

# **STUFF I WISH I KNEW WHEN I STARTED GRAD SCHOOL**

**an incomplete guide to surviving graduate school at the  
University of Maryland  
Department of Criminology & Criminal Justice  
in College Park and the Washington, DC metropolitan  
area**

**2006-2007**

The New Graduate Student Welcome Information Packet does a great job of focusing on the resources and expectations of the department and graduate school. But as graduate students, we all know a few tricks of the trade of being a graduate student at the University of Maryland that just aren't communicated in this packet. Or maybe they aren't explained in a way that busy, stressed-out graduate students remember when they need it. With that in mind, my fellow experienced graduate students and I put together our own advice and tips into this nice little guide—Stuff I Wish I Knew When I Started Graduate School.

The idea was to amass our collective knowledge on anything we've learned that has made our lives at Maryland a little easier. Here you'll find everything from the splendors of Remote Access (and a link to the website explaining how to set it up!) and some tricks for navigating the Graduate School or financial aid, to where to find a good place to buy coffee, hit the farmers market, or take in good food and music on the cheap. Basically, this was all stuff we've 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 by the time you get around to checking it out. Just about everything can be Googled or found on the UMD website at <http://www.umd.edu>. If all else fails, ask someone!

This is by no means an exhaustive list and I'd like to think of it as ongoing and updatable. If you've discovered something not listed here, spread the word of your find by emailing me at [sboonstoppel@crim.umd.edu](mailto:sboonstoppel@crim.umd.edu)

Enjoy!

Sarah Boonstoppel

CCJS Graduate Student Representative 2006-2007

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## TECHNOLOGY...

**Remote Access: (From Erin Miller: this should go at the top of the list... everyone I've told about agrees):**

If you have an office and a computer on campus, there are two ways to access your documents, etc. from home. There are two ways you can remote access: (EM)

- File access on the web—You can access anything on the network drives (I and H) at <https://netstorage.umd.edu/>
- 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.
  - <http://www.lib.umd.edu/PUB/PUBLICATIONS/LM/LM071406.pdf>
  - For both windows and Mac remote desktop applications: <http://darwin.umd.edu/remotedesktop/Menu.html>
  - Testimonial: *I wish I'd known about it before I spent much of Christmas vacation sitting in my basement office in Morrill Hall working on my thesis!* (SB)

### Other tech stuff

- You can scan/email from the small copier in the CCJS suite (EM).

## ...AND INFORMATION

- *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. This can save money on copies, but sometimes it's not worth it if you just have a couple of pages to copy. (EM and HC)
- *Research Port* at the University library page allows you to search for journal articles listed on multiple databases at the same time, as well as provides links to any journal 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. If you log in you can save sets of databases and searches. It rocks. <http://researchport.umd.edu/> (SLB)
- Even Research Port can miss something once in a while, like when an academic 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/> (SB)
  - Testimonial: *I was desperate to find a recommended Becker article in a short period of time. The book was out at the library, but I googled it and found what I needed among a selection of hard-to-find Becker articles at Howie's Home Page which Becker updates himself! Thanks Howie!* (SLB) <http://home.earthlink.net/~hsbecker/>
- I end up looking for a lot of articles from *Crime and Justice: An Annual Review*, and sometimes find it is difficult to track down. Is it a book? Is it a Journal? Whatever it is, it is available online at JSTOR (at least through 2000)! <http://www.jstor.org> then >Browse>Law>Crime and Justice (EM)

- You can renew library books online. <http://www.lib.umd.edu/> (SB)

## STATISTICS AND STATISTICAL PROGRAMS

Because even students in a quantitative program need a little help once in a while...

