Grad Life 101: Navigating Campus and Testudo

2017 MSGS Grad Life 101 Series #1

David Shahin
Materials Science and Engineering
University of Maryland

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The next Grad Life 101 session **will still take place** next Friday, September 15\textsuperscript{th}

Grad Life 101 will take place during the lunch break during the Empowering Voices in Engineering Workshop, so **you can still attend both**!

Next week’s MSE seminar speaker is part of the EVE Workshop
Navigating Campus and the DC Metro Area
Campus Maps

- Accessible online: maps.umd.edu
DOTS handles UMD transit systems and has various commuter resources.

dots.umd.edu
UMD Parking

- Parking Maps and Apps

  transportation.umd.edu/maps&apps.html

- Can find full listing of all regular, visitor parking lots, as well as EV charging stations

- Things to note:
  - Lots have been changing location, designation frequently due to construction
  - Pay attention to parking lot time restrictions, especially on faculty/staff lots!
  - Visitor parking now has no maximum daily charge ($3/hr)
  - For infrequent parkers, parking at College Park metro station may be cheaper ($5.10/day)


Campus Parking Registration

- Register through Parking Account Management System on Student Parking page
  – Includes motorcycles/mopeds

- Grad students get first pick of parking lot registrations in August
  – Can register by semester or by academic year

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<th>Fees (2017-2018)</th>
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<td>Academic term</td>
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<td>Annual</td>
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<td>Fall Only</td>
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<td>Spring Only</td>
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<td>Summer Only</td>
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- Parking lots closest to engineering zone on campus: Lots 9, 11b

- Covered parking in Lot 6 (Xfinity Center), SDG

- Restrictions on overnight parking and for sporting events
  – Can obtain special permit from DOTS on limited basis at DOTS office
Citations and Motorist Assist

- **IF you get a parking ticket...**
  - Can pay or request review (good luck) on Reviews & Citations tab of DOTS page

- **Motorist Assist**
  - Available on weekdays for assistance with car issues
  - Can unlock doors, jumpstart, inflate tires, provide gasoline to cars on campus
  - (301) 314-4227

- **UMPD Parking Garage Security Program**
  - Jumpstarts, unlocks, walking escorts from 10pm-2am, 7 days a week
  - Call (301) 405-3555 or use Blue Light Emergency phone
ShuttleUM

• Can view bus routes and schedules at: transportation.umd.edu/schedules.html
  – Be aware of schedule changes during summer/winter breaks, holidays, etc.

• Bus tracking through NextBus
  – Can track via call, text message (instructions on signs at stops), website (nextbus.com), or NextBus DC smartphone app
  – Live map of entire bus system available on nextbus.com
ShuttleUM

• Some ShuttleUM bus routes will require UMD IDs or non-student passes to board
  – 108 Adelphi
  – 110 Seven Springs
  – 111 Silver Spring
  – 113 Hyattsville
  – 126 New Carrollton
  – 127 Mazza GrandMarc
  – 128 Enclave
  – 131 Mazza GrandMarc/Enclave
  – 133 Mall at Prince George’s
  – 140 Carey School of Law
  – 143 Greenbelt

• Non-student guest passes can be acquired for College Park, Greenbelt, and Hyattsville residents from their respective City Halls
  – Instructions at transportation.umd.edu/schedules.html
ShuttleUM Paratransit

- Special paratransit service is available after registering with Student Health Center or Accessibility and Disability Services
  - Available for permanent disability or temporary injuries after registration with SHC
  - Operates 24 hours/7 days a week
  - More instructions available at transportation.umd.edu/paratransit.html
Safe Traveling Services

• DOTS Nite Ride
  – 7 days a week, 5:30pm-7:30am between certain campus destinations
  – (301) 314-NITE (6483)

• UMPD Campus Escort
  – Can request escort by police/police auxiliary when walking on campus 24 hours a day
  – Call from a Blue Light Emergency phone, or call (301) 405-3555

