STUFF I WISH I KNEW WHEN I STARTED GRAD SCHOOL

A useful guide to surviving:

- Graduate School at the University of Maryland in the Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice
- The Maryland/DC Metropolitan area

2011-2012
The New Graduate Student Welcome Information Packet does a great job of focusing on the resources and expectations of the Department and the Graduate School. But as incoming graduate students, you probably also want the inside scoop of what it is like to be a graduate student at the University of Maryland and this may not be communicated in the packet of information that you receive. Because of this, the graduate students of our department created their own guide — Stuff I Wish I Knew When I Started Grad School.

Basically, this is all stuff that we have learned as graduate students that made us think, “Damn! I wish I’d known that when I got here!”

One caveat—some of the information and links listed here may change over time, but for the most part should be fairly up to date. Anything else can be Googled or found on the UMD website at http://www.umd.edu. If that fails, ask a fellow graduate student in the Department!

This is by no means an exhaustive list but more of a working document among our graduate students. If you’ve discovered something not listed here, spread the word by emailing me at spratt@umd.edu.

Enjoy!
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I. TECHNOLOGY

A. Remote Access

If you have an office and a computer on campus, there are two ways to access your documents/files from home via remote access:

1. File access on the web—You can access anything on the network drives (I and H) at https://netstorage.umd.edu/
2. It takes a bit more work, but you can set up a remote desktop so that you can have everything on your school computer at home, including statistical programs
   a. For both Windows and Mac remote desktop applications: http://www.jpsm.umd.edu/support/Remote%20Access.pdf
3. You can also get your computer’s IP address in the office and enter it into your home computer. This will allow you to access your work computer. David Tana in the main office can help you get the IP address. On your home computer, just go to help and support and type in “remote access” and follow the directions.

B. Other Tech Stuff

- You can scan and email documents to yourself from the small copier in the copy room located in the Main Office, Room 2220

II. LIBRARY & OTHER RESOURCES

A. Non-Circulating Material: Grad students are allowed to borrow certain non-circulating material (e.g., journals) from McKeldin Library for 2 hours, which is just enough time to drag your materials to the alternative photocopying venue of your choice

B. Research Port: The UMD library has an online search engine which allows you to search for journal articles listed on multiple databases at the same time. It also provides links to any journal or journal article available electronically. If it’s not available through UMD electronically, you can get links to library availability and Inter Library Loan forms here as well http://www.lib.umd.edu/ (click Research Port)

C. Google Scholar: Even Research Port can miss something once in a while, like when a scholar posts PDFs of articles to personal websites. So if you have trouble finding something, Google it. Google Scholar is a good resource for finding articles you can’t find through the library http://scholar.google.com/

D. Print material: You can renew library books online http://www.lib.umd.edu/ (click Renew/check due dates in my account)

   1. Library hours http://www.lib.umd.edu/PUBSERV/hours_all.html
III. ADMINISTRATIVE STUFF THAT ISN’T ALWAYS SO OBVIOUS

A. Designation of Full-Time and Part-Time Status

The Graduate School uses a unit system in making calculations to determine full- or part-time student status. *Please note that graduate units are different from credit hours.* The number of graduate units per credit hour is calculated in the following manner:

- Courses in the series: 600-897 carry 6 units/credit hour
- Master’s Research course: 799 carries 12 units/credit hour
- Pre-candidacy Doctoral Research courses: 898 carries 18 units/credit hour
- Doctoral Dissertation Research: 899 carries 18 units/credit hour
  - All doctoral candidates must pay candidacy tuition for which they will be registered for six (6) credit hours of 899

To be certified as full time, a graduate student must be officially registered for a combination of courses equivalent to 48 units per semester. Graduate assistants holding regular appointments have full-time status if they are registered for at least 24 units in addition to the assistantship; holders of half-time assistantships are considered full-time if registered for 36 units. Audited courses do not generate units and cannot be used in calculating full-time or part-time status.

B. General Assistantship Information

The majority of graduate students are assigned to either a Research Assistant or Teaching Assistant position under the direction of the Department. These positions are assigned on a yearly basis, so if you would like to be a Research Assistant for a particular faculty member, reach out to that person before the upcoming year. It is really on you to identify which faculty member you want to work with as the Graduate Director, Dr. Laura Dugan is not always aware of your preferences.

