

HUMANITIES MENTEE QUESTIONS



Thank you for your commitment to being an undergraduate mentee this semester! For humanities students, this document contains some potential prompts to discuss with your mentors. Please feel free to use any of these ideas or develop your own in order to gain a better understanding of what going into graduate school in a humanities field of study entails.

POTENTIAL DISCUSSION TOPICS (HUMANITIES MENTEE → MENTOR)

Take this time to discuss any questions you may have regarding the humanities graduate school application and education process. These are meant to be broad questions that can be tailored to the specific field of study of your graduate student mentor.

- “Why did you choose to go to graduate school in [insert field]?”
 - “What do you feel is the most important thing a graduate school education in this subject provides that is different from an undergraduate education?”
- “What does your day-to-day work as a graduate student in this field look like?”
- “What does the graduate school application process in this field look like?
Requirements? Interviews?”
- “Could you discuss the importance of research for undergraduate students in this field?”
 - “What research experience did you have during your undergraduate years?”
 - “What does research generally look like in [insert field]?”
 - “How do I get involved in research in [insert field]?”
- “What are some of the qualities of a good graduate school applicant?”
 - “How can I set myself apart from other graduate school applicants?”
- “Should my classes be mostly humanities focused or more well-rounded?”
 - “Are there certain classes, majors, or skill sets that graduates schools like to see?”
 - “Do you have any advice on how to develop core skills such as writing research papers?”

- “How many graduate schools did you apply to/how did you choose which to apply to?”
- “What are your favorite and least favorite parts of being a graduate student in [insert field]?”