- *Stats Consultant:* The BSOS Office of Academic Computing Services (OACS) has a "stat consultant" guy! From the OACS newsletter: Mario Stylianou will provide assistance in using statistical processes and software such as SAS, SPSS, and STATA. He will hold office hours to help with statistical questions and he will schedule introductory and intermediate classes for software learning. To reach Mario, please send email to [mstylianou@gvpt.umd.edu](mailto:mstylianou@gvpt.umd.edu).
- OACS also has a stats consultation page that lists upcoming short courses in STATA, SPSS, and SAS. It even has notes posted for the SAS course online: <http://www.oacs.umd.edu/consultation/stat.asp>
- There a Stats FAQ that Will Dardick compiled (who knew ???). (EM) <http://www.otal.umd.edu/statsol/wordpress/>

## ADMINISTRATIVE STUFF THAT ISN'T ALWAYS SO OBVIOUS

- *Full- or part-time status?* Every year when I think about loans and registering for classes I have to hunt down this information again. [http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/catalog/registration\\_new.htm](http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/catalog/registration_new.htm)

From the link:

### Designation of Full 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: 000-399 carry 2 units/credit hour.
- Courses in the series: 400-499 carry 4 units/credit hour.
- Courses in the series: 500-599 carry 5 units/credit hour.
- 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. (Effective Fall 2005)

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 graduate units and cannot be used in calculating full-time or part-time status. (EM)

- *Health insurance for fellows.* 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 they should be able to 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. (KM)  
<http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/Fellowship/insurance.htm>  
<http://www.health.umd.edu/geninfo/insurance.html>  
<http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/Fellowship/forms/Insurance.pdf>
- *Tuition Remission.* Graduate assistants need to submit the form for tuition remission each semester. I always seem to forget, and you may miss the reminders. You fill out the form online and submit it to both Paula Allen and Donna Owens. (EB)  
<http://ares.umd.edu/ELF/Elf.html>
- 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. (EB)

## **WHEN YOU ACTUALLY GET TO CLOSE TO FINISHING YOUR DEGREE...**

- *Deadlines matter!!!!* Always get a copy of the deadlines you need for your degree - more than one of us have been tripped up by the paperwork. It's all available at the grad school two semesters ahead of time (and if you're trying to finish a thesis or a dissertation over the summer, you have to get the deadlines from Paula - they don't publish them in a timely manner). Also, the grad school had theses and dissertation templates - makes like way easier with all the stupid formatting! (NC)  
<http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/>
- *Dissertation/Master's thesis writing—Style matters:* The graduate school has their 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. (NC, SLB) <http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/etd/styleguide/>
- Don't forget about Institutional Review Board (IRB) for your thesis/dissertation- a lot of us do. (NC) <http://www.umresearch.umd.edu/IRB/>
- It takes a chunk of change to submit your thesis when you're done for the electronic processing stuff that the university does. Keep this in mind as you blow all your cash on that expensive coffee fueling you through just one more draft. (SLB)  
[http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/etd/styleguide/submitting\\_your\\_thesis.htm](http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/etd/styleguide/submitting_your_thesis.htm)
- Regarding forms that need to go to the graduate school (like thesis-related stuff)—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. (EB)

## **MAKING MONEY...**

- If you find yourself without departmental funding, you can get assistantships elsewhere on campus. (SLB) <http://www.personnel.umd.edu/jobposting/cgi-bin/empGRA.idc>
- *Grants and Fellowships:* If you find yourself without departmental funding when you're working on your dissertation, there are some sources for dissertation fellowships and research grants. (SLB)
  - The Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation sponsors scholarly research on problems of violence, aggression, and dominance: <http://www.hfg.org/>
  - National Institute of Justice: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/funding.htm>

## **...AND SAVING MONEY**

- *Academic Common Market:* Many of the southern states participate in a program called the academic common market program. MD is a participant. A brief blurb re: the program below:

"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."

So, for example, I am a resident of VA. VA does not offer a PhD degree in criminology and criminal justice, but MD does. I would be eligible for this program, and thus I could potentially pay in-state tuition rates for a PhD program in MD despite being a VA resident. (NM)

<http://www.sreb.org/programs/acm/acmindex.asp>

- *Textbooks* can get damn expensive, and often the books we need to have are out of print. You can get cheap and rare textbooks online when you know in advance. Getbookscheap.com and Bestbookbuys.com are great search engines for comparing prices. Be sure to keep in mind shipping costs online. Sometimes it really is cheaper (even if just a few dollars cheaper) to buy new. (SLB & EM)  
<http://www.getcheapbooks.com>  
<http://www.bestbookbuys.com>

## **BEING A CRIMINOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENT (OH YEAH!)**

### **Department-related events**

Every year there are a number of brownbags, seminars, and job talks held in the department on a variety of subjects, often scheduled for the middle of the day.

