



“The Doctor”

McNair Scholars Program

MKN Heartland McNair Conference



Vera Gantt, Elvin Salerno, Elizabeth Ramirez, Jesus Gonzalez, Program Counselor Ashley Cervantes

On September 19, 2016, four McNair scholars attended the 20th Annual McNair Heartland Research Symposium at the Country Club Plaza Marriott Hotel in Kansas City, MO.

The conference gave students an opportunity to present their research to McNair students from across the country and learn about research being conducted by their peers. Also included was a graduate school fair, allowing students to interact with admissions representatives from various colleges and universities.

Upcoming Research Deadlines

The following deadlines have been set to ensure that students successfully complete their research projects.

- January 29 Literature Review
- February 29 IRB Submission
- May 20 Final Literature Review

New Student Highlight



Erica Kromidas is a sophomore majoring in psychology. He is interested in researching how to better optimize resources in place for Immigrant and Refugee populations here in Wichita.

Christian Saldana is a sophomore majoring in economics. He is interested in government spending and its effect on society and would like to research government aide to identify effects on individuals and commercial endeavors.



Happy Birthday to those celebrating during the months of December, January and February:



- Jesus Gonzalez • 12/22
- Christine Fuston • 12/22
- Neshia Greene • 1/23
- Martina Salerno • 1/23
- Valerie Noseng • 2/12

Welcome Writing Tutor

McNair is excited to welcome David Caylor to the McNair team as writing tutor. He will be available to assist students in their efforts to improve their writing.

Schedule

- Monday/Tuesday: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Wednesday/Thursday: 12 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Grammatically Speaking: *The Literature Review*

Grammar is not just the domain of high-minded intellectuals holding court in an ivory tower, nor is it a sadist creation designed to make you feel frustrated and confused. It is a system and structure that is genuinely in existence to help us communicate more clearly—to help us better understand each other and derive meaning from the things we say and write. That is why it's so important to take notice of grammatical mistakes and figure out what you need to do to correct them. Below are nine examples of common grammatical errors.

1. YOUR / YOU'RE

Your "Your" is a possessive pronoun, as in "your car" or "your blog." 	You're "You're" is a contraction of "you are," as in: "You're screwing up your writing by using 'your' when you mean 'you are.'" 
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2. IT'S / ITS

It's "It's" is a contraction of "it is" or "it has."  <i>It's an apple!</i>	Its "Its" is a possessive pronoun, as in: "This infographic has got its groove on." Say your sentence out loud using "it is" instead. If that sounds goofy, "its" is likely correct. 
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3. THERE / THEIR / THEY'RE

There / Their Always do the "That's ours!" test: Are you talking about more than one person and something they possess? If so, "their" will get you there. 	They're "They're" is a contraction of "they are," so talk it out to be sure. 
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4. AFFECT / EFFECT

Affect "Affect" is a verb, as in: "Your ability to communicate clearly will affect your income." 	Effect "Effect" is most often a noun, as in: "The effect of poor grammar on a person's income is well documented." 
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5. THEN / THAN

Then The word "then" can have a variety of meanings, including "at a point in time" or "in addition to." As a rule, use the word "than" when comparing and "then" in all other instances.	Than The word "than" is used to compare two different things: "This is bigger than that." 
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6. LOOSE / LOSE

Please don't mess this up. If your pants are **too loose**, you might **lose your pants**.
Be careful!


7. ME, MYSELF, AND I

Me/I Choose between "me" and "I" by removing the other person from the sentence and using what doesn't sound silly. 	Myself "Myself" is only proper two ways, both used here: "Many despise asparagus, but I myself tolerate it. I thought to myself, 'Why?'" 
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8. IMPROPER USE OF THE APOSTROPHE

You need an apostrophe in two cases:
For contractions ("don't" for "do not forget the apostrophe") **and to show possession** ("Frank's apostrophe means the apostrophe belongs to Frank").


9. COULD OF, WOULD OF, SHOULD OF

"Could've," "would've," and "should've" are legitimate verb contractions, but when spoken, they sound like they end in "of" (wrong) instead of "have" (correct). "Could of," "would of," and "should of" all make you look silly.
Could of...
Wrong! Fool!

Sources: <http://www.nextscientist.com/tips-improve-your-academic-writing/>

<http://www.grammarly.com/blog/2015/5-of-the-most-common-grammar-mistakes/>

24th Annual National McNair Research Conference and Graduate Fair

I had the opportunity to attend the National McNair Research Conference in Delavan, Wisconsin in October 2016.

The research presentations were very diverse. I found one poster particularly interesting. It was about finding the location where a Nazi soldier was buried. The student and his mentor were able to go to Israel and use special equipment to analyze the soil to determine and map where the soldier might be located. They actually found what they were looking for and put in a request to get a team to dig, and the panel approved it!

