

**Title:** Graduate School?

**Abstract:** This talk explores the possibilities of graduate study and provides a guide to the process of applying to graduate school. Study at the graduate level opens opportunities for women — providing independence and leadership in the work setting and generating the potential for significant contributions to the community in many venues. Many myths surround graduate study — from the perception that one would have to pay tuition to the sense that all programs are alike and that graduate study just entails more classwork. If graduate school is selected as an avenue to pursue, many questions must be addressed: What field? What school? Why? Where? If a partner is involved, then greater care must be taken in thinking about the application process to accommodate needs, especially if that person does not want to pursue graduate studies. This guide to getting ready and to the application process itself is designed to find a pathway through the steps in applying for graduate school. The most important step for each of us is to envision our future and to pursue the goals that will bring us closest to our individual aspirations.