

Some Notes on Applying Graduate Programs

King-To Yeung (March 16, 2016)

1. Spend lots of time on Online Program Search

- ➔ Go to a school's website:
- ➔ Usually Click on "Academics" or "Admission"
- ➔ Usually click on "Graduate Studies" or "Graduate Programs" Or "Degrees and Programs"

2. **When**➔For fall semester, usually intense deadline: January to March (but also anywhere between Dec and June)

3. **How many** ➔ 5 to 10 schools/programs (conservative); can be more

4. Components of Application

- Application form (online/paper)
- Personal statement
- School Transcripts
- Letters of Recommendation (online/forms)—from profs, supervisions of relevant jobs.
- Application fees
 - GRE (depends; Ph D programs require this usually)
 - Interview (depends on the program)
 - Resume or CV (depends on the program)
 - Writing sample (depends; Ph D programs require this)

5. Personal essays:

A useful reminder from Youtube:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jbe3dssu_tY

- State strong motivations, specific goals.
- Be specific about your experiences—how these experiences contribute to your growth, and prepare you for the program. (give concrete examples)
- For social work programs or helping professions especially: talk about Cultural tradition, family background and how you overcame hardships and periods of adversity
- For social work programs or helping professions particularly: show an interest in social justice. A desire to solve social problems. Identify a social problem and offer a viewpoint for change.
- Tell how your unique quality, skills, got developed; and explain why you are ready for this program.
- Focus on your strength, skills, accomplishment; show how you overcome challenges, but don't complain.
- Explain why that particular program interests you, and why you think you fit to their program.

- NOT TOO long –find out the particular requirements of the program; answer their questions.
- Let others (teachers or friends) read your essay. And do check spelling and grammar.

6. Resume (or CV, curricula vitae)

- No longer than 2 pages
 - Career objectives
 - Education
 - Honors or awards
 - Research experience
 - Relevant work experiences
 - Relevant volunteer/internship experiences
 - Other academic achievements (e.g. paper published; presented at conferences)
 - Other relevant a achievements

7. **Scholarship**—Do a search in the web. Here are only 2 good lists for \$\$ for social work-related studies:

<http://www.bestmswprograms.com/top-25-scholarships-for-social-work-students/>

<http://socialworklicense.com/become-a-social-worker/social-work-scholarships/>

8. EXPAND YOUR SEARCH—Sociology-related programs can be hidden in other programs. See this list:

MA Programs—CSU SYSTEM (only southern California)

- Counseling, M.S.
- MS, Educational Counseling ** BAKERSFIELD
- MS, Counseling Psychology** BAKERSFIELD
- Counseling and Guidance, M.S.** SAN BERNARDINO
- Rehabilitation Counseling, M.A. ** SAN BERNARDINO
- Marital and Family Therapy MS ** DOMINGUEZ HILLS

- Social Work (most CSU campuses have MSW)
 - Aging Concentration, M.S.W. **FULLERTON
 - Child Welfare Concentration, M.S.W. **FULLERTON
 - Community Mental Health Concentration, M.S.W. **FULLERTON
- Child Development MA ** LOS ANGELES** SAN BERNARDINO

- Sociology, M.A.
- Social Science, MA ** SAN BERNARDINO
-
- Criminology and Criminal Justice (MS)
- Gerontology, M.S.

- Psychology, M.A.
- Psychology, Clinical, M.S.
- General Experimental Psychology, M.A. ** SAN BERNARDINO

- American Studies, M.A.
- Anthropology, M.A.

- Business Administration
 - Decision Sciences Concentration, M.B.A. **FULLERTON
 - Entrepreneurship Concentration, M.B.A. **FULLERTON
 - Finance Concentration, M.B.A. **FULLERTON
 - Information Systems Concentration, M.B.A. **FULLERTON
 - International Business Concentration, M.B.A. **FULLERTON
 - Management Concentration, M.B.A. **FULLERTON
 - Marketing Concentration, M.B.A. **FULLERTON
 - Organizational Leadership Concentration, M.B.A. **FULLERTON
 - Risk Management and Insurance Concentration, M.B.A. **FULLERTON
- Public Administration
 - Concentrations: Criminal Justice Administration/Nonprofit Management/Public Management ** DOMINGUEZ HILLS
 - Criminal Justice Concentration, M.P.A.
 - Human Resources Concentration, M.P.A.
 - Public Finance Management Concentration, M.P.A.
 - Urban Management Concentration, M.P.A. **FULLERTON
- Public Health, M.P.H.
- Health Services Administration, M.S. ** SAN BERNARDINO
- Health Care Administration (MS) ** LONGBEACH; ** BAKERSFIELD

