

UCR Grad Slam 2023

Competitor Orientation



Laura McGeehan, PhD
Director, Academic Preparation Recruitment and Outreach (APRO)

laura.mcgeehan@ucr.edu

<https://gsrc.ucr.edu/grad-slam-2023>



Orientation Goals

- Get to know Grad Slam 2023!
- Encourage participation
- Become familiar with competition rules and regulations
- Understand Grad Slam judging criteria
- Prepare you for a short quiz before you take part in the preliminary round

For More Information and updates

Please go to our website: <https://gsrc.ucr.edu/grad-slam-2023>

Follow us on social media:

#ucrgradslam

#gradslam

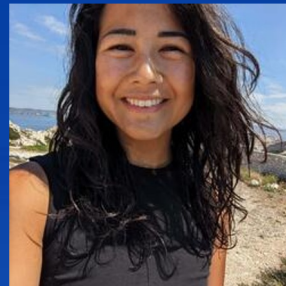


We are here to help!

- Grad Slam Drop in Office Hours with APRO
 - Tuesdays 10-11am
 - Zoom Link: <https://ucr.zoom.us/j/93102200870>



laura.mcgeehan@ucr.edu



leah.stiff@ucr.edu

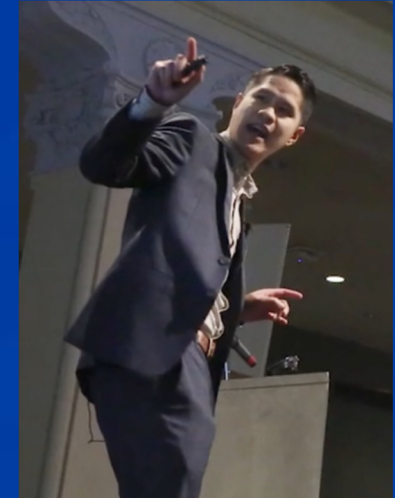


karla.bonilla@ucr.edu



What is Grad Slam?

- UC-wide public speaking competition
 - 3 minutes “elevator talk” to non-expert audience
- Professional development
 - Public speaking workshops
 - Feedback on presentations
 - Incentives for Humanities, Social Sciences and Arts students*
- Cash Prizes!



Grad Slam's Prizes*

- **UCR Grand Prize:** **\$5,000 Fellowship**
- **UCR 1st Runner Up:** **\$2,000 Fellowship**
- **UCR 2nd Runner Up:** **\$1,000 Fellowship**
- **UCR Audience Choice:** **\$1,000 Fellowship**
- **up to 8 Honorable Mentions:** **\$100 Fellowship**

- **UCOP Grad Slam Grand Prize:** **\$7,000 Fellowship**
- **UCOP 1st Runner Up:** **\$4,000 Fellowship**
- **UCOP 2nd Runner Up:** **\$2,000 Fellowship**
- **UCOP Audience Choice:** **\$1,000 Fellowship**

*UCR financial aid rules apply to all prizes



Grad Slam participants come from all academic fields!

~35% of contestants are in the humanities, arts, social sciences, and education

~20% of contestants make it to the UCR Finals (1 in 5 chance!)

~25% of finalists are international students

Who is eligible?

- Be currently enrolled full-time in UCR's Master's or Doctoral graduate programs in good standing (MD students are not eligible).
- Be no more than one year beyond normative time.
- Be enrolled through Spring 2023.
- Be available for in-person Semi-Final, Final and UCOP competitions.
- Not have been previously selected as a UCR Grad Slam 1st Runner-Up, UCR 2nd Runner-Up, or UCR Audience Choice winner.



