Graduate School
- Koru Mindfulness

WHAT IS THE GRADUATE EMPLOYEE UNION (GEU)?

The Graduate Employee Union at MSU is a labor union responsible for negotiating contracts for Teaching Assistants, and by extension, all graduate assistants. At the welcome meeting for incoming students held in the fall of 1st year, a representative from the GEU will provide information and ask if you would like to join the Union. Union membership is <u>optional</u>, and if you join as a TA, union dues equal to 1.6% of your salary will be deducted from your paycheck. You can also join the GEU as a research assistant for \$40 to receive the same membership benefits.

The GEU has a voting Department Steward from the psychology department who changes from year to year. For questions about the GEU, visit http://geuatmsu.org/about/ or email the psych Department Steward.

2019-2020 Psychology Steward: Malu Castro, castrokr@msu.edu

SELF-CARE, WELLNESS, & UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

Taking care of yourself physically and psychologically during grad school is incredibly important. Below are some useful articles on self-care, especially for those who are engaging with issues of social justice and oppression.

- Radical Self-Care (Dear Kerry Ann, IHE)
- Pick Your Battles (Dear Kerry Ann, IHE)
- <u>Self-Care for People of Color after Psychological Trauma</u> (Just Jasmine Blog.com)
- <u>Self-Care List: How to Take Care of Yourself While Learning about</u>
 Oppression (with Unaware People) (FabiansWriting.Tumblr.com)
- How to Support a Scholar Who Has Come under Attack (from Conditionally Accepted)

Wellness resources for grad students at MSU, including <u>free group fitness classes</u>, can be found here: https://grad.msu.edu/wellness.

The Eco-Community program is committed to helping its graduate students feel supported, including students with marginalized identities and first-generation students. If you are feeling unsupported or have an issue you would like the program to address, please contact a member of the Social Climate & Inclusion Committee. Student committee members for '18-'19 include:

- Funmi Ayeni

- Tatiana Bustos

- Kristen Mills
- Jaleah Rutledge
- Jessica Saucedo

MSU has numerous resources for students. From the MSU Diversity webpage:

- The Office for Inclusion and Intercultural Initiatives serves as the university's focal point for promoting inclusion and diversity on campus. Learn more about MSU's inclusive heritage and our diverse campus.
- The Office of Cultural and Academic Transitions constructs supportive social and educational communities that actively involve students in learning by bringing together individuals and groups from diverse racial, ethnic, international and domestic backgrounds.
- The Office for International Students and Scholars supports international students on campus and provides guidance to the university's international student clubs.
- The <u>WorkLife Office</u> partners with the community to create an inclusive, responsive work environment where all faculty and staff are respected and supported toward well-being in work and personal lives.
- The <u>LBGT Resource Center</u> leads and collaborates on university-wide initiatives that enhance campus climate and academic and support services for students who identify as lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender and/or transsexual and their communities.
- The <u>Student Parent Resource Center</u> helps students and families balance work, educational and family responsibilities.
- The <u>Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities</u> helps to maximize ability and opportunity for full participation by persons with disabilities

APPLYING TO THE FAIRWEATHER FUND (Last updated 12/2/18)

What exactly is the Fairweather Fund? Dr. George William (Bill) Fairweather participated in the 1965 Swampscott Conference and founded the MSU Ecological/Community Psychology program in 1969 (the first of its kind nationally). The Fairweather Fund was established in 1990 to honor him upon his retirement. Through donations from faculty, alumni and friends who are invested in social change, the fund provides small grants to current Eco students for thesis or dissertation research projects.

How to apply. In order to preserve Fairweather Funds so that the greatest number of students can receive support when needed, it is important that these funds are used as a 'last resort.' Therefore, when you need funds for thesis or dissertation research, please follow these steps:

- 1. Notify the Eco grad program chair and your primary advisor of your need.
 - 1a. Provide a brief description of what you propose doing and why you need funds
 - 1b. Include a budget and budget justification

Faculty will help you think through where funds may be available to you outside of this fund.

2. Once you have all determined what you need and where funds may be available, your next step is to apply for a Graduate Student Research Enhancement Award:

https://grad.msu.edu/sites/default/files/content/fellowships/Research%20Enancement%20Funding%20Application.pdf

Even though the form says to send the application directly to the graduate school, do not do that. Work with the department graduate secretary to route this through the department, college and graduate school.