Teaching Assistants should be familiar with the Undergraduate Director, Dr. Laure Brooks and the Senior Academic Advisor, Nicole Jackson. Dr. Brooks can assist with any questions pertaining to policy or procedure in the classroom and Ms. Jackson can help with technical issues such as scheduling, reserving a classroom, Elms/Blackboard access, etc.

Any other questions about the assistantship should be directed toward someone in our Main Office (Charlene Werner, Donna Owens, Paula Allen).
C. General Fellowship Information
Fellows do not get the regular University insurance. If you are a fellow and are not on your family's insurance, then you will have to purchase United Health Insurance. I think it costs about $1300 for the year, but fellows typically get the full amount refunded (half by the graduate school and half by the department).

The issue is 1) most people don't know about this and 2) the funds are quite limited for the refund so turning in the documents early is key. Because funds are limited, the grad school will deny you if a bunch of people have already applied for reimbursement.

Fellows should remember that you have to pay taxes on your fellowship money every year, so be sure you include that in your budget—it can really hit you if you don't plan for it.

IV. GENERAL GUIDANCE AS A GRADUATE STUDENT

A. Course Selection & Progress
Keep track of what classes you have taken and always plan ahead for the next semester. Dr. Dugan is always willing to meet with you concerning course selection and your overall progress in the Program. Make sure you talk to Paula Allen in order to add Research or Independent Study credits. There is also a document that lays out “successful progression” through the Program and basically maps out when things should be done by what semester (ask Paula Allen for this).

B. Summer Employment
Making money over the summer can be a concern for some students, but if you prepare in advance, you should be fine. If you do not plan on working for the Department over the summer (as a teaching assistant, research assistant, or teacher), there are other options in the area, especially with DC being relatively close. Depending on available grants or even number of classes available to assist with, it may be necessary to look outside of the Department during the summer, but make sure you check around with faculty first well in advance.
C. Master’s Thesis / Dissertation Writing
Both processes can be quite stressful, so do yourself a favor and work with a faculty member that fits your particular style but that also works in your research area (meeting both of these can be quite tricky!). You will be spending a great deal of your time working on this particular topic, so make sure that you genuinely like it! Keep in touch with the Chair of your committee (likely to also be your Advisor in the Department) and try to follow what they ask you to do. Make sure you are aware of important deadlines with the Graduate School and follow accordingly. Do not attempt to take on more than is practical (especially for your Thesis).

D. Preparation for Comprehensive Exams
When trying to lay out your schedule to prepare for a specific exam, keep in mind that teaching assignments for classes depend on a number of things (course content, competing classes, faculty interest and faculty availability, etc.), so it is never a given which classes will be offered in a certain semester. For the most part, the Department does not know the class schedule that far in advance.

For independent studies, figure out who is grading that particular exam and determine from there whose perspective you would need. Make sure you expose yourself to various opinions in the Department (especially for Theory).

No need to reinvent the wheel entirely, ask around and see if you can gather exam materials from other students who have already taken an exam. This would be a good time to see if people already have certain books that you need.

When figuring out “study groups,” do not feel obligated to study entirely with a group. Make sure you take the time to study on your own, and take your own notes. Do NOT rely on another person’s summaries and do not divide up readings. You should study readings that have been ranked #1 and #2 on the lists floating around the Department.

Looking over Ray’s 654 syllabus is a great way to begin studying for the Theory comprehensive exam, and his class is normally offered during the Spring semester. Studying for the General comprehensive exam is a little less straightforward since the material covers such a wide spectrum of topics and it is difficult to segregate the topics completely.

E. Independent Research & Publications
It shouldn’t be a surprise that our department is very big on research and collaboration among faculty and graduate students. Do not be afraid to reach out to faculty and see if there is a particular project/paper you could work on
together. This is also closely linked to attending and participating in conferences such as ASC, which all contribute to your resume/CV. If you have a few publications under your belt when you enter candidacy, you’re ahead of the game!

V. WHEN YOU GET CLOSE TO FINISHING YOUR DEGREE

A. Deadlines: Always keep track of deadlines for your degree – it is easy to get tripped up by the paperwork. If you’re trying to finish a thesis or a dissertation over the summer, you have to contact the Graduate School, otherwise you can find all deadlines here:

http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/current_students/deadlines_for_graduate_students.html

B. Master’s Thesis / Dissertation Writing: The Graduate School has its own style manual that all manuscripts submitted for degree requirements must conform to, so it’s good to have this in mind as you compose and format your document. If you have questions about the style guide, the folks at the grad school can be really helpful:


D. Regarding forms that need to go to the Graduate School - it’s better to walk it down to the office in the Lee Building yourself rather than sending it through departmental mail. That way you can make sure the form gets to where it needs to be.

