Applying to Grad Skool

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Application Process

• Applying to Graduate or Professional Programs is More Complex than Filling out the Application

• You Must Also:
  – Clarify Your Goals
  – Identify Programs that Fit
  – Complete Undergraduate Prerequisites
  – Take Appropriate Entrance Exam(s)
  – Arrange for Letters of Recommendation
  – Compose Effective Personal Statements
Clarifying Your Goals

Why Are You Going?

• To Learn More About <subject>
• To Meet a Credentialing or Licensing Requirement
• To Prepare to Enter a Profession
• To Prepare for an Academic or Research Career
Identifying Programs that Fit

Type of Degree/Program
- Post Baccalaureate Programs
- Professional Masters
- Professional Doctorate
- Research Masters
- Research Doctorate
Identifying Programs that Fit

- **Start Early** -- *Your Sophomore Year is Not Too Soon!*
- Visit Mookini Library Reference Section
- Ask UHH Faculty for Their Recommendations
- Get Catalogs & “Mine” the Programs’ Web Sites
- Find Programs Consistent with Your Goals/Needs.
  - Program/Program Emphasis
  - Faculty Interests & Qualifications
  - Program Requirements
  - Accreditations
- Visit Campuses -- Talk to Students in Program
Identifying Programs that Fit

Once You have a List of Desirable Programs:

- Compare Your GPA & Test Scores to the Mean GPA and Test Scores of Recent Admits
- Pick 9 or 10 Programs to Apply to
  - Three “Stretch” Programs
  - Three to Four “I am Reasonably Competitive” Programs
  - Three “Safe” Programs
- Initiate Dialogue with Faculty in Favored Programs
- Confirm Application & Financial Aid Deadlines
- Gather Application Materials & Dedicate Plenty of Time to Complete Them
Many Programs Require Specific Undergraduate Courses for Admission

- Vary from Program to Program
  - Check with Schools
- Not always Obvious or Well Known
- Requires Planning Ahead to Make Sure You Can Complete by the Time You Finish Your Baccalaureate
Entrance Exams

Types Vary by Program:
- GRE General
- GRE Subject
- MAT
- MCAT/DAT/VAT
- LSAT
- GMAT

Practice
- For Fee Courses
- Self Prep
Letters of Recommendation

• Build Strong Relationships with Professors
  – Active Participant in Class
  – Visit Often During Office Hours
  – Assist with Research
  – Take A Directed Study

• Give Them Plenty of Time

• “Help” Them Write Your Letter
  – Fact Sheet or Academic Resume
  – Reminders of Special Projects/Outstanding Results
Keyword is “Personal”

- Grab the Readers Attention!
- Explain When, Why, How You Became Interested in This Field/Career
- Tell How You Have Prepared
- Why This Program/School?
- What Unique Quality Will You Bring to Their Program?
- How Do You Expect to Contribute to The Field?
A Few Words About Med School

• Med School Application Process Starts in June

• 116 U. S. Medical Schools use the American Medical College Application Service
  http://www.aamc.org/students/amcas/start.htm

• Most Schools of Osteopathic Medicine use the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine’s Application Service
  http://www.aacom.org/
? QUESTIONS ?

Attend One of Our “Live” Grad School Workshops

OR

Visit Your Career Center in Campus Center 202A