



A Message from Dean Karen McCaleb

Dear Graduate Islanders,

As November brings cooler weather and the final stretch of the semester, I want to extend my warmest greetings to all of you.

This time of year is often associated with reflection and gratitude. I am truly grateful for the dedication and hard work you've put into your studies and research. Your pursuit of knowledge and your contributions to our academic community make a significant impact.

As you navigate through your graduate journey, remember that you are not alone. Our university is a supportive and collaborative environment and your mentors, faculty, and fellow students are here to help you succeed.

I encourage you to continue pushing your boundaries, seeking new opportunities, and making the most of your time here. Every day is a chance to learn and grow, and I have no doubt that your efforts will lead to great accomplishments.

I hope this November is filled with progress, inspiration, and moments of joy. Together, we can make the most of this academic year.

Respectfully,

Karen McCaleb, Ed.D.
Dean for the College of Graduate Studies

GROW Workshops

The Graduate Resource and Opportunity Workspace, (GROW), located in the Mary and Jeff Bell Library offers graduate students exclusive space and resources tailored specifically to academic needs and professional development. Workshops are hosted in the GROW Suite, Bell Library room 112.

For scheduled events, [visit our online GROW calendar.](#)



Dissertation and Thesis Formatting Workshop

ZOOM Session

11/15/23 | 6:00 pm | [RSVP](#)



Ethical A.I.: How and When to Use AI in Your Learning Journey and Academic Integrity

ZOOM Session

11/16/23 | 6:00 pm | [RSVP](#)



Have an idea for a workshop?
Looking for a session on a particular
topic? Let us know your thoughts
for the spring 2024 workshop
schedule.

Complete the GROW
[WORKSHOP QUESTIONNAIRE](#)

Important Dates



November 17, 2023

MASTERS STUDENTS:

Last day to defend (4 weeks prior to graduation)



December 1, 2023

MASTERS STUDENTS:

Last day to submit Form C – Thesis Defense & Written Thesis Report



December 1, 2023

MASTERS STUDENTS: Last day to upload final version of Thesis to ProQuest (2 weeks prior to graduation)



November 17, 2023

DOCTORAL STUDENTS:

Last day to submit final version of dissertation to ProQuest, survey of earned doctorates (SED), dissertation fee and Form F submission: (4 weeks prior to graduation)



November 17, 2023

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE:

Last day to defend: (4 weeks prior to graduation-DNP students only)



November 24, 2023

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE:

Final version of project submitted to ProQuest (3 weeks prior to graduation-DNP students only)



December 1, 2023

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE:

Form F Submission due (2 weeks prior to graduation-DNP students only)

November 23-24, 2023

CAMPUS CLOSED:

Thanksgiving Holiday



We're thankful for our graduate students and for pie! Join us as we celebrate the many things we are thankful for and love of pie. Stop by the GROW suite (LIB 112) on Tuesday, November 14th from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and enjoy a slice of pie.

Don't miss this delicious opportunity!



Tuesday, November 14th



3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.



GROW suite (LIB 112)

Celebrating our Graduate & Professional Students

The College of Graduate Studies wants to celebrate you! Do you have an internship announcement? Did you present at a conference or win an award for research? Were you recently hired for your dream job opportunity? Tell us your latest news! [Click here](#) to tell us a little more about yourself. Check out our latest graduate student spotlight below. Who knows, this could be you!

Graduate Student Spotlight

Meet Alexandra Good

PhD candidate in Marine Biology

What is your Area of Study / Research?

I am a fourth-year PhD candidate in Marine Biology. My dissertation focuses on understanding how coral reefs in Hawaii and oyster reefs in Texas are impacted by environmental change. With these valuable ecosystems rapidly declining, I want to understand stress tolerances and create risk assessments for these foundational species. I am also creating a STEM education curriculum for 9th-grade Biology students at West Oso High School that aims to educate the students about science-based solutions to protect coral reef ecosystems amid our climate crisis and enhance the students' attitudes towards STEM education and STEM careers.

What drew you to your field?