After you have received all funds available through this process, then the faculty will do our best to make up the difference with Fairweather Funds. Students who receive Fairweather Funds agree to write a brief synopsis of the project it helped fund, which we then include in letters requesting donations into the Fund over time.

Good luck!!

More about Bill Fairweather:

Dr. George William Fairweather - 2/1/1921 to 1/24/2015 Written by The Coalition for Community Living

https://theccl.org/Portals/0/Documents/In%20Memorial%20Dr.%20Fairweather.pdf

Dr. George W. (Bill) Fairweather's 1963 book, Community Life for the Mentally III, based on Fairweather's research at the Veteran's Hospital in Palo Alto, was a milestone in the treatment of mental illness in this country. And the "Fairweather Lodge," an innovative social experiment which fostered more participatory roles in society for ex-psychiatric patients than had previously been thought possible, remains, more than fifty years later, one of the few modalities of community mental health treatment based on rigorous, scientific research. In addition to the experiment's direct success in providing value to its subjects, Fairweather's research and Community Life for the Mentally III gave birth to the "patients' rights," movement in psychiatry, and the idea of persons with mental illness participating in major decisions related to their treatment.

Fairweather was decades ahead of his time in insisting that ex-psychiatric patients be allowed to direct their own treatment in settings created to maximize their success. Fairweather was also one of the fathers of the "strength-based" approach to mental illness – a belief that a patient's strengths were at least as important as the patient's illness. One example was Fairweather's insistence that ex-patients hold paid jobs in the community. Under a grant from the National Institute of mental Health (NIMH), Fairweather set out to promote the Lodge Model nationally, in what became known as "The Dissemination Project." In this pre-internet era, Fairweather and his project team toured the country sharing data showing the power of participant groups to govern themselves. Eventually, at least 17 states attempted to replicate the Fairweather Lodge. Today, over one hundred such lodges are represented by The Coalition for Community Living, a non-profit association of Lodges.

Fairweather began his research at the Veteran's Hospital in Palo Alto in 1960, amongst great skepticism that a "society" of ex-psychiatric patients, for expsychiatric patients, and governed by ex-psychiatric patients, with mental health professionals serving merely as "advisors," was remotely possible. Fairweather stunned the mental health profession by using terms like "full citizenship," "meaningful roles in society," and "equal social status" to describe the desired outcomes of his experiment. And despite the Lodge's obvious successes across the country, Fairweather's dedication to such concepts would keep him on the fringe of the professional community for the remainder of his career.

Fairweather went on to create the Ecological-Community Psychology Program at Michigan State University, the first of its kind nationally. After retiring in the mid 1990s, Fairweather served as an advisor to lodges around the country. But "Bill" Fairweather will long be remembered for his unquestioning faith that a person with mental illness was, underneath the distraction of mental illness, still a person, with rights, and dignity, and the ability to heal themselves. His rigor as a scientist, his strong humanitarianism, and his extraordinary gift for innovation, made Fairweather a giant in his field.

Helpful Tips from Eco Students

What did we wish we knew before we started our first year? Well, let us tell you!



"Take advantage of Practicum by getting out in the community and learning as much as you can. You never know where the relationships you build first semester will take you!"

-Hannah Feeney

"Don't put too much pressure on yourself to narrow your research interests or plan out your entire course trajectory in your first year. It's a time to explore practicum sites, learn about community psychology, and settle in to graduate school. You have plenty of time."

-Corbin Standley

"The term 'self-care' gets thrown around a lot in grad school, but it can mean much more than relaxing activities like coloring. Find meaningful ways to make grad school sustainable, whether that's taking a mindfulness class, picking up kickboxing, or getting to the bottom of the procrastination habits we all develop."

-McKenzie Javorka

"Don't freak out. It's going to be fine! Also, back up your files."

-Danielle Chiaramonte

"Take advantage of all the resources that are available to you, and advocate for those that aren't.

Learning to say "no" is a part of this process.

Don't lose sight of your passion or vision!"

-Kristen Mills

Welcome again! We can't wait to have you!