- 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 (thesis maybe?) 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 the Art-Soc building, but it's usually worth the trip. (SLB) <http://www.popcenter.umd.edu/>

### **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 "Friday Smackdown."

The 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.

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. (NM)

- Meetings are every other Friday afternoon at 3:30-- keep an eye out for announcements for the next meeting in your email.
- Happy hour often follows, so this is a great way to get to know your fellow graduate students.
- Testimonial: *I don't think I would have finished my thesis as quickly as I did if I didn't have the folks at Smackdown to bounce my ideas off of.* (SLB)

### **American Society of Criminology, aka ASC, and other Conferences**

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 fields criminologists work in, meet people from other institutions, and geek out on all the criminologists you've read that ride in the hotel elevator with you. You may not need to go your first year and you may not need to go every year, but you've gotta go some time. (SLB) <http://www.asc41.com/>

One's first year or two attending ASC can be a little overwhelming. Here are a few tips to make it easier. (SLB)

- 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.
- If you'd like to present at ASC, the deadline for submissions is in March. Check their site for the exact date
- *Travel Grants*. If you are presenting a paper and/or poster there are two ways some funding available for travel to academic conferences. Either a match to a travel grant from The Graduate School or a departmental award is given only once, per student during each degree program.
  - *The Goldhaber Grant*. Students can apply for a travel grant from The Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant through the Graduate School. The Department

matches these funds.

<http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/Fellowship/travelgrants.htm>

- *Department grant.* The Department provides travel funding to graduate students who are presenting a paper and/or poster at a conference. Kim Schmidt (the Director of Administrative Services for the department) is a good person to ask about this for more details.
- 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.
- 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.  
<http://www.travelocity.com/>  
<http://www.orbitz.com/>  
<http://www.skyauction.com/>
  - Testimonial: *I recently flew to San Francisco and back on less than \$200! Thanks Travelocity! (SLB)*
  - Testimonial: *Airlines are crazy though and if you book too early they may drop the price by \$100 a few months later! Thanks Orbitz! (EM)*
- If you're not sure what to go see, see a speaker whose name you recognize 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.
- Don't kill yourself trying to see everything. No matter what you do, there's going to be some fantastic row at a session that you missed because you chose to see a different session, tried to grab lunch, or just saw a bit of the city. It's just the way it goes.
- Don't go to all the same sessions as your hotel roommates. You see enough of them in the hotel room and at meals. You want to continue to be friendly when you get home, so try to see some stuff on your own once in a while.
- ASC is not the only forum for presentations. There are a ton of other conferences that are also important, including Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, American Sociological Association and others are all regularly attended by faculty and graduate students.

### **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/>
- Social Science Research Network (SSRN): <http://www.ssrn.com/index.html>
- Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS): <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/>
- National Archive of Criminal Justice Data (NACJD):  
<http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD>

- Uniform Crime Report (UCR): <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm> and <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/ucr.html>
- National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS): <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/cvict.htm> and <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/NACJD/NIBRS/index.html>
- National Criminal Victimization Survey (NCVS): <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/cvict.htm>
- Compendium of National Juvenile Justice Data Sets: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/ojstatbb/Compendium/index.html>
- MIPT Terrorism Knowledge Base (TKB): <http://www.tkb.org/>

### **Reports, sourcebooks, and government agencies**

- Sourcebook of Criminal Justice Statistics online: <http://www.albany.edu/sourcebook/>
- Preventing Crime: What works, what doesn't, what's promising: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/works/index.htm>
- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/>
- National Institute of Justice (NIJ) has information about conferences, publications, and funding opportunities: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/>
- National Criminal Justice Reference Service: <http://www.ncjrs.gov/>

