Welcome to HGSE!

For full transparency, this year is difficult. Not only will you be challenged academically, but you may encounter issues related to your social life, the move out here, mental health, physical well-being, and various other areas. This guidebook was written to ensure that future students have a better experience.

HGSE’s Office of Student Affairs also put together a short guidebook.

Writing this guidebook was an immense labor of love. Please show your appreciation by participating in our organizing campaigns during the academic year. (i.e. Unafraid Scholars, Harvard Graduate Student Union, Future Indigenous Educators Resisting Colonial Education, Comunidad Latinx, Black Student Union, Pan-Asian Coalition for Education, Alumni of Color Conference, UndocuAllies).

Below you will find links to different sections of this comprehensive guidebook. If you have a suggestion or an edit, please email michaelangelvazquez@fas.harvard.edu. Thank you!

**Finding Books & Readings**
- Books and articles can be expensive. Most of the latter is readily available on canvas or HOLLIS, but the former can be tricky. Read this quick doc to get a few ideas about how to find books for free or at very low prices.

**Financial Support: Making & Saving**
- We know finances are really tough to manage during this tough year. Here are some money-making and money-saving strategies.

**Mental Health**
- It’s okay to not be okay. Graduate school isn’t designed or implemented in a manner that is conducive to healthy minds and/or bodies. This section provides access to some resources you can tap into, including mental health services.

**Physical Health**
- Your body is important, too. Whether you’re thinking about nutrition, exercise, urgent care, gender-neutral restrooms, sexual health, insurance, and other needs, check this quick read out.

**Accommodations & Disability Services**
- Equity means providing folks with some support systems to help them be successful. Read this short blurb to get a sense of how HGSE staff and faculty can work with you to best meet your personal needs.

**Academic & Career Support**
- How do I start this paper? Where can I go to find some archives or articles to conduct research? Who can help me write a CV or resumé? Check this section out for some resources to help you with coursework and the subsequent job hunt.

**Centers & Services**
- Here’s a brief overview of the wide array of services offered across Harvard. These include cultural centers, Title IX-related support, and research centers, among others.

**Community Building & Student Involvement**

• There are many opportunities to get involved at HGSE, Harvard, and Greater Boston. Need some friends to fast with during Ramadan? Interested in organizing with the BTU or the graduate student union? Hoping to shoot hoops or join a soccer team? Learn about how to get involved and form a family out here.

Housing Search
• You’ve probably spent 40 hours cursing at your computer by now. The housing search is a pain in the @$%, but we got some options for you.

Coursework & Registration
• Chances are you’ve looked through the entire course catalog and picked out 27 different classes you plan on taking over the next two semesters. We hate to break it to you, but you’re going to have to narrow it down. Luckily, we got you covered!

Quick trips: What to see & do in and out of Boston
• Bars, museums, food, sporting events, and other fun excursions. Actually, while we’re at it, Niagara isn’t too far...

Transportation
• Read this bit to get a sense of how to get from point A to point B. Subway, train, ferry…

Must-have list
• Tampons, coats, books, etc. What else do I need to bring with me to HGSE? What can I buy out in Boston?

Graduation Prep
• Graduation is more stressful than it needs to be. Here you’ll learn about how to navigate this challenging, post-finals s#!+ show.

Post-HGSE: The Job Hunt
• Now that you have that Harvard degree, it’s time to add it to your résumé and get a nice gig. However, we need to be transparent. MANY students leave HGSE without a job secured. That’s not a moment to be alarmed, because there are many opportunities, but just be aware that it isn’t guaranteed immediately.

Considering a Doctorate?
• PhD? EdD? EdLD? Here’s some insight on what these degrees mean, how to get more information on each of them, and a few extra tips to keep in mind as you decide if/when you’d like to apply.

Caring for yourself and others during COVID-19
• Harvard’s rules and services have changed recently, so this page will be updated accordingly.