

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWSLETTER

CSUF Graduate Studies

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MESSAGE FROM CSUF GRADUATE STUDIES

Hello, Titans!

You did it! Finals are Done! Congratulations on completing another Academic Year. Take a moment to take a deep breath and embrace your achievements.

For us, the Office of Graduate Studies and Graduate Studies Center, this is our favorite time of the year. We have the opportunity to watch so many of you take your graduation pictures at the TITAN letter or in front of the fountain and see the excitement of obtaining your degree. Your hard work and dedication paid and now you can celebrate the moment with your loved ones as you walk down the commencement stage. You have proven that Titan Reach Higher and that Once a Titan, Always a Titan!

Congratulations Class of 2023!

GRAD STUDIES CENTER HOURS

The GSC (LH-216) **will be closed during Commencement Week, May 22-26**. We will reopen for summer hours on **May 30**.

Summer Hours: May 30 - August 4

Monday - Thursday: 10:00am to 7:00pm

Friday: Closed

***Holiday Closures: June 19** (Juneteenth) and **July 4** (Independence Day).

Drop by and see us when you are on campus. Remember you can stash your food in our kitchen area, bring your study group to our open study space, or **reserve our private study room**.

FALL LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The Fall 2023 leave of absence request form is now open for continuing students. Students who started Spring 2023 must wait until final grades post in May to submit the form. If you are not planning to take classes in the fall, please submit the form as soon as possible to ensure that you remain active in your program!

The form can be found on our website **online here**.

UPCOMING DEADLINES

Summer Thesis/Dissertation Submission

- July 7, 2023

Fall 2023 Leave of Absence Deadline

- August 19, 2023

Fall 2023 GS700 Register w/ No Late Fee

- September 1, 2023

Fall 2023 Graduation Check Application

- September 11, 2023

Fall 2023 Thesis/Dissertation Submission

- November 17, 2023
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Are you passionate about **EDUCATIONAL EQUITY**
Support First Gen, underrepresented HS students to attend college.

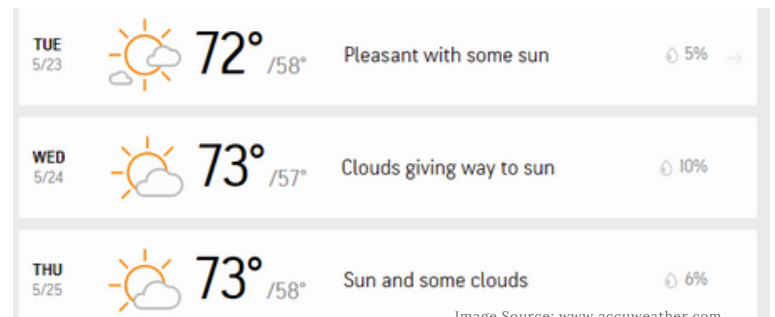
Become a USC College Advising Corps **COLLEGE ADVISER**
cerpp.usc.edu

COMMENCEMENT 2023

We are excited for this year's commencement ceremony and we look forward to watching our graduates participate in the time-honored tradition of walking across the commencement stage.

As a friendly reminder, please make sure to arrive so that you can find close parking, as well as check-in at the registration desk.

We expect to have pleasant weather during the ceremonies but please make sure to arrive and have your guests arrive dressed appropriately for the weather.



2023 TITAN GRAD SLAM WINNERS

We're excited to announce our 2023 Titan Grad Slam Winners! Congratulations to all our winners and to Ainaria and Brandon who competed at the CSU-wide Grad Slam in May! Check out our [website](#) to learn more about our participants and our [youtube](#) to watch this year's presentations.

1st Place and CSU-wide Finalist:

Ainaria Johnson

"WHAT WOULD THEY WANT TO SAY IF THEY COULD? USING AIDED LANGUAGE INPUT TO INCREASE THE EXPRESSIVE COMMUNICATION OF A PRE-SYMBOLIC PRESCHOOL CHILD WITH DOWN SYNDROME"



2nd Place: Brandon Quintana

"Friend or Foe? Effect of Eelgrass on Biomass and Condition Index in a Multi-habit Living Shoreline"



3rd Place: Diana Lopez

"A Manual for Best Training Practices Around the Menstrual Cycle"



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Ainaria Johnson, Special Education MS candidate, examines alternative communication strategies for children with Down syndrome to help build language skills and foster learning. She won first place at the 2023 Titan Grad Slam and was a finalist for the CSU statewide competition. She is also a scholar for CSUF's "Project ABC" grant program, a research fellow in the CSU Hispanic-Serving grant project "Increasing Family Engagement Through Innovative Practices," and a Carr fellow. Learn more about her achievements [here!](#)

Brandon Quintana, Biology MS candidate, earns national ecology award for science policy training for his research project focusing on protecting coastal habitats. His project is part of the California State Coastal Conservancy's Climate Ready Program to assess and counter the impact of rising seas levels on vulnerable communities and natural resources. Learn more about his achievements [here!](#)

Jordyn Neal, Biology MS candidate, receives a national science foundation fellowship to study rare megamouth sharks. Neal also received the 2022-23 Violet Horn Graduate Research Fellowship in Ecology, Evolution and Conservation Biology from NSM, CSUF's Graduate Equity Fellowship, and the Dr. Kenneth H. Coale Graduate Scholar Award. Learn more about her achievements [here!](#)

Yuliana Fernandez, Psychology MS candidate, receives the Alumni Association's Outstanding Graduate Student award for her aspirations to create culturally sensitive interventions for child abuse survivors. Beyond her research, she also received CSUF's Graduate Equity Fellowship and Pa'lante Fellowships, and she was also selected for the CSU Sally Casanova Scholars pre-doctoral program. Learn more about her achievement [here!](#)

RELAXING SUMMER ACTIVITES

After a great semester, it's time to relax and enjoy the beautiful summer days in Southern California. Here are some free or low cost suggestions for you:

- Fullerton Arboretum
 - Located at our own campus, the Fullerton Arboretum is a great place to enjoy nature and have a relaxing time.
- Orange County Fair July 14-August 13
 - The OC Fairs offers a variety of activities, rides, attractions, exhibits, concerts, entertainments and food. Enjoy some delicious BBQ, funnel cake, fresh lemonade and odd foods as fried Oreos.
- Pageants of the Masters at the Festival of Arts of Laguna Beach July 7-September 1
 - If art is your passion, Laguna Beach is a great place to visit. From July 7 through September 1, Festival of Arts of Laguna Beach will have their annual Pageants of the Masters, a 90-minute theatrical performance where art is brought to life.
- ASI Discounted Tickets
 - ASI has great offers and discounted tickets for your summer activities. This includes low cost tickets to see an Angels Baseball Game, Disneyland Park tickets, Movie tickets, Universal Studios Park tickets and much more.

Other free or low cost options are going to the beach and enjoying a beautiful sunset as well as going for a hike. A close to campus hike option is the Redwood Grove Hike located in Brea. Santa Ana will also be having movies at the park throughout the summer. We hope that this summer you get to relax, enjoy and re-energize to start a strong academic year in the Fall.

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For any questions or concerns, reach out to us at gradstudiesrecept@fullerton.edu.