My favorite speaker at this conference was the keynote speaker, Dr. Sylvester James Gates Jr. First of all, his presentation kept the whole audience at attention because he spoke in a way that relates to everyone. His life story was incredible. I was in awe at how much hard work he does and what he has accomplished. Now he decides what kind of work he would like to do. He definitely became my new role model. He showed me how history can be made and I hope to do that one day.

In conclusion, I am so glad I attended this conference. I am at a point where I've been feeling very discouraged, like maybe I'm not good enough or ready for the next big step. This conference is exactly what I needed. It was refreshing and reminded me that I'm not the only one who feels this way and that it's completely normal. I am more motivated because of the individuals who attended and shared their experiences with me. I met a graduate program I am seriously considering and I have realized the importance of funding in programs.

- Elizabeth Ramirez

Events to Come

JAN

29 Research Deadline
Literature Review Due

FEBRUARY

3 Devlin Hall, Rm 106
Grad Prep Meeting (2 - 3 p.m.)
Dr. Jeffrey Jarman, "*Critical Thinking Skills*"
Research Assembly Meeting (3 - 4 p.m.)
Ashley Cervantes, "*Methodology and Data Collection*"

10 Devlin Hall, Rm 106
McWrite (2 - 3 p.m.)
David Caylor, "*Integrating Sources*"

25 Devlin Hall, Rm 106
Faculty Led Seminar (10 a.m. - noon)
Dr. Michelle Redmond, "*Writing for Publication*"

27 **Research Proposals Due**

MARCH

3 Devlin Hall, Rm 106
Grad Seminar (2 - 3 p.m.)
Student Money Mgmt, "*Managing Grad School Debt*"
Research Assembly Meeting (3 - 4 p.m.)
Ashley Cervantes, "*Parts of a Manuscript*"

11 Devlin Hall, Rm 106
Faculty Led Seminar (10 a.m. - noon)
LaWanda Holt-Fields, "*McNair Alumni Panel*"

31 Devlin Hall, Rm 106
Grad Seminar (2 - 3 p.m.)
Ashley Cervantes, "*The Back-up Plan*"

APRIL

1 Devlin Hall, Rm 106
Faculty Led Seminar (10 a.m. - noon)
Dr. Robert Weems, "*What it Took to Get My PhD*"

7 Devlin Hall, Rm 106
McWrite Meeting (2 - 3 p.m.)
David Caylor, "*Writing in Review*"

Research Assembly Meeting (3 - 4 p.m.)
Ashley Cervantes, "*Research Concerns*"

21 Devlin Hall, Rm 106
Grad Prep Meeting (2 - 3 p.m.)
Connie Dietz, "*Portraying a Professional Image*"

Someone Like Me: Michaele Chappell, Ph.D.



Michael L Blakey, Ph.D., Anthropology

Dr. Michael L Blakey is a Biological Anthropologist who specializes in physical anthropology and its connection to the history of African Americans. He spent 3 years as the director of the African Burial Ground Project researching the 6.6 acre burial ground which is now a national monument. His work and that of his team from the Montague Cobb Biological Anthropology Laboratory at Howard University (an HBCU) gave us insight to the lives of African American slaves and freemen in New York City.

Blakey received his B.A. degree in anthropology from Howard University in 1978. He continued his studies at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and earned his M.A. degree in 1980. He travelled to England to do research on the biology of contemporary Londoners at the University of London and Oxford University. In 1985, Blakey received his Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He also worked as a physical anthropologist at the National Museum of Natural History of the Smithsonian Institution for nine years.

From 1991 to 1994, Dr. Blakey served as the director of the African Burial Ground Project in New York City, one of the most important archaeological finds in the United States during the 20th century.

In 2003, Dr. Blakey was appointed as the director and the National Endowment for the Humanities Professor of Anthropology at the College of William and Mary Institute of Historical Biology. He directs the Institute of Historical Biology. He is also a member of the Scholarly Advisory Committee for the new Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture

Dr. Blakey has published more than forty articles on the history and philosophy of science, paleopathology, historical demography, medical psychophysiology, <http://nmaahc.si.edu/> and racism.

Read more:

<http://www.thehistorymakers.com/biography/michael-blakey>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Blakey_%28anthropologist%29

http://www.wm.edu/as/anthropology/faculty/blakey_m.php

<http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/trailblazers/2012/?bio=blakey>



Grad Connect: *Graduate School Terminology*

We all know that graduate school is a lot of work, but did you know that it has its own vocabulary? Fancy words start cropping up in conversations with professors and fellow students before you ever apply to graduate programs. Hopefully, the following explanations will take some of the mystery out of the lingo.