### **Blogs**

- Chris Uggen, criminologist and chair of the Sociology department at the University of Minnesota, has a great blog. It's often personal but it's usually really funny and he discusses life in academia. (SLB) <http://chrisuggen.blogspot.com/>
- Some of Uggen's posts from the above blog end up on his other blog, public criminology, a much less personal blog about crim-related topics. (SLB) <http://pubcrim.blogspot.com/>
- A stats-oriented blog from Harvard's Institute for Quantitative Social Science—<http://www.iq.harvard.edu/blog/sss/>—and this one <http://www.stat.columbia.edu/~cook/movabletype/mlm/> from stats geeks at Columbia. (SLB)

## **SURVIVING ON CAMPUS**

Graduate students often find that they spend more time on campus than they do at home or anywhere near an actual bed. Here are some tips for making campus a more pleasant living environment. Most of it revolves around your car on campus.

- I wish I'd known the complicated parking rules here, everything from the fact that you can park in "U" after 4pm to getting a lot "A" permit (okay, maybe not the latter since those are limited and I want one for next year :-). You can get an after hours permit for Lot A if you already have another parking permit. They add something to your permit so you can park in "A" after 4pm. (JV) [http://www.transportation.umd.edu/about\\_us/um\\_dot\\_home.htm](http://www.transportation.umd.edu/about_us/um_dot_home.htm)  
<http://www.parking.umd.edu/themap/>

- If you park in the wrong lot (other than your assigned lot), it's a \$75 ticket. It's really not worth it. (EB)
- Avoid campus (at least during rush hour) on the first day of classes. Always avoid 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. (EB)
- The whole campus locks down at 11 pm. All the gates close except for the front entrance on Route 1 (known as the South Gate). That can super suck if you forget or don't know and don't know your way around campus yet. (BB)

## **SURVIVING OFF CAMPUS, OR QUALITY OF COLLEGE PARK (AND DC METRO AREA) LIFE**

### **Housing resources**

Maybe you think you'll venture off campus to, say, your apartment? Housing can be expensive and frustrating to find in the DC area. The campus has a good website for listings, but here are some other options as well:

- Campus resources [http://www.union.umd.edu/GH/new\\_grads/housing.html](http://www.union.umd.edu/GH/new_grads/housing.html)  
<http://www.och.umd.edu/>
- Craigslist <http://washingtondc.craigslist.org/>
- Washington Post <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/admin/classifieds/>
- Washington Times <http://www.washingtontimes.com/classifieds/>
- Washington Citypaper  
<http://classifieds.washingtoncitypaper.com/washington/?navLeft>

### **Driving**

- Talking on the phone while driving in DC is a \$100 ticket. (AB)  
[http://www.statehighwaysafety.org/html/stateinfo/laws/cellphone\\_laws.html](http://www.statehighwaysafety.org/html/stateinfo/laws/cellphone_laws.html)
- When it snows, no one knows how to drive. They're not so hot in the rain, either. (AB & SLB)
  - Testimonial: *People drive like lunatics, they can't drive in the snow or rain, god forbid there is a drizzle outside, and huge traffic jams and accidents are inevitable. No one uses turn signals, and everyone cuts you off, so you have to drive very defensively to avoid an accident. (EB)*
- Do NOT drive on the beltway West between CP and 66 (VA) unless it is 11am-1pm or after 8pm. Traffic can be beyond a nightmare. Also, avoid 495 during rush hour. (SA & EB)  
<http://www.wtopnews.com/index.php?nid=6>
- Don't bother driving down to the CVS/Starbucks/Noodles shopping center (at Baltimore Avenue/Route 1 and Knox Road) at lunch or during dinner hours. The parking lot is an absolute mess and it can take you 15-20 minutes to get through the lot- not to get a spot but to get back onto the street. Save yourself some stress and walk to grab that burrito. (EB)

## Getting around without a car

- The sidewalks & walkways do not drain worth a darn so wear crummy shoes on rainy days. (AB)
- Traffic sucks. Take the metro! The DC Metro system seems to go everywhere. (SLB) <http://www.wmata.com/>
- Just for kicks, here's a map and timetables for the Metrobus College Park lines <http://www.wmata.com/timetables/md/81-86.pdf>  
<http://www.wmata.com/timetables/md/c8.pdf>

## STUFF TO DO

If you do venture out, with or without a car, there's lots of stuff to do in College Park and DC.