• Guaranteed Ride Home
  – Commuters can register to get up to four guaranteed rides home in the event of unexpected circumstances
  – FREE
  – Must register at commuterconnections.org/commuters/guaranteed-ride-home/
Green Commuting Incentives

• Parking with an LEV/EV
  – Low Emission Vehicle Permit gets 20% discount off campus permit price
  – LEV registration allows parking in Smart Commute Lot across from Stamp
  – Charging on campus currently free at EV stations for vehicles with valid parking permits

• Carpool/Vanpool
  – Sign up at UMD Smart Commute: umd.rideamigos.com/#/dashboard

• Zipcars
  – Available on campus for student membership of $15/month
Bicycles at UMD

• BikeUMD: transportation.umd.edu/bike.html

• Personal bikes are allowed
  – Bikes must be registered with DOTS (provides record of ownership in case of theft)
  – No riding on sidewalks
  – Bikes must be stored in a rack near campus buildings, and be removed within 72 hrs
  – Get a good U-lock!
  – State law mandates front white light and rear red reflector when riding at night

• mBike Zagster bikeshare program
  – Popping up around campus (station near Regents Garage)
  – $3/hr for nonmembers
  – Members get first hour free
Biking Resources

• Bike rentals, discounted locks, lights, helmets through RecWell Bike Shop
  – transportation.umd.edu/bike/resources.html
  – recwell.umd.edu/facilities/bike-shop

• 5 Bike Quick Repair Stations scattered around campus

• Bike Shop has facilities/staff to help with maintenance, repairs, biking clinics/events
Important UMD Phone Numbers

• UMPD contact numbers:
  – Emergency: 911 or (301) 405-3333
  – Non-Emergency: #3333 or (301) 405-3555

• Nite Ride
  – (301) 314-NITE (6483)

• Campus Escort/Late Night Vehicle Assist
  – (301) 405-3555

• Motorist Assist (weekdays)
  – (301) 314-4227
• Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority – Rail and Bus

wmata.com
MetroRail Map

- MetroRail/MetroBus route maps available for download as PDFs: [wmata.com/schedules/maps/](https://wmata.com/schedules/maps/)
- Small circles are rail stations
- Big bullseyes are transfer stations between different lines
- Dashed lines indicate rush-only service
- Transparent silver line indicates unopened track extension
Practical Tips for Surviving the Metro


• Use Metro Trip Planner to plan your trips, figure out fares, and check service alerts on your planned route
  – Fares are more expensive during weekday morning and evening rush hours

• MetroRail system hours:
  – Monday-Thursday: 5am-11:30pm
  – Friday: 5am-1am
  – Saturday: 7am-1am
  – Sunday: 8am-11pm
  – Can look up what time the first and last trains will leave each station

• MetroBus hours: check route schedules
Practical Tips: Bikes and the Metro

• For bikers taking MetroRail
  – Bikes are allowed in MetroRail outside of rush hours (weekdays, 7-10am, 4-7pm)
  – Folding/collapsible bikes allowed anytime
  – Must enter/exit through front or rear Metro train doors, not center
  – Bikes must use the elevators

• For bikers using MetroBus
  – MetroBuses are equipped with front bike racks and can be used free of charge.

• For bikers wanting to park their bikes at a Metro station
  – College Park metro has free, secure Bike & Ride parking (must register online using SmarTrip card to access)
  – Otherwise, Metro has a number of bike racks that can be used (get a good U-lock!)
  – No locking bikes to railings, signs, benches, etc. at Metro stations
  – Individual, key-locked Bike Lockers can be rented for $120/year

• Can also register your bike with Metro Transit Police for free in case of theft
Practical Tip: SmarTrip Cards

- SmarTrip Cards
  - Can be purchased at any MetroRail station ($2), online through WMATA, or at Metro sales offices and authorized retailers
  - Required for MetroRail entry
  - MetroBus accepts SmarTrip or hard currency (exact change required!)
  - Parking at Metro stations can be paid with SmarTrip cards on exit

