Applying and Preparing for Graduate School

Is post-graduate education right for me?

Myths:
• I won’t get admitted
  o Admission is competitive. Plan ahead and be prepared.
• Graduate School is too hard
  o Not easy, but manageable
• It is too expensive
  o There are many funding opportunities to pay for your graduate education

Choosing a graduate program

What to consider:
• What kind of program is right for you?
  o Full-time/part-time
    ▪ Different programs offer full/part-time options
  o Academic quality
    ▪ Not all programs are created equal
  o Convenience

How to select a program of study?

• Be specific
  o Select the area you want to work in
• Explore your options
  o Contact Faculty, Staff, and alumni
  o What is important for you in a program?
• Develop a portfolio
  o Résumé
  o Request transcripts, exam scores, etc.
  o Statement of Purpose

The application process:

• Plan your application timetable and strategy well in advance
• Obtain application materials early
• Request letters of recommendation and support
• Provide all requested information
• Apply for funding
  o Scholarships, financial aid, and assistantships

What to Know

Admission Requirements:
• 3.0 GPA (varies by program)
• Official Transcripts with Degree Posted
• Letters of Recommendation
• Satisfactory GRE or GMAT scores.
• Confirmation of Financial Resources (International Students)
• Statement of Purpose and Resume

Admission Exams (GRE):
• Call (915) 587-7323 to set up appointment and pay for exam.
• www.gre.com
• Exam cost $185.00

Basic Rules:
• Carefully read the application instructions
• Do not repeat things that are already in other parts of the application portfolio
• Undergraduate is not the same as graduate

Find more Professional Development Resources under the “current students” tab of our web:

http://graduate.utep.edu

Facilitator: Yvonne Lopez 04/2011 • Last updated: Jessica M. Shenberger 04/2013