2023 Grad Slam Overview

Preliminary

Pre-Recorded
Judged
Asynchronous

February 1

Semi-Final

In-Person
Judged Live

February 22 - 23

Final

In-Person
Judged Live

March 9

2023 Grad Slam Overview

UC System-Wide Event in San Francisco

- May 2023
- Details TBA
- [UCOP Grad Slam](#)



Preparation



Grad Slam coaching and feedback before preliminary competition

- Virtual workshop: with Bri McWhorter RSVP: “Activate to Captivate”
- Zoom Drop-In Office Hours with:
 - Laura McGeehan, Grad Slam Coordinator
 - Hillary Jenks, GradSuccess Director
 - Ann Sullivan, TADP Coordinator

Submitting your Application and Uploading your Preliminary Video Presentation

<https://forms.gle/aSGmyc3qVHRpP7Uo8>



UC RIVERSIDE



STEP 1: Fill out
the online
application

STEP 2: Accept the
eLearn invite, watch
the orientation video,
complete the quiz, and
attend a workshop



STEP 3: Upload your
preliminary video
presentation on
eLearn!

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA



Preliminary Round incentives:

- \$50 Amazon gift cards for the first 30 eLearn video submissions in Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences for students who meet the deadlines AND attend either Bri McWhorter's workshop OR a drop-in office hour with APRO or GradSuccess.

Presentation Guidelines



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY](#)

Grad Slam Guidelines



- “Elevator Talk” to non-expert audience
- 3 minutes max with only 3-second grace period
- Timing commences when student engages with audience
- **Maximum 1** contestant-generated PowerPoint slide, which may not be created or edited by a professional
- Slide is optional



Grad Slam Guidelines

- Images used in slides must be either public domain, intellectual property of the speaker, or fall under “fair use” provisions.
- In cases of collaborative research, the presenter’s contribution to the project must be salient and clearly specified.
- MIT’s Guide to Using Images
<http://libguides.mit.edu/c.php?g=176183&p=1158973>
- “Can I Use That Picture?”
<http://relativelycurious.com/can-i-use-that-picture/>

Grad Slam Guidelines

- Props may be allowed for in-person presentations (Semi-Final and Final round): must be cleared with Laura
 - No live animals, dangerous gases/viruses, etc. – use your common sense



Grad Slam Powerpoint Guidelines



- Only one slide
- Everyone must use PowerPoint slide, no Prezi or Google Slides
- You can now use PPT animation effects
- However, embedded video and audio files are not permitted, unless you make a special request and are pre-approved at every stage.
- Must be set to landscape, 16:9 aspect ratio



Recording your Preliminary Round Grad Slam Video

- Resources on our web site to help you:
<https://gsrc.ucr.edu/grad-slam-2023>
- Record on Zoom
- Most people will record a shared PowerPoint presentation.
 - We encourage students to use the “slides as background” option if possible.
- Drop in on APRO and GradSuccess office hours for feedback
- Judged asynchronously



During In-Person Presentations

- You may have notes or a hard copy of your presentation
 - but we discourage you from using them
- Grad staff will control the computer and projector
- You will have a clicker to control animation

During In-Person Presentations

- Time starts when you first engage audience
- 3 minutes TOTAL for presentation
- Yellow card at 10 seconds left
- Red card at 0 seconds left
- Red card continually held up: you have exceeded the 3 second grace period and points will be deducted.
- Judged live in-person

