

# How to successfully complete a Master degree in a non-HSI environment

by Jose L. Fulgencio  
Adj. Faculty  
Oklahoma State University - OKC  
University of Central Oklahoma

# Biography

- McNair Scholar
- Undergrad - NEIU 2010
- Grad School - OSU  
2012 & 2013
- Adj. Faculty



# Why?

- Only 4% of Latinos have an advanced degrees (Source: HACU)
- Limits to a Hispanic Serving Institution
- Increase awareness



# Non-HSI Environment

# HSI

vs.

# Non-HSI

- Support network
- Culture awareness
- Close to home
- Diverse faculty
- Urban environment
- Teaching focus

- Build a network
- Culture identity
- Far from home
- Find the faculty
- Different environment
- Research focus

# Strategies towards Obtaining the Masters



# Step 1

- Have a sense of purpose for attending grad school
  - Why am I here? Graduate?

# Step 2

- Research the department and university before leaving
  - Faculty
  - Environment
  - Student Body



# Step 3

- Visit the campus
  - Get a sense of the environment
    - Will I survive here?
    - Are there others like me? Cultural center?
  - Meet the faculty

# Step 4

- Have a sense of belonging
  - Join organizations, take other courses, compete, play sports

Don't forget to...



A large crowd of people, many wearing orange and white clothing, is gathered in a stadium at night. The crowd is dense and fills the foreground and middle ground. In the background, a large building with a prominent screen displaying a group photo is visible. The scene is illuminated by stadium lights, creating a vibrant atmosphere.

Be Part of the Campus....



**Remember....**

**“You miss 100% of the shots  
you don’t take”  
*Wayne Gretzky***

# Thank You

- Questions?????
- Feel free to contact me
  - Email: [info@josefulgencio.com](mailto:info@josefulgencio.com)
  - [www.josefulgencio.com](http://www.josefulgencio.com)