### General

- 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. Recommended by one former DC resident/grad student to a recent transplant to the DC suburbs, and now passed on to you. (SLB & EM) <http://www.dcist.com/>
- 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. (BB) <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/print/sundaysource/index.html>

### Recreation

- 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 Metropolitan Area. (BB) <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: <http://www.pgparcs.com/places/parks/anacostia.html>
  - More links for cyclists: [http://www.transportation.umd.edu/alternative\\_transportation/bicycling.htm](http://www.transportation.umd.edu/alternative_transportation/bicycling.htm)
- The campus Recreation Center is a great way to work off or stretch away stress. Membership for the rec center is free for registered students, but the classes require shelling out a few extra bucks. (NC) <http://www.crs.umd.edu>

## Eating and drinking

- First things first—In CP you can buy alcohol till midnight, but on Sundays you can only buy beer and wine. (AB)
- South Campus Dining Hall will make you a milkshake out of any flavor ice cream you want (from the campus dairy!). Even orange or lime sherbet milkshakes! (EM & SLB) [http://www.dining.umd.edu/where\\_to\\_eat/dining\\_rooms/menu\\_scdh.cfm](http://www.dining.umd.edu/where_to_eat/dining_rooms/menu_scdh.cfm)
- Restaurants all over Washington DC participate in Restaurant Week twice a year, in August and January. Restaurants offer a fixed-price multi-course meal menu (\$20 lunch, \$30 dinner). It's a great way to explore DC, its restaurants, and new foods. (BB) <http://washington.org/restaurantwk/>
- Takoma Park Farmer's Market is 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. (NC) <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. (NC) <http://www.mayorgacoffee.com/SSPage.html>
- Downtown Silver Spring now has a Border's (with a cafe with free internet) and a DSW. Not a bad place to hang out. The local garages are free on the weekends. (NC) <http://www.downtownsilverspring.com/>
- Tiffin: best local Indian restaurant. (NC) <http://www.tiffinrestaurant.com/>
- If you're a TA, the one place in College Park you won't see your students at dinner is Plato's, and they hardly ever go to the Starbucks. (NC) <http://www.washingtonpost.com/ac2/wp-dyn?node=cityguide/profile&id=1089645>
- You can get away little bit away from campus at College Perk. Coffee, tea, food, art, a full live music and comedy schedule, and a full bar. <http://www.collegeperk.org/>
  - Testimonial: *Free internet. It's fun. Not really a quiet place to study, but a fun place to hang out... It's pretty cheap... they serve beer and some food; it's like what you'd expect at a coffee shop. (SF)*
- Marathon Deli is pretty much the main reason I considered coming to UMD as an undergrad (well, that and they had a Criminology program). They have kick-ass veggie gyro platters that come with garlic fries and a drink for about \$7. They have other great non-vegetarian Greek fast-food too. (SLB) [http://www.judysbook.com/cities/collegepark/Delis/100048/p1/Marathon\\_Deli.htm](http://www.judysbook.com/cities/collegepark/Delis/100048/p1/Marathon_Deli.htm)

## Shopping

For all you shop-aholics there are several nice malls within 30 minutes of CP. (A lot are even metro-accessible.) The highlights (SA):

- 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 45 shoe stores. Exit campus by Lot 1- L on Adelphi - R on 410 East/West Highway (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 (Outlets!) - 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/>
- Tyson's Corner/Tyson's 2 (nicest) - 495W to 123/Chain Bridge Rd. (35 mins)  
<http://www.shoptyson.com/>
- Pentagon City- 295S to 50W to 395N to 1N (cuts thru DC) (30 mins)  
[http://www.simon.com/mall/mall\\_info.aspx?ID=157](http://www.simon.com/mall/mall_info.aspx?ID=157)
- Pentagon Row is also nearby <http://www.pentagonrow.com/>