How the Competition Works

- Preliminary
- Semi-Final
- Final



2023 UCR Competition Schedule

Preliminary Round I:
Videos Submitted
Wednesday, February 1

Preliminary Round II:
Videos Submitted
Wednesday, February 1

Preliminary Round III:
Videos Submitted
Wednesday, February 1

Preliminary Round IV:
Videos Submitted
Wednesday, February 1

Semi-Final A
Wednesday,
February 22
Afternoon

Semi-Final B
Thursday,
February 23
Morning/Afternoon

Finals
Thursday, March 9
Afternoon

UC RIVERSIDE



The Competition: Advancing

Blue Group

Judges Score: 60

Judges Score: 52

Judges Score: 50

Judges Score: 45

Judges Score: 38

Judges Score: 34

Judges Score: 29

Judges Score: 25

Gold Group

Judges Score: 50

Judges Score: 48

Judges Score: 47

Judges Score: 45

Judges Score: 42

Judges Score: 40

Judges Score: 40

Judges Score: 39

The Competition: Advancing

Top 2
scores for
both
groups will
advance to
next stage

Blue Group

Judges Score: 60

Judges Score: 52

Judges Score: 50

Judges Score: 45

Judges Score: 38

Judges Score: 34

Judges Score: 29

Judges Score: 25

Gold Group

Judges Score: 50

Judges Score: 48

Judges Score: 47

Judges Score: 45

Judges Score: 42

Judges Score: 40

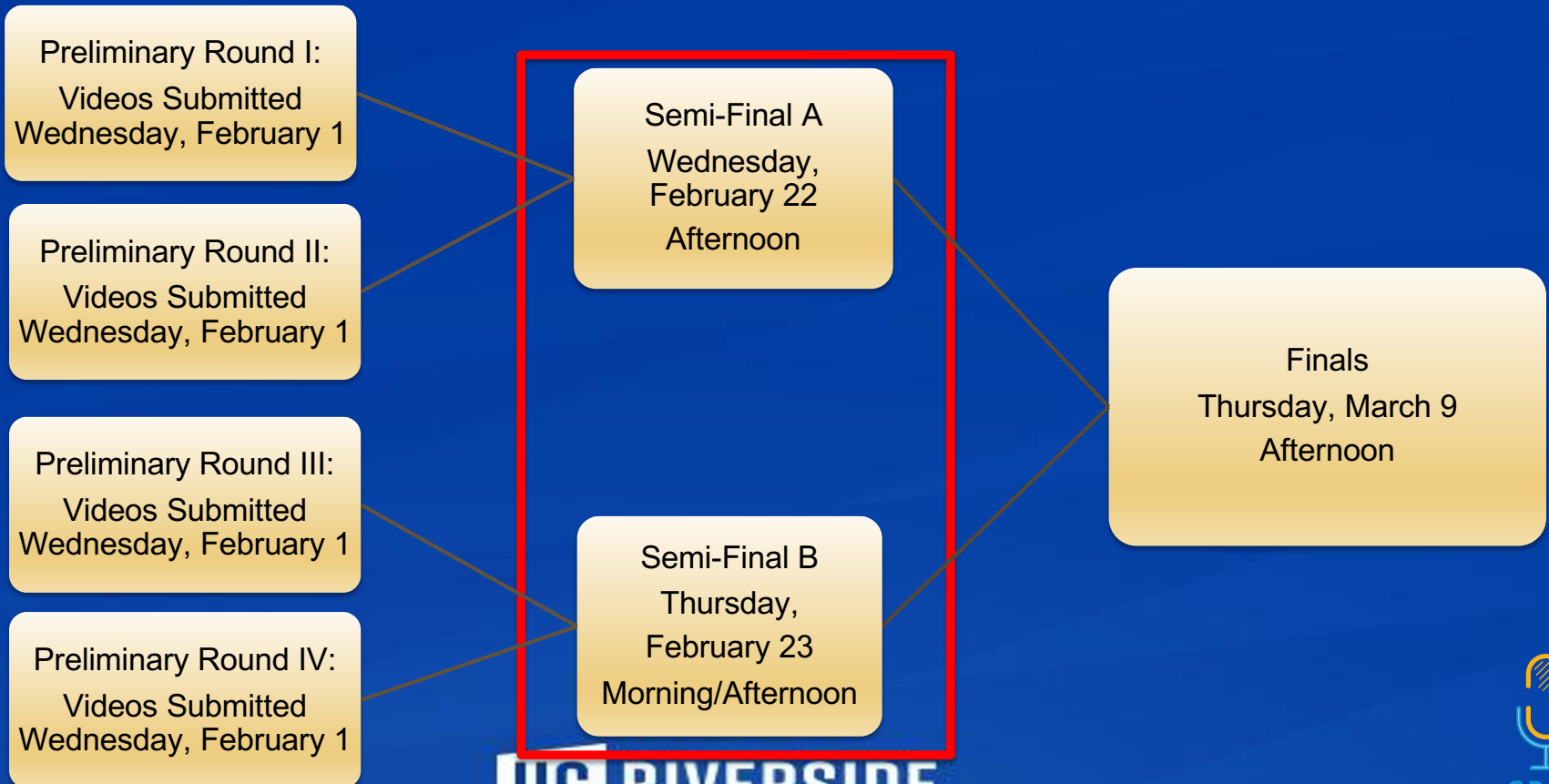
Judges Score: 40

Judges Score: 39

Feedback and Preparation for Semi-Finals

- Feb. 13: Dr. Annika Speer's Workshop on Preparing for Semi-Finals
- Feb. 15-16: Feedback Sessions
- Grad Slam Drop in Office Hours:
 - APRO: Laura, Karla and Leah
 - GradSuccess: Hillary and Ann

2023 UCR Competition Schedule



UCR Grad Slam Semi-Finals

- Semi-Finals will be in-person presentations on February 22 and 23.
- Contestants will upload presentation PPT slides ahead of time to Grad Division.
- Judges will review in person.



