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

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**

- 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

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

**MAINTAINING MOMENTUM**

**MIDDLE 1-3 YEARS**

- 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

- 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

**LATE STAGE**

**FINAL 1-2 YEARS**

- 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)

**CAREER**

- 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

**RESEARCH**

- 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)

**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

- Start exploring career options
- Acquire professional attire
- Explore certificate 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
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For more information, please visit grad.gatech.edu/career-development.