- Online SmarTrip Card registration: smartrip.wmata.com/Account/Create
  - Register card online with a credit card to auto-reload
  - Online registration also allows you to view your riding history
  - Can deactivate a lost SmarTrip card and transfer funding balance to a new one

- SmarTrip works on more than just Metro
  - Good on a number of other regional/municipal transit bus/streetcar systems in DC, MD, and VA
Practical Tips: Boarding and Disembarking

- Pay attention to buses coming to your stop
  - If you don’t seem like you are moving to board, they might just keep going

- When entering a MetroBus or MetroRail station, have your SmarTrip card ready

- At MetroRail stations, you do not have to wait for the gates to close before swiping your SmarTrip card

- Minimum MetroRail charge is ~$1

- Make sure you are getting on the trains and buses going the correct direction
  - MetroRail typically indicates travel direction based on the last station
  - Some trains will not go completely to the end of the line

- Big transfer stations can be confusing to navigate; prepare for crowds!

- Be aware of rush hour service modifications
  - Example: CP Metro is along the Green line, but also gets Yellow line service during rush
Metro SelectPass

• SelectPass for frequent Metro riders
  – Requires a SmartTrip card (can get from any Metro station)
  – Select the pass for the price just UNDER what your normal fare would cost
  – Get unlimited trips up to your SelectPass fare value, rounded up to the nearest quarter
  – If your trip costs more than $0.25 above your pass level, you just pay the difference
Metro Problem Reporting

- Not all Metro trains are the shiny new 7000-series trains

- If heat is running during summer: tweet @MetroHotCars bot with car number

- Subscribe to MetroAlerts for text updates
  - [wmata.com/rider-guide/subscribe/index.cfm](http://wmata.com/rider-guide/subscribe/index.cfm)

- In case of emergencies requiring Metro Transit Police response:
  - On bus/train: Contact operator using emergency intercoms (marked)
  - At station platform: Contact station manager or 911 using emergency intercoms or payphones
  - On cell phone: (202) 962-2121
Capital Bikeshare

- Bikes available for rental use around the DC Metro Area: capitalbikeshare.com

- Can purchase short-term pass or a membership
  - 30 minute 1-ride pass: $2
  - 24 hour pass: $8/day
  - Annual: $85/year or $8/mo

- Get code or key to unlock bikes

- Ride as much as your pass permits

- Return bike to any station and lock up
Testudo

- Student portal to the Registrar’s Office testudo.umd.edu

- Can access a variety of academic and financial functions from Testudo
Class and Exam Schedules

- Click “Schedule of Classes” or “Final Exams” buttons at top of page

- Search for class you need info on based on course (ENMA650, for example)
  - Specific exam dates not posted until mid-semester
Checking Your Schedule

- Select “Student Schedule” option, and log in
Unofficial Transcripts

- Select “Unofficial Transcript” option, and log in, or use dropdown menu if already in system.
Other Options

- Order official transcripts using “Transcript Request & Status” link
- View current course grades if reported by professors using “Grades” link
- Add/drop classes using “Registration (Drop/Add)” link
Financial Info

- Click “Financials” link on left side of Testudo page
Financial Info

- Use “Student Account Inquiry” to see transaction record on your Bursar account
- Use “View Monthly Billing Statement” to view monthly statements and pay charges
1098-Ts for Scholarship/Fellowship Tax Info

- Go to Bursar’s Office tax info page to download 1098-T (once available) and view more info about taxes and the form
  - bursar.umd.edu/t_taxInfo.html
Paycheck and Official University Info

• Can access records about biweekly paychecks, official university address info, etc. through ARES: ares.umd.edu/home/
  – Click “Payroll and Human Resources System (PHR)” on left menu
  – Then select “Bi-Weekly Earnings Statement” or “Access Personal PHR Information”

• Questions can be directed to Nina K. (“Kay”) Morris for help (highly recommended)
  – nmorris@umd.edu
Any Questions??

Saturday Night Live, October 23, 2016