The Competition: Advancing

Top 2
scores for
both
groups will
advance to
next stage

Blue Group

Judges Score: 60

Judges Score: 52

Judges Score: 50

Judges Score: 45

Judges Score: 38

Judges Score: 34

Judges Score: 29

Judges Score: 25

Gold Group

Judges Score: 50

Judges Score: 48

Judges Score: 47

Judges Score: 45

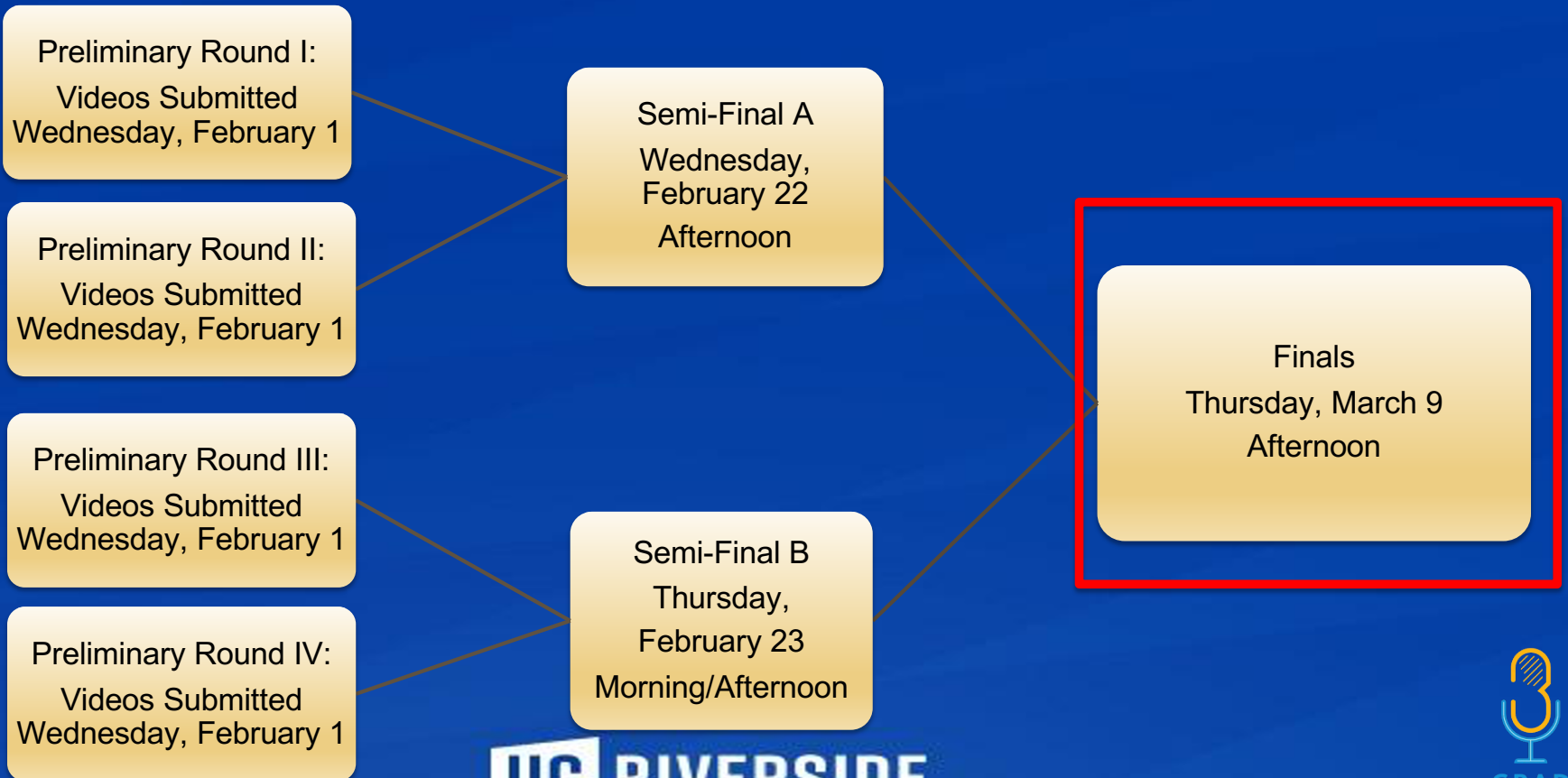
Judges Score: 42

Judges Score: 40

Judges Score: 40

Judges Score: 39

2023 UCR Competition Schedule



UCR Grad Slam Finals

- Live, in-person, on stage at Alumni Center to judges on March 9 with live-stream to wider audience.
- Must be present during entire event.
- Must check in at least 30 MINUTES before competition begins.
- Dress Rehearsal March 6 at Alumni Center



The Competition – Finals

Procedural differences from previous rounds when we get to the UCR Finals:

- At the final round, there is no color grouping – the entire panel of judges scores *every* contestant.
- Audience Choice Award: Audience members on live stream can select their favorite presentation via an online form.



THE JUDGING RUBRIC



UC RIVERSIDE



Judges

- Distinguished judges with a wide variety of backgrounds
- Unique judges for every stage
- Bios will be on our website
- Judges will use the same rubric to judge all rounds of the competition

Rubric

- 5 points each for 6 criteria
 - Highest possible score: 30 points
- Point breakdown:
 - 5 = Excellent
 - 4 = Very Good
 - 3 = Good
 - 2 = Proficient
 - 1 = Poor



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY](#)

Note



- Competitors will not be judged on video/recording quality.
- Judging will focus on the presentation and the ability to communicate research to a non-specialist audience.
- There is no longer a judging category for the visual aspects of your presentation.

