iSchoolers Share their GRE Stories and Tips

The GRE ultimately is just one component of your application to the School of Information (iSchool), but it’s an important one, and something each iSchooler must complete before being accepted. For many of us, the test was a huge psychological barrier to the application process, but once we’d taken it, we realized it wasn’t as big a deal as we had made it out to be.

So what is the GRE? It’s a standardized test that is used as an indicator for a student’s potential for success in graduate school. It’s difficult to compare students based on grades, because the quality of education at every undergraduate institution varies. Enter ETS with their Computer Adaptive Test (CAT) who try and help schools compare applicants coming from different programs. You only need to take the General Test for the iSchool, which consists of three sections:

**Verbal Reasoning:** These is the section where a good vocabulary base can really help you out!

**Quantitative Reasoning:** The math section - whether you love it or loathe it, time spent reviewing your basic mathematical concepts can help you through this section.

**Analytical Writing:** Are your critical thinking skills up to the challenge of writing under pressure (and a clock)? There’s a strategy can help you sail through this section.

GRE FAQ 2007 Dates:

**Saturday, Sept. 29, 2pm**
Snacks and beverages will be provided

**Friday, Oct. 5, 6pm**
Drinks provided, bring your brown bag supper

What can you expect at a GRE FAQ Session? You’ll meet a panel of iSchool students who will share their stories with you about how they prepared for the test, what it was like, and lessons they learned along the way. We’ll also share our insights about applying to the iSchool and any tips we have that may make your application more convincing.

**AGENDA:** (each session is 1.5-2 hours long)

**Introductions:** iSchoolers and attendees will introduce themselves and briefly mention the portion of the test they are/were most concerned about

**Advice:** Each iSchooler panelist will share their stories about preparing for and taking the test.

**Q&A:** Attendees will have an opportunity to ask specific questions to the panel of iSchoolers

**Informal Chat:** The formal session will end, and attendees are encouraged to find a study partner or iSchool mentor to help them prepare for the test further

Ready to sign up?
Both sessions are free, but we do ask that you email us to let us know you’re coming! Please email your name and the session you plan to attend to SASI Co-Director, and Stepping Up Student Liaison, Kathleen Houlihan at khoulihan@gmail.com.

You can also email Kathleen with any questions you have about the sessions.
**How do I get there?**

Both sessions will be held in room 556 of the Sanchez Building on the UT campus.

**By Car:**

Parking is available in the museum parking lot on the South-East corner of Congress and MLK Blvd E. Park in the lot, cross MLK at Congress. You’ll see a new building under construction on your left, and the Blanton Museum on your right. Follow the sidewalk between the two buildings. As you pass between the two buildings, you’ll see a third building on your left. This is the Sanchez building. Take the path up to the building and enter. You’ll be facing a set of escalators which you can take to the 5th floor.

**By Bus:**

Visit the CapMetro Trip planner, type in your starting point, and then type “College of Education - UT” as your destination (we’re inside their building). The #5 stop at Guadalupe and 20th Street is closest. Go east on 20th street for 3 blocks until it ends in a driveway. Turn South (right) down Wichita. The iSchool is in the building on your left. Walk to the doors in the center of the building, and take the elevator to the 5th floor.

**By Bike:**

From the North, take Speedway through campus until you pass 21st St. When you reach the yellow road block pillars, look to your right. Ride up on the sidewalk and go up that wide angled path to the Sanchez building. Lock your bike to any of the bike racks out front, go inside, and take the elevator to the 5th floor. From the South, take Congress through the Capitol just past MLK, ride up onto the sidewalk and between the Blanton museum and the new building construction. Pass between the two buildings, look left, and you’ll see Sanchez. Park out front and take the escalator to the 5th floor.

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**Sept 29th Panel**

2:00 PM, SZB 556

**Maggie DeBaldo**

A native Montanan by way of Colorado, Maggie’s interests are youth librarianship and digital media (how kids interact with websites). She’ll be speaking about how to not stress the test. Confidence can be a wonderful asset!

**Priscilla Delgado**

Priscilla Delgado is a native Texan and is in her second year at the iSchool. She plans to work as a public school librarian after graduation. Priscilla will share her experience with preparing for and taking the GRE.

**Janice Kowemy**

Janice Kowemy is a graduate student in the School of Information. She is from Laguna Pueblo, NM. Her interest is collaborating with tribal and public libraries to help improve access to information, resources and preserve tribal culture, history, and language. Janice will be speaking about what to study for and what to expect, and also about study habits.

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**October 5th Panel**

6:00 PM, SZB 556

**Janice Kowemy**

Janice Kowemy is from Laguna Pueblo, NM. Her interest is collaborating with tribal and public libraries to help improve access to information, resources and preserve tribal culture, history, and language. Janice will be speaking about what to study for and what to expect, and also about study habits.

**Alex Addison**

Alex is a second year student from Pennsylvania. He graduated from Rutgers University in 2004. He will emphasize the mathematics section and also your timeline for taking the test in the applications process.

**Priscilla Delgado**

Priscilla Delgado is a native Texan and is in her second year at the iSchool. She plans to work as a public school librarian after graduation. Priscilla will share her experience with preparing for and taking the GRE.

**Yaguchi Yumi**

Yumi is just entering the iSchool this fall. She will be speaking about her own GRE preparation, particularly in math and writing, as well as her experiences in gathering information about the program.

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**Lea Susan Engle**

Lea is completing a dual graduate degree with the iSchool and Women and Gender Studies programs. She is Co-Director of SASI, and also of the UT ALA/TLA Student Chapter.