E. Meet with Paula Allen and make sure that all your credits line up long before your expected graduation date.

VI. SAVING MONEY

A. Academic Common Market: Many of the southern states participate in this program [MD is one of those participants]

"The idea for the Academic Common Market is simple and its impact considerable. The Academic Common Market allows a student to enroll in an undergraduate or graduate program at a university in another state without having to pay out-of-state tuition if that program of study is not offered by the public institutions in the student’s home state."

For example, if you are a resident of VA; VA does not offer a PhD degree in criminology and criminal justice, but MD does. So you would be eligible for this
program, and could potentially pay in-state tuition rates for a PhD program in MD despite being a VA resident:
http://www.sreb.org/programs/acm/acmindex.asp

B. Textbooks: Before going to McKeldin Library or searching elsewhere, ask around and it is possible that someone in the Department already has the book you are looking for. If not, you can get cheap and rare textbooks online but keep in mind shipping costs http://www.getcheapbooks.com or http://www.bestbookbuys.com

C. Housing: Try to find roommates in the Department so that rent is not so steep.

D. Travel: Take advantage of travel funds available through BSOS College.

E. Copying: Take full advantage of the main Xerox machine for all copying needs.

F. Metro: Use it whenever possible as gas prices can be ridiculous in the area.

G. Social: Take advantage of sporting events, recreation facilities, and musical performances (located in Clarice Smith Center) on campus.

H. Social: Attend Grad Pubs every other Friday and other events, sponsored by the Graduate Student Government as these events are generally free.

I. Food: Do not buy lunch every day, it can slowly creep up on you! It is common for emails to go out in the Department about food in the kitchen, take advantage of this free food!

J. Coffee: Purchase K-cups to make coffee and then reuse the K-cups. Possibly split the costs and share creamer with another student.

K. Utilize Resources: For the most part, there is a cheaper way to get things done if you just do some research 😊

VII. BEING AN ACTIVE CRIMINOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENT

A. Department-Related Events
Every year there are a number of brown bags, seminars, and job talks held in the Department on a variety of subjects

- Go to as many of these as you can! Not only will you have an opportunity to see faculty outside of the classroom, it’s a great way to generate ideas for papers and learn about areas you might not know too much about.

- Try to ask questions, even if you think it’s something obvious. It challenges the presenter to discuss their work in more detail and it makes the session more interesting for everyone.

- The Maryland Population Research Center (MPRC or Pop Center) hosts a series of seminars every month, and many of these are crime-related or have some bearing on what Criminologists study. You have to hike up to Cole Fieldhouse, but it’s usually worth the trip http://www.popcenter.umd.edu/research/sponsored-events
B. Graduate Student Discussion Group, aka “Smackdown”

In 2005, several graduate students set up a graduate research discussion group in honor of Doug Smith to encourage our own progress regarding research publications, completion of theses, and completion of dissertations. To honor Doug Smith's affection for professional wrestling, the group was nicknamed “Smackdown.”

Smackdown is generally held prior to the American Society of Criminology Conference (generally takes places in November) as a way for students to practice before presenting their work. The general purpose of the group is to provide an INFORMAL forum to discuss our ongoing research and other related academic/intellectual issues, get feedback on our own work, and encourage/motivate each other to complete and publish research papers. Students present their research, their progress, and provide updates of their progress with the ultimate goal resulting in a completed research paper. Students from the Department's Undergraduate Honors Program generally sit in and provide feedback as well.

All students that have research papers in progress and are working towards completing those papers for thesis, dissertation, and/or publication, are invited to join this group.

C. Academic Conferences

1. American Society of Criminology (ASC)

ASC has a yearly conference in November that is important for graduate students to attend and present their work. It's a great way to learn about all the different areas Criminologists work in and meet other people in the field. You should really take advantage of this conference, especially since it is taking place in Washington, DC this year [http://www.asc41.com/](http://www.asc41.com/)

- The registration fee for attending ASC is cheaper if you’re a member and a student. Student membership is only $40, and you get Criminology, Criminology & Public Policy, and The Criminologist sent to you free! The cost of registering for ASC is an additional $40 for students.

2. Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS)


3. National Institute of Justice (NIJ)

[http://www.nij.gov/nij/events/nij_conference/welcome.htm](http://www.nij.gov/nij/events/nij_conference/welcome.htm)

4. American Sociological Association (ASA)

• If you’d like to attend any of these conferences or present, you should visit that particular website for more information.

• Book your hotel early even if you don’t have someone to stay with yet. There’s always someone looking for a bed at the last minute, and if you don’t find someone or you find another room to stay in you can always cancel your reservation. Specifically with ASC, it is a good idea to ask around first.

• Book your flight early. A number of travel websites search multiple airlines at once, and some will even email you changes in fares to help you get the best price.

• If you’re unsure of which presentations you should attend at the conference, see a speaker whose name you recognize (possibly from your studies) or go see your classmates present! Even if they say they don’t want you to go, they’ll be happy to have friendly faces in the audience. *A packet containing when people from our Department are presenting at ASC will be distributed prior to that particular conference.*

• *Travel Grants.* If you are presenting a paper and/or poster, here is the main way to obtain travel funding:
  
  o *The Goldhaber Grant.* Students can apply for the Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant through the Graduate School. The Department matches these funds. Here is a link to the application [http://www.bsos.umd.edu/hesp/goldhaberapp.pdf](http://www.bsos.umd.edu/hesp/goldhaberapp.pdf)
    
    ▪ Paula Allen (Graduate Coordinator) and Charlene Werner (the Director of Administrative Services for the Department) are good resources if you have any questions.

VIII. DATA SOURCES
There are a lot of data available online. Here are a few places you’ll find yourself looking all the time:

• ICPSR is a good general resource for data: [http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/](http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/)


• National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD): [http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD](http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD)

• Compendium of National Juvenile Justice Data Sets: http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/ojstatbb/Compendium/index.html

IX. STATISTICAL PROGRAMS
• STATA ($100 to register on 3 computers) - http://www.stata.com/
• SPSS (should be available) - http://www-01.ibm.com/software/analytics/spss/
• R (free) - http://www.r-project.org/
  o The Department does not provide funds for statistical software
  o Make sure you are aware of which version you are using, particularly with
    STATA, as this may impact certain commands you use

X. SURVIVING ON CAMPUS
Graduate students often find that they spend a lot of time on campus. Here are some tips for getting around campus:

CAR ACCESS
• Familiarize yourself with parking rules at the University as this campus is known to be very strict and quick to ticket! Also, you can get an after hours permit for Lot A (right outside our building, LeFrak Hall) if you already have another parking permit. They add something to your permit so you can park in "A" after 4:00 pm. See David Tana in the Main Office for further details or visit UMD’s transportation website http://www.transportation.umd.edu/
• If you park in the wrong lot (other than your assigned lot), it’s a $75 ticket.
• Avoid campus (at least during rush hour) on the first day of classes. Always avoid the intersection of Route 1 and Campus Drive if possible. It is always backed up and can take you forever to get to Lot 1. Take the back entrance (by 193) to get into Lot 1 and chop a good 15 min off your commute.
• The whole campus locks down at 11 pm. All the gates have an attendant beyond 11 pm so you will need to show your UMD student ID card to get in.

WALKING
• On rainy days, water does not drain effectively on campus so wear the right shoes!
Generally speaking, pedestrians have right-of-way on campus and can get around pretty easily.

Pedestrian navigation by foot (gives quickest route) [http://map.umd.edu/map/](http://map.umd.edu/map/)

**BIKING**

[http://www.transportation.umd.edu/bike.html](http://www.transportation.umd.edu/bike.html)

**METRO & BUS**

Take the metro when you can. The DC Metro system seems to go everywhere and there is a College Park station (on the Green Line) located across from campus. UMD buses run frequently to and from the metro station. Students can park at the metro station but it costs $4.25 during the week and requires the use of a SmarTrip card to exit the garage. Parking is free on the weekend [http://www.wmata.com/](http://www.wmata.com/)

Shuttle UM: Keep in mind that day routes differ from night routes, and each shuttle stop will have a sign that tells you which routes (bus numbers) stop at that particular location [http://www.transportation.umd.edu/shuttle.html](http://www.transportation.umd.edu/shuttle.html)

NextBus allows real-time arrival information that can be accessed on your phone [http://www.transportation.umd.edu/nextbus.html](http://www.transportation.umd.edu/nextbus.html)

DC Metro Transit (Metrobus) also has city buses that come onto campus.