Rubric

Sample Scorecard with 6 categories

- Clarity
- Organization
- Delivery
- Appropriateness
- Intellectual Significance
- Engagement

2023 Grad Slam Semi-Final Round Scorecard Group 1 Gold Judge #1				
INSTRUCTIONS				
Select your score for each presenter and category below by choosing a score from the drop-down list in each cell (1=Poor, 2=Fair, 3=Good, 4=Very Good, 5=Excellent, with half-points possible)				
SCORING CATEGORY	PRESENTERS			
	Student 1	Student 2	Student 3	Student 4
CLARITY Did the speaker provide adequate background knowledge to make the talk and the importance of the project understandable?	5 ▾	5 ▾	5 ▾	5 ▾
ORGANIZATION Did the presentation follow a clear and logical sequence?	5 ▾	5 ▾	5 ▾	5 ▾
DELIVERY e.g., pace, enthusiasm, confidence, body language, eye contact, and vocal range	5 ▾	5 ▾	5 ▾	5 ▾
APPROPRIATENESS Were the topic and its significance communicated in language appropriate to an intelligent, but non-specialist audience? (For example, did the speaker avoid or explain discipline-specific jargon?)	5 ▾	5 ▾	5 ▾	5 ▾
INTELLECTUAL SIGNIFICANCE Did the speaker explain why their project matters (for example, its significance to the academic discipline)?	5 ▾	5 ▾	5 ▾	5 ▾
ENGAGEMENT To what extent did the talk speak to your intellectual curiosity? Did it make you want to learn more about the topic?	5 ▾	5 ▾	5 ▾	5 ▾
	Student 1	Student 2	Student 3	Student 4
TOTAL SCORE	30	30	30	30
RANK	1	1	1	1
	JUDGE'S COMMENTS (shared with presenters)			
<p><i>*If the presenter is not using visuals, a score of 5 points indicates that you understood the presentation and it kept your attention perfectly, so no visuals were required; a score of 1 point indicates that visuals were needed in order for you to understand the presentation.</i></p>				

