### GradMap: Your Ph.D. Journey

#### Achieve Your Academic Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Year 3</th>
<th>Year 4+</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Complete core and elective coursework for your track before your QE</td>
<td>Take post-candidacy research units (CHE 264)</td>
<td>Meet with PI regularly to ensure proper trajectory for dissertation; meet annually with thesis committee</td>
<td>Thesis prep set outline and deadlines with PI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Take research units (CHE 263 and 299)</td>
<td>Qualifying Exam: Start report several months ahead, solicit feedback, practice with peers</td>
<td>Third-year Seminar (Winter / Spring quarter)</td>
<td>Discuss graduation timeline with PI/committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Establish goals with research advisor; meet with academic advisor as needed</td>
<td>Establish thesis committee (after QE)</td>
<td>Consider giving Exit Seminar</td>
<td>Graduation Meet requirements/deadlines, file dissertation</td>
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<td><strong>Select PI:</strong> Explore research options with lab rotations, meeting with ≥ 5 faculty</td>
<td><strong>Orientation:</strong> ACS exams, TA training, meet with academic advisor</td>
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#### Maximize Research Impact

- Build a research plan with your PI and discuss your progress regularly
- Read scientific literature and discover the active frontiers in your field
- Apply for fellowships (e.g. NSF, NIH, CBP, etc.)
- Organize your results into publishable form with your research advisor
- Attend conferences, present a poster or presentation, connect with potential collaborators
- Disseminate research: Publish your first project; present research at conferences
- Advertise your research on social media platforms
- Apply for travel grants/fellowships

#### Build Skills and Experiences

- Work as a teaching assistant to improve your science communication
- Attend research and writing workshops
- Seek out and learn new skills from collaborators
- Mentor an undergraduate student in the laboratory
- Obtain grant-writing skills
- Mentor younger graduate students in the laboratory
- Serve on department/university committees

#### Engage with Your Community

- Participate in existing outreach events
- Meet other graduate students in the program and your cohort
- Create professional social media accounts for networking
- Promote work from others in your field on social media
- Discover community engagement opportunities that you are passionate about
- Connect with other scientists in your field on social media; build your online network
- Partner with outreach opportunities to mentor high school and undergraduate students
- Join and get involved in ACS and/or other professional societies
- Take a leadership role in outreach activities
- Recruit younger students to participate in outreach

#### Launch Your Career

- Complete and review Individual Development Plan with your PI (Sample IDPs: CBP, ACS)
- Create and update a living CV and keep it updated with skills and accomplishments
- Use campus career resources offered by GradPathways Institute and Internship and Career Center
- Seek out additional mentors, including contacts outside academia.
- Create a work or teaching portfolio
- Seek out opportunities to do research at other labs/national facilities
- Networking: Meet with seminar speakers, attend job fairs and industry expos at conferences
- Connect with people working in industry
- Networking: Consider working on a scientific society committee; network at the national- and international-levels
- Discuss future career positions with advisor, at meetings, and in professional settings
- Write sample cover letters highlighting your experiences and goals; seek feedback
- Request letters of recommendation