The MARC system (commuter train) is yet another option. The MARC runs from Baltimore to DC, and depending on the train line, has a College Park stop [http://mta.maryland.gov/marc-train](http://mta.maryland.gov/marc-train)

**FOOD & BEVERAGE**


Places near our building

- South Campus Dining Hall
- Footnotes (a coffee shop in McKeldin Library)
- The Commons Shop is a convenience store near the South Campus Dining Hall with lots of drink and food options. It can be a bit pricey though.

Stamp Student Union (food court) [http://www.union.umd.edu/food/](http://www.union.umd.edu/food/)

Shopping Center at Baltimore Avenue/Route 1 and Knox Road (walking distance) [Chipotle, Pot Belly’s, Jimmy John’s, Subway, Noodles, Jason’s Deli, Boston Market, Coldstone, Dominos, Five Guys, Smoothie King, Shanghai, 7-Eleven, etc.]

The parking lot is an absolute mess and it can take you 15-20 minutes to get through the lot. They also charge 25 cents for 15 minutes to park.
RECREATION & SPORTING EVENTS

- Information regarding athletics on campus http://www.umterps.com/
- You must register your student information to obtain tickets. Tickets are free but more popular sports (i.e., Basketball) utilize a lottery system to distribute tickets. You earn loyalty points by going to any sporting event on campus, which helps when you want to go to a more popular game (i.e., Duke or UNC games) https://www.ticketreturn.com/umd/Default.aspx?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1
- Campus Recreation information http://www.crs.umd.edu/cms/Home.aspx
  Graduate students can access these facilities for free with their UMD student ID card; however, if you are not employed during the summer, it costs $60 for the summer.
  A variety of fitness classes are offered during the year, schedules can be found online.
  o Eppley Recreation (main gym where students work out, pool nearby)
  o Ritchie Coliseum (smaller, quieter gym near Fraternity Row)

BOOK STORES

- University Book Center (located in Stamp Student Union) – graduate students receive discount http://umcp.bncollege.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/BNCBHomePage?storeId=15551&catalogId=10001
- BookHolders (located off College Age, off Route 1) http://www.bookholders.com/store.asp?mode=dept&schoolid=1&currentsem=SS11
- Maryland Book Exchange (located off Route 1) http://www.marylandbook.com/

XI. SURVIVING OFF CAMPUS

Driving

- Talking on the phone / texting while driving is illegal in both MD and DC
- During inclement weather, no one knows how to drive in the area, so keep alternate routes in mind when commuting.
- Do NOT drive between 495 West and 66 (VA) unless it is 10am-1pm or after 8pm. Traffic can be beyond a nightmare. Also, avoid 495 during rush hour (7-9am) and (4-7:30pm). However, if you reverse commute from west to east in the morning or east to west in the evening it is less congested. Also, remember that traffic is always worse driving in the direction of the city in the morning. This is a great resource to check traffic jams or accidents http://www.traffic.com/Washington-DC-Traffic/Washington-DC-Traffic-Reports.html
HAVE A SOCIAL LIFE 😊

- The DCist is a blog about DC life and politics that also lists restaurant reviews, upcoming shows, and a ton of links to local music, neighborhoods, arts, food, services, and blogs. Plenty of stuff to distract you from your homework

- The Washington Post has a section in the Sunday paper called the Sunday Source that is full of stuff to do and things to see every week
  [http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/print/sundaysource/index.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/print/sundaysource/index.html)

- The Washington Post also has chats on Thursday and Friday by the Going Out Guru’s and Weekend Staff where you can ask question about things to do on the weekend and for reviews of shows and festivals
  [http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/liveonline/?hpid=discussions](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/liveonline/?hpid=discussions)

Night Life

DC - Adams Morgan, U-Street, Georgetown, Capitol Hill/Eastern Market, Dupont
MD – Bethesda, Downtown Silver Spring
Baltimore - Power Plant, Fells Point, Fed Hill
  - [http://baltimore.org/taste-baltimore/baltimore-bars/](http://baltimore.org/taste-baltimore/baltimore-bars/)

Trails

- Prince George’s County (where CP is geographically situated) has a great series of bike paths, but there are great paved paths all over the DC Metropolitan Area
  [http://www.bikewashington.org/trails/](http://www.bikewashington.org/trails/)
  - The Anacostia Tributary Trail System runs along the eastern edge of campus along Route 1 and is a great trail to bike and jog:

