



April 2026
Graduate
Faculty Meeting

- April 23 @ 11:30





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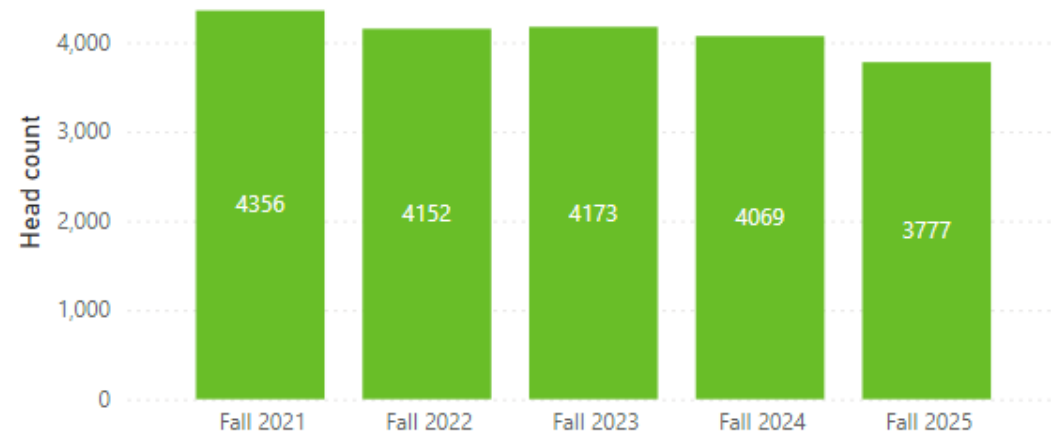
Agenda

- Enrollment Picture
- Upcoming Events
- New Opportunities for Graduate Students
- Policy Updates
- Coming Soon
 - Updating forms and processes
 - Graduate Assistant Handbook (new)
 - Graduate Program Director Handbook (update)

Enrollment Picture

Fall semester headcount

● GRAD



- Graduate enrollment continued to decline in AY25-26 over previous years.
- However...
 - Spring 2026 enrollment was higher than Fall 2025.
 - Both summer and fall 2026 are trending ahead of last year, including for non-partnership programs.
- **Keypath programs continue to grow at a fast pace**
 - The online MSW is now the largest graduate program.
- **Online = 40% of total.**



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Key Events

- Graduate Student Awards Ceremony
 - Wednesday, April 29 1-2 PM, 4th floor of the Wolstein Center
- Prospective Grad Student Social
 - Thursday, April 30 4:30-6:30 PM
 - New Location: Student Center Ballroom
- Doctoral Ceremony
 - Friday, May 8 at 6 p.m. in Waetjen Auditorium



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Orientations for Fall 2026

- **New TA Orientation: Thursday, August 20 from 9am-3pm**
- **New GA Orientation: Thursday, August 20 from 9am-10am**
- **New Graduate Student Welcome Reception: Thursday, August 20 from 4:30-6pm**
- **New Graduate Student Orientation: Available via Blackboard in early August**



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Graduate Student Ambassador Program

- **Deadline to Apply is Monday, April 27 at 12pm**
 - Seeking CSU graduate students for role to build community and enhance the graduate student experience at CSU
 - Time commitment of 4-6 hours per month
 - Seeking two representatives from each college
 - Seeking to represent wide variety of experiences at CSU including online students and students working full-time
 - Learn more at <https://csuohio.edu/gsrc/graduate-student-ambassador-program>



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Student Experience Project: TA Cohort

- Adapting the SEP for faculty to suit graduate teaching assistants
- 30 total hours across Fall & Spring semesters
- TAs who complete the program will earn a \$750 stipend, their Student-Centered Teaching Certificate, and 60 points towards their College Teaching Certificate.
- Participants will be invited to the Provost's Teaching Summit in Spring 2027!
- Need at least 15 TAs with significant instructional responsibilities from STEM disciplines.

College Teaching Certificate

- A tiered professional development credential that recognizes your commitment to excellence in teaching through training, workshops, and instructional engagement.
- Accumulate points through a variety of teaching and professional development opportunities:
 - Complete TA Training – 25 points, Complete the SEP GTA Program – 60 points, Attend Approved CFE Workshops – 5 points each, Present a CFE Workshop – 10 points, participate in the Provost's Teaching Summit – 10 points, Participate in Viking Teach Week – 5 points.
- **Certificate Levels (Tiered System)**
 -  Bronze Level - Earn 40 points (must include TA Training)
 -  Silver Level - Complete Bronze Level + earn 40 additional points
 -  Gold Level - Complete Silver Level + earn 40 additional points

Course Substitutions and Credit Hour Waivers Policy

- **Waiving credit hours:** program faculty may waive 1-2 credit hours as long as the student has completed the minimum credit hours required by the state and accrediting bodies (e.g. 30 credit hours for master's degree and 90 credit hours for a post-bachelor's Ph.D.). Programs should not, except under exceptional circumstances, seek to waive 3 or more credit hours. On those rare occasions, the program must seek approval from the College of Graduate Studies.
- **Course substitutions:** program faculty may substitute up to 20 percent of the program requirements, as measured in credit hours. Substitutions beyond 20 percent require approval from the College of Graduate Studies. Programs under a teach out program are exempted from this rule.



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Course Substitutions and Credit Hour Waivers Policy

- Programs that have submitted a curriculum revision that reduces the total credit hours for a program may waive the credit hours difference between the current and proposed curriculum for students graduating in the spring semester prior to the changes taking effect, providing the proposal has received all approvals through the Faculty Senate step.

Leave of Absence Policy

- **Current practice:** students are placed on leave after one year without enrollment; complete and submit a form to the Registrar's Office.
- **New Policy:** students will apply for a leave that is reviewed and approved by the graduate program director.
 - Students may apply for a one-year leave, renewable for a second year.
 - Students on leave maintain catalog rights and pause the degree completion clock.
 - Students complete a return from leave form; if they do not return at the end of the leave period, they will be placed in withdrawn status.

Leave of Absence Policy

- **New Policy (continued)**

- The policy follows regulations for military leave of absences for students called to active duty while enrolled per the Ohio Revised Code 3345.53.
- After three consecutive semesters of non-enrollment, a student will be withdrawn from their academic program unless they have filed and been approved for a leave of absence.
- Withdrawn students must reapply for admission to return to their graduate program.

Accelerated Master's

- **Standardize the admissions and application process for junior admits**
 - Students apply after completing at least 60 credit hours of their undergraduate program.
 - Students must have a cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.00 (A = 4.0) through the preceding semester, unless there is a program-specific GPA requirement.
 - One application for all accelerated master's programs.
- **Introducing a freshman admit option**
 - Freshmen are eligible to apply for early admission if they have achieved a

Accelerated Master's

- Freshman admits will be reviewed for continued eligibility after completing 60 credit hours.
- All accelerated master's students will be reviewed for eligibility to continue with the master's program upon completion of the bachelor's degree.
- Benefits of a standardized process
 - Better tracking and metrics
 - Ability to use CRM functions to develop targeted communications



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Coming Soon

- **Updating forms and processes**
 - Make forms fillable; move online where possible
 - Examining use of Workday and other software
- **Graduate Assistant Handbook (new)**
 - Need a GA handbook that outlines university policies
 - Provide links to resources
- **Graduate Program Director Handbook (update)**
 - Last updated in 2018 – does not reflect recent policy changes
 - Current version predates Slate



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Questions

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