- Communication Studies, M.A.
 - Mass Communications Research and Theory Concentration, M.A.
 - Professional Communications Concentration, M.A. **FULLERTON
 - Tourism and Entertainment Concentration, M.A. **FULLERTON
- Communicative Disorders, M.A.
- Education,
 - Bilingual/Bicultural Education Concentration, M.S.
 - Educational Administration Concentration, M.S.
 - Educational Technology Concentration, M.S. **FULLERTON
 - Elementary Curriculum and Instruction Concentration, Diversity Emphasis, M.S. **FULLERTON
 - Elementary Curriculum and Instruction Concentration, Early Childhood Education Emphasis, M.S. **FULLERTON
 - Elementary Curriculum and Instruction Concentration, M.S. **FULLERTON
 - Elementary Curriculum and Instruction Concentration, Professional Inquiry and Practice Emphasis, M.S. **FULLERTON
 - Elementary Curriculum and Instruction Concentration, Staff Development Emphasis, M.S. **FULLERTON
 - Elementary Curriculum and Instruction Concentration, Technology in Education Emphasis, M.S. **FULLERTON
 - Higher Education Concentration, M.S.
 - Literacy and Reading Concentration, M.S.
 - Secondary Education Concentration, M.S.
 - Secondary Education Concentration, Teacher Induction Emphasis, M.S.
 - Special Education Concentration, M.S.
 - Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, M.S.
 - Educational Specialist Degree in School Psychology (EdS) ** LONGBEACH
- History, M.A.
- Chicano Study MA
- Linguistics, MA
- Political Science, M.A.
- Spanish, M.A.
- M.A. in Negotiation, Conflict Resolution and Peacebuilding** DOMINGUEZ HILLS
- National Security Studies, M.A. ** SAN BERNARDINO
- Kinesiology (MA, MS) Option in Sport and Exercise Psychology** LONGBEACH
- Kinesiology (MA, MS) Option in Option in Sport Management** LONGBEACH

On Page 4, there is a list of school websites that show you the specific programs.

9. Just need to spend a lot of time looking up Programs in Particular Schools. These links will take you to their list of graduate programs offered.

CSU Northridge

<http://www.csun.edu/catalog/graduate-studies/masters/>

CSU Los Angeles

<http://ecatalog.calstatela.edu/content.php?catoid=19&navoid=1757>

CSU San Bernardino

<http://bulletin.csusb.edu/graduate-degree-programs/>

CSU Bakersfield

<http://www.csub.edu/academicprograms/Graduate%20Studies/Graduate%20Degree%20Programs/index.html>

CSU Dominguez Hills

<http://www4.csudh.edu/Assets/CSUDH-Sites/Graduate-Studies/docs/Graduate%20Programs%20Information%20Sheet%202015-16.pdf>

CSU Fullerton

<http://www.fullerton.edu/graduate/prospectivestudents/programs.asp>

CSU San Marcos

<http://www.csusm.edu/gsr/graduatestudies/contacts.html>

San Diego State University

<http://arweb.sdsu.edu/es/admissions/grad/index.html#degree>

UC system

UC Riverside

<http://www.ucr.edu/academics/gradprograms.html>

UC Irvine

<http://www.grad.uci.edu/academics/degree-programs/index.html>

UC Santa Barbara

<https://my.sa.ucsb.edu/catalog/Current/GraduateEducation/GraduateDegrees.aspx>

UC San Diego

<https://apply.grad.ucsd.edu/masters-programs>

UCLA

<https://grad.ucla.edu/>

Private

University of Southern California (USC)

<http://www.usc.edu/admission/graduate/programs/index.html>

University of Redlands

<http://www.redlands.edu/academics/index.aspx#.VulabUYsB1E>

Loma Linda University

<http://home.llu.edu/academics/schools-and-programs>

Claremont Graduate University

<http://www.cgu.edu/pages/103.asp>

The whole list of all universities in southern California

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_colleges_and_universities_in_Southern_California