

Career and Professional Development Roadmap: Ph.D. and Thesis Master's Students



Graduate Education

This roadmap is designed to help you navigate your path toward graduation and a successful career. Please click each action item for more information.



GETTING STARTED

FIRST-YEAR



MAINTAINING MOMENTUM

MIDDLE 1-3 YEARS



LATE STAGE

FINAL 1-2 YEARS

CAREER

- Create an Individual Development Plan (IDP) and discuss with mentor(s) regularly
- Start exploring career options
- Activate your Career Buzz job board account
- Acquire professional attire
- Explore certificate programs

- Identify your career interests
- Keep your CV/resume up to date
- Apply for internships
- Enhance your professional skills
- Learn to communicate more effectively
- Engage in leadership and service

- Prepare job application materials
- Prepare for job interviews
- Strengthen network and request references
- Learn about job offer negotiation
- International scholars - apply for OPT (if necessary)

RESEARCH

- Discuss mutual expectations with advisor(s)
- Complete Responsible Conduct of Research training
- Complete safety training (as required)
- Explore and apply for grants/fellowships/awards

- Learn about research resources available at the GT Library
- Disseminate and present your research
- Participate in the 3-Minute Thesis competition
- Apply for late-stage grants/fellowships/awards

- Write your thesis/dissertation
- Practice your research talk
- Mentor other graduate students
- Explore startup and entrepreneurship opportunities

TEACHING

- Explore Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) resources and programs
- Attend Teaching Assistant (TA) orientation and training (if applicable)
- Attend cultural and inclusivity programs

- Begin working toward tech to Teaching certificate
- Apply for The Graduate Teaching Fellows (GTF)
- Coach other students as a Leadership Fellow

- Complete requirements for Tech to Teaching certificate
- Prepare application materials for academic job (if relevant)
- Prepare teaching demonstrations for academic jobs (if relevant)

WELLNESS

- Complete the new student checklist
- Attend orientation programs
- Participate in GT6000
- Complete sexual assault awareness training
- Develop a personal financial plan

- Participate in campus organizations and activities
- Make use of health and wellness support services
- Take advantage of resources for partner/family
- Be aware of resources for handling difficult conversations and conflicts

- Seek peer and family support (as needed)
- Use mental health and self-care services (as needed)
- Celebrate commencement
- Make use of Georgia Tech Alumni Association benefits and services