

Dear student,

Thanks for your inquiry. Depending on funding, I may be looking for graduate student(s) for the **next** Fall semester. My research focuses on subsurface characterization and fluid flow/transport modeling, e.g., geostatistics, scaling, inversion, and uncertainty quantification. Some of our projects involve both modeling and field work (check my website). From the graduate applicants to my group, I look for excellent programming (e.g., Fortran or C; Matlab is minimum) skills as well as good English communication.

Our graduate degree program is competitive. Annually, between 8~15 students apply to my group. Thus, I would recommend that you (1) send in the complete application by the deadline; (2) take advanced courses such as numerical analysis, differential EQs, Linear Algebra, Statistics, Mathematical Physics, and aquifer/reservoir simulation. Students accepted into our graduate program will be supported by RA, TA, scholarship, fellowship, or a combination of the above, pending satisfactory performance during his/her graduate study.

If the above fits your background and interests, please consider submitting an application to our graduate admission program (<http://www.uwyo.edu/geolgeophys/apply/>). Our annual application window is: **October 1 - January 15**, which admits graduate students for the next Fall semester. Incomplete applications (e.g., missing GRE or letters) will not be reviewed by our Graduate Admission Committee (GAC). Please do not send me your application, as our individual faculty cannot make offers directly. Below, I will explain the steps & associated timeline:

(a) Around January, the GAC (consisting of a panel of faculty, which may or may not include me) will evaluate your package to determine if you would be a good fit.

(b) If (a) is affirmative, the GAC will forward your application to me. I will conduct Skype interviews with the top applicants. From the interviews, I determine my top candidates. If the candidate has a MS degree, be prepared to give a 30 min research presentation on Skype via "share screen".

(c) My top candidates will be interviewed again by at least 3 members of the GAC who will make the final recommendations: the admission decision lies with the GAC. This interview will involve either a campus visit (U.S. candidates only) or a Skype interview (international applicants). The U.S. candidate can opt for Skype instead. The department has a modest budget to support travel for the campus interview.

(d) The above process takes place from January to April. It takes time because of the campus interview, and if any top-ranked candidates turn down the offers, the offers go to the next-in-line (with additional interviews possible).

In evaluating a candidate, we look at all: **GPA, GRE, TOFEL, letters, and interview**. Though there is no lower cutoff in scores, applicants with the best overall scores are selected. I generally look for *high scores in quantitative courses as well as high GRE Analytical writing score*.

Some had contacted me about being exempted from the admission process: *the department will not guarantee TA and other financial support* for such "exception" student who has not been screened by the GAC. The student risks no financial support if grants are unavailable or ended before the student is ready to graduate.

Finally, if you're interested pursuing a PhD degree, please go to my website, under "Links", "Graduate Resources", review the following links that explain something about PhD research. It is not for everyone.

[What is a PhD?](#) [How to do Research](#) [Insights into grad school](#) [Laws of Herman](#)