Food & Beverage

- In College Park, you can buy alcohol until midnight, but on Sundays you can only buy beer and wine. The Shoppers at Cherry Hill Rd. and Rt. 1 is the only local grocery store that sells beer and wine, but there are three liquor stores just north of the main gate to campus: #1 Liquors, College Park Liquors, Town Hall Liquor

- Indeed, the rumors of the College Park bar scene are true. The city has been reduced to a few bars that become extremely crowded at night. Several of the bars have fairly decent Happy Hour specials: Cornerstone, R.J. Bentley’s, Town Hall, and Barking Dog (soon to come)

- Restaurants all over Washington DC participate in Restaurant Week twice a year, in August and January. Restaurants offer a fixed-price multi-course meal

- Although the immediate College Park area offers some dining options, there are plenty of other restaurants and local eateries north and south on Route 1.
  - South on Route 1 towards Hyattsville: Franklins (nice sit-down restaurant), Elevation Burger, Yogi Castle
  - North on Route 1 towards I-95 entrance: Mama Lucia’s (hearty sit-down restaurant), Hard Times Café, Buffalo Wild Wings (60 cent boneless wings on Thursday nights!), IKEA (café inside with cheap meals), and Rita’s (open seasonally, but still an amazing treat)

- Takoma Park Farmer’s Market is open every Sunday from 10-2, year round, rain or shine.  They have organic vegetables, organic cheese, free range/organic meats, flowers, honey, organic eggs—everything you could want  [http://www.takomaparkmarket.com/](http://www.takomaparkmarket.com/)

- Mayorga in Silver Spring has the best coffee shop around and wireless access.  Be aware that they now have valet parking (it’s validated) but you can stay there all day if you want  [http://www.mayorgacoffee.com/](http://www.mayorgacoffee.com/)

- Downtown Silver Spring  [http://www.downtownsilverspring.com/homepage.cfm?id=3](http://www.downtownsilverspring.com/homepage.cfm?id=3)  Plenty of food and shopping options, accessible by car or metro.  The local garages are free on the weekends.

- Dining in DC  [http://diningindc.net/](http://diningindc.net/)

**Shopping**  
There are several malls within 30 minutes of College Park:

- The closest mall to campus is PGP, formerly Prince George’s Plaza, now “The Mall at Prince George’s.”  It has a Target, Old Navy, Gap, and shoe stores (5 mins)  [www.princegeorgesplaza.com](http://www.princegeorgesplaza.com)

- Montgomery Mall - 495W to 270N, get off on Old Georgetown and turn left (15 mins)  [www.westfield.com/montgomery](http://www.westfield.com/montgomery)

- Arundel Mills (Outlet Mall) - 295N to Arundel Mills Blvd (25 mins)  [www.arundelmillsmall.com](http://www.arundelmillsmall.com)

- Columbia Mall - 95N to 32W to 29N to Broken Land Pkwy (25 mins)  [http://www.themallincolumbia.com/](http://www.themallincolumbia.com/)

- Tyson’s Corner/Tyson’s 2 (nicest and largest) - 495W to 123/Chain Bridge Rd. (35 mins)  [http://www.shoptysons.com/](http://www.shoptysons.com/)


- Pentagon Row is also nearby  [http://www.pentagonrow.com/](http://www.pentagonrow.com/)
- Eastern Market is a fun indoor/outdoor market with exhibitors and food
  [http://www.easternmarket.net/](http://www.easternmarket.net/)
- Leesburg Outlets (1hr and 15mins)

**Sporting Events**
Because of UMD’s close proximity to both DC and Baltimore, there are several options for sporting events off campus, many of which are metro-accessible:

- **Baseball**
  - Washington Nationals (located off Navy Yard metro stop)
  - Baltimore Orioles (located in Camden Yards)
- **Basketball**
  - Washington Wizards & Washington Mystics (located off Gallery Place/Chinatown metro stop in Verizon Center)
- **Football**
  - Washington Redskins (Fed Ex Field)
  - Baltimore Ravens (M&T Bank Stadium)
- **Hockey**
  - Washington Capitals (located off Gallery Place/Chinatown metro stop in Verizon Center)
- **Soccer**
  - D.C. United (RFK stadium located off the metro)