Scorecard: Clarity

- Did the speaker provide adequate background knowledge to make the talk and the importance of the project understandable?

Scorecard: Organization

- Did the presentation follow a clear and logical sequence?

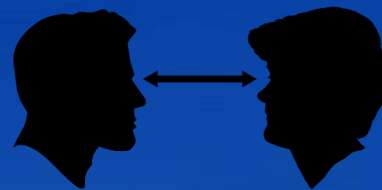


<https://www.clipartmax.com/max/m2i8i8K9i8i8G6K9/>



Scorecard: Delivery

- Does the student's body language, eye contact, pace, and vocal range contribute to the presentation's effectiveness?
- Does the student deliver the talk without relying excessively on notes?
- Is the student's presentation style confident and enthusiastic?



UC RIVERSIDE

Scorecard: Appropriateness

- Was the topic and its significance communicated in language appropriate to an intelligent, but non-specialist audience?
- Did the speaker avoid discipline-specific jargon or explain it when necessary?

Scorecard: Significance

- Does the student foreground why this project matters in his/her field?
- If the student presents on collaborative work, was the student's unique contribution clearly specified?

Scorecard: Engagement

- To what extent did the talk speak to the judges' intellectual curiosity?
- Did it make the judges want to learn more about the topic?

Scorecard: Comments

- Judges' opportunity to tell the speakers how to improve their presentation styles.
- We ask them to specifically highlight one area where the speaker does well and one where they can improve.

LAST FEW THINGS...

Finally...



UCOP Finals

- The UCR Grand Prize winner will receive all-expense-paid trip to San Francisco for the UCOP Finals in May
- The UCOP Grand Prize winner will receive \$7,000



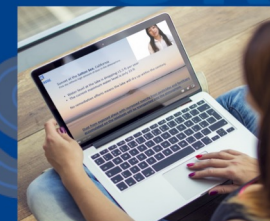
Don't forget to apply by Jan. 27

<https://forms.gle/aSGmyc3qVHRpP7Uo8>



STEP 1: Fill out the online application

STEP 2: Accept the eLearn invite, watch the orientation video, complete the quiz, and attend a workshop



STEP 3: Upload your preliminary video presentation on eLearn!

Presentation Resources

- UCSB's "[Grad Slam Advice: How to Design a Winning Presentation](http://archive.gradpost.ucsb.edu/life/2014/2/20/grad-slam-advice-how-to-design-a-winning-presentation.html)"
<http://archive.gradpost.ucsb.edu/life/2014/2/20/grad-slam-advice-how-to-design-a-winning-presentation.html>
- UCB Professor Jonathan Shewchuk's "[Giving an Academic Talk](https://people.eecs.berkeley.edu/~jrs/speaking.html)"
<https://people.eecs.berkeley.edu/~jrs/speaking.html>
- [Explaining Quantum Computing to Kids, Students, and Professionals](https://youtu.be/OWJCfOvochA)
<https://youtu.be/OWJCfOvochA>

Questions?

- Laura McGeehan, Director, Academic Preparation, Recruitment and Outreach
 - Laura.McGeehan@ucr.edu
 - Tues/Thurs in person UOB, Rm 134
 - Drop in Zoom Office hours: Tuesdays, 10 - 11
- <https://gsrc.ucr.edu/grad-slam-2023>



The End