A.B.D. - This is an acronym for “All But Dissertation.” These will be the initials behind your name if you’ve completed all your Ph.D. coursework in graduate school, but not your thesis.

Dissertation- Essentially, this is a gigantic research paper! A dissertation or thesis is almost always required when pursuing a Ph.D., but some master’s programs also require them.

Assistantship - Assistantships are available at many grad schools with graduate programs and can be teaching or research centered. In exchange for completing some work or research for the graduate program, you’re offered free or reduced tuition, as well as other possible benefits, such as

health insurance and a monthly stipend.

Defense - Generally an oral presentation to a committee of people where you provide a summary of your thesis and the research results you obtained. An examining committee then presents you with questions and you must respond and defend your work. There’s usually a time limit.

Orals - These are essentially final exams for graduate school, which are common for doctoral degrees and sometimes required for master’s-level programs. These comprehensive exams are presented verbally and are usually graded by a small committee of professors who will require you to demonstrate your mastery of the concepts you’ve covered in your studies.

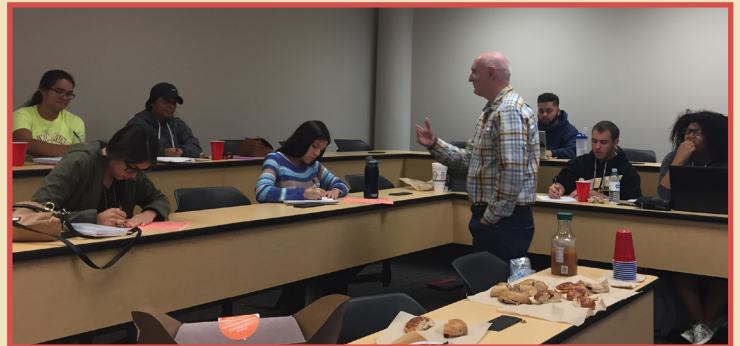
Ph.D. (Doctor of Philosophy) - This is an advanced degree, beyond the master’s level, which requires further courses, as well as several years of original research culminating in a dissertation.

Source: <https://www.petersons.com/graduate-schools/graduate-school-glossary.aspx#/sweeps-modal>

McNair Events



Jesus speaks to a graduate admissions officer during the 2016 MNK Heartland McNair Conference graduate school fair.



Mike Heppler offers students advice during October’s Faculty-Led Seminar “Personal Statement Writing.”



Elizabeth presents her research at the 2016 MNK Heartland McNair Conference in September 2016.



Aja, Tracia and Gaby participate in a group activity during the Faculty-Led Seminar “Personal Statement Writing.”



WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY

TRIO PROGRAMS

McNair Scholars Program



McNair Scholars Program

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McNair Fee Waivers/Fellowships

The Council for Opportunity in Education (COE), in conjunction with the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS), has compiled a list of McNair incentives to help Scholars find graduate schools that offer application fee waivers and/or fellowships and other opportunities that are available to McNair Scholars.

This list can be found at http://www.coenet.us/coe_prod_imis/COE/TRIO/McNair_Fee_Waiver_List/COE/NAV_TRIO/McNair_Scholars_Fee_Waiver_List.aspx?hkey=d459a62a-5577-4103-b125-8c3bb8aa5029

Highlighted Fellowship:

Indiana University Bloomington waives applicaiton fees for McNair scholars and offers the following funding opportunities:

Ronald E. McNair Graduate Fellowship

\$18,000 to \$25,000 stipend (depending on the field of study), plus tuition, subsidized health insurance, and a recruitment visit. The McNair Graduate Fellowship is for outstanding McNair Scholars entering Ph.D. or MFA programs at IU Bloomington.

Each McNair Graduate Scholar will receive four or five years of support. At least one year of the award is pure scholarship with no duties beyond continued progress toward the graduate degree. Annual stipends range from \$18,000 to \$25,000 depending on the discipline. For the remaining years, details of the guaranteed funding package depend on the department and will be a combination of other scholarships and research and/or teaching assistantships that cover full stipend, tuition, and health insurance.

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McNair Facts: Did You Know?

McNair's first spaceflight was on the STS-41B mission of the space shuttle Challenger (February 3–11, 1984). During that flight astronaut Bruce McCandless became the first person to perform a space walk without being tethered to a spacecraft. McNair operated the shuttle's robotic arm to move a platform on which an astronaut could stand. This method of placing an astronaut in a specified position using the robotic arm was used on subsequent shuttle missions to repair satellites and assemble the International Space Station.



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Effective Date: March 25, 2016