

GradMap: Your Ph.D. Journey

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4+
Achieve your Academic Goals			
Complete core and elective coursework for your track before your QE		Take post-candidacy research units (CHE 264)	
Take research units (CHE 263 and 299)		Meet with PI regularly to ensure proper trajectory for dissertation; meet annually with thesis committee	
Establish goals with research advisor; meet with academic advisor as needed		Third-year Seminar (Winter / Spring quarter)	Thesis prep set outline and deadlines with PI
Select PI: Explore research options with lab rotations, meeting with ≥ 5 faculty	Qualifying Exam: Start report several months ahead, solicit feedback, practice with peers		Discuss graduation timeline with PI/committee
Orientation: ACS exams, TA training, meet with academic advisor	Establish thesis committee (after QE)		Consider giving Exit Seminar
			Graduation Meet requirements/deadlines , file dissertation
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 writing workshops for your dissertation
Learn skills and techniques used in your laboratory	Attend research and writing workshops		Consider an associate instructor (AI) position
Shadow senior graduate students	Seek out and learn new skills from collaborators		
Use resources from the Center for Educational Effectiveness (CEE)	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	Promote work from others in your field on social media		
Create professional social media accounts for networking	Discover community engagement opportunities that you are passionate about		Attend ACS/other webinars and social events including state/national opportunities
	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		
	Attend career workshops offered by Grad Studies		
		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