My dad is a fisherman, and I was 8 years old when I asked him, what do you call a scientist that studies the ocean? That was when I discovered I wanted to become a marine biologist, and it's been my dream ever since. I like to think I manifested this; I spent as much time as possible in or around the ocean. I am showing my age, but I used to collect seaweed in old black camera film canisters and pretend they were test tubes. I still have a notebook I made in 4th grade with pictures and facts of every marine animal.

What strategies do you use to be successful in your grad program?

My passion planner is my lifeline. I need to make lists and schedule each day, week, and month to stay on task and meet deadlines. I like to focus on the little wins and reward myself with each small accomplishment; it helps me stay positive. Lastly, I pride myself on my work-life balance. My dissertation doesn't define me, and tomorrow isn't promised for us, so I try to live each day to the fullest!

Give us 5 adjectives that describe you as a scholar.

Energetic, inclusive, resilient, dedicated, and community-minded

What is the best advice you have been given?

My dad always compared a large, daunting task (like writing a thesis) to a pile of loam. Looking at the large pile of loam you need to spread across your entire lawn seems impossible, exhausting, and overwhelming. But as you spread the loam scoop by scoop, the task gets less daunting. It sounds silly, but this has been the best advice for me. Don't get stuck dreading or fearing how you will get to the end product; take it step by step and day by day, slowly, the pile will get smaller and smaller.

What is your favorite thing about being a student at TAMU-CC?

Living and working by the ocean, the island university certainly lives up to its name!

Program:

Marine Biology

Estimated

Graduation Date:

May 2025

Hometown?

Cape Cod,
Massachusetts



What music have you been listening to lately?

Any Taylor Swift album (Taylor's Version) or Noah Kahan, his album Stick Season is always on repeat!

What is your favorite blog, podcast or website?

I play Wordle every morning when I wake up, and I love listening to pop culture podcasts (like Chicks in the Office or Lady Gang) while working in the lab.

What resources or opportunities that TAMUCC provides have been most valuable to you?

The Pathways Symposium and GROW workshops coordinated by the College of Graduate Studies have been both fun and beneficial for professional development. I am also grateful for the SAGE fellowship that assisted in my tuition payments and the MARB program travel funds that have allowed me to travel for conferences and fieldwork!

Who are your favorite writers?

I don't have any specific writers that stick out to me, but a few of my favorite books are Educated by Tara Westover, Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens, and Untamed by Glennon Doyle.

If stranded on a deserted island, name three people (dead or alive), two objects, and one food you would want with you.

This isn't the most practical answer, but I would bring my favorite people: my dog Coral, my partner James, and my Mimi, who passed away in 2020. I'd also bring my mask and snorkel and macaroni and cheese.

Where do you see yourself in 5 years?

I would love to be working for NOAA in one of the National Marine Sanctuaries or for the Coral Reef Conservation Program. Alternatively, I would love to be a professor at the Sea Education Association based in Woods Hole, MA.

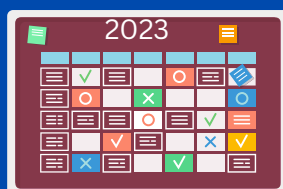
REGISTER FOR SPRING 2024

- ☒ Consult your faculty advisor and **GRADUATE ADVISOR** for assistance.
- ☒ **REGISTER** for classes.
- ☒ Submit any pending **FORMS** to the College of Graduate Studies.

gradcollege.tamucc.edu



Mark
YOUR
Calendar



2nd 7 Week term (T) & Fall 2 (Online Mini-term): October 17- December 6

November 13	Last day to drop a class
November 23 & 24	Thanksgiving Holiday- Campus Closed
December 4	Last day to withdraw from all classes
December 6	Last day of classes and final exams
December 16	Fall Commencement
December 18	Grades due

FALL SEMESTER 2023

November 10	Last day to drop a class
November 22	Reading Day – No Class
November 23-24	Thanksgiving Holiday – Campus Closed
November 30	Last Day to Apply for Fall Graduation
December 5	Last day to withdraw
December 6	Last day of classes
December 7	Reading Day – No Class
December 8-13	Final Exams
December 16	Fall Commencement
December 18	All Fall grades due