

HOW TO CHART YOUR PATH

This chart is designed to help you **optimize your graduate school experience** by taking full advantage of the professional enhancement resources available in the following areas of a well-rounded graduate education:

PROFESSION

Develop the skills, knowledge, and experience for a **fulfilling** career.

RESEARCH

Gain the insights and experience necessary to make an **impact** in your field and beyond.

STAGES: The horizontal axis is divided by the stages of your graduate education.

	EARLY	MID	LATE
PROFESSION			
RESEARCH			
TEACHING			
WELLNESS			

DIMENSIONS:
The vertical axis is divided by the dimensions of a well-rounded graduate education.

ACTIONS:
Boxes list the actions to take in each stage of your education to optimize your graduate experience and achieve your goals.

TEACHING

Discover how your teaching assistantship can enhance your career opportunities through the development of a **transformative** teaching practice.

WELLNESS

Pursue personal growth through a **holistic** balance of mental, physical, and financial wellness.

THE GRADUATE STUDENT PROFESSIONAL ENHANCEMENT TEAM



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FOR MORE INFORMATION
visit <http://gradschool.uky.edu/professional-enhancement>

GRADUATE STUDENT SUCCESS

PATHWAY

Optimize your graduate education by following this professional enhancement pathway

FULFILLING PROFESSION

IMPACTFUL RESEARCH

TRANSFORMATIVE TEACHING

HOLISTIC WELLNESS



The Graduate School

LAUNCHING YOUR JOURNEY (EARLY)

FULFILLING PROFESSION

- Attend a workshop on **career planning**
- Discover **job posting boards and listservs** for your discipline
- Work with your **DGS or advisor** to identify and explore courses that match your **professional goals**
- Review the College of Arts & Sciences' **Careers Beyond the Professoriate** website
- Develop a **career and personal development plan**
- Create accounts for **Versatile PhD** and either **myIDP** (for sciences) or **Imagine PhD** (for humanities and social sciences)
- Explore certificate options through **The Graduate School**

IMPACTFUL RESEARCH

- Establish an **advisor** and meet early to discuss your research interests, professional goals, and mutual expectations
- Explore **UK Libraries'** databases and research offerings
- Meet with the Library **academic liaison** for your discipline
- Attend **academic conferences** in your discipline
- Begin identifying potential **grant and travel funding** available at the departmental, college, university, and national levels
- Work with your **DGS or advisor** to identify and explore courses that match your **research goals**
- Identify a topic to explore for a **conference presentation**

TRANSFORMATIVE TEACHING

- Engage in the university-wide **TA Orientation** and your departmental orientation
- Join **20 Minute Mentor Commons** and browse the modules
- Learn about the services offered by **CELT**
- **Attend a workshop** on teaching offered through CELT or your department
- **Observe an instructor** who excels at teaching in your field
- Attend **UK GradTeach Live!**
- Seek out and read reputable **books on effective college teaching**

HOLISTIC WELLNESS

- Explore campus support services, including **UK Health and Wellness** and the **Student Financial Wellness Center**
- Set up your **iGrad** account to access your personalized dashboard and begin improving your money management skills
- Participate in **departmental outings** and events
- Attend the **Graduate Student Congress** Ice Cream Social to meet peers outside of your department
- Seek a **graduate student mentor** in your department
- Visit **UK Counseling Center's** Relaxation Room
- Visit a **Campus Gym** and establish an exercise routine

GAINING MOMENTUM (MID)

- Identify your **professional interests** and update your **development plan**
- Craft or re-craft your **CV** and/or **resume**
- Attend **job talks** occurring in your department
- Identify your professional skills by attending a **transferable skills workshop**, enrolling in **GS 600: Preparing Future Professionals**, and/or completing a **transferable skills inventory** on **myIDP** or **Imagine PhD**
- Apply to the **GradDegree+** professional development curriculum
- Monitor **job search boards**, sites, and listservs in your field of interest
- Meet with your DGS/advisor to assess your **academic progress** and **goals**
- Construct a **professional online presence**

- Join or create a **writing group** with departmental colleagues or other graduate students
- Attend a **grant writing workshop** or enroll in a **grant writing course**, such as GS 640
- Apply for **travel and research grants**
- Follow the **premier journals** in your discipline
- Explore writing/presenting for a public audience by attending or participating in **UK GradResearch Live!**
- Establish correspondence **relationships** with people in your field
- **Present your research** at conferences

- Enroll in **GS 610: College Teaching Seminar** or **650: Preparing Future Faculty**
- Apply to the **Graduate Certificate in College Teaching and Learning**
- Attend workshops offered by CELT
- Apply to the **GradDegree+** pedagogy track
- **Consult with CELT** about challenges in your classes, recitations, or labs
- Draft your **teaching philosophy statement** and **diversity statement**
- Attend or participate in **UK GradTeach Live!**
- Invite respected instructors to **observe your classes** and provide feedback
- View modules of interest in **20 Minute Mentor Commons**

- Get involved with **Graduate Student Congress** by attending meetings or becoming your department's representative
- Join other **graduate student organizations** of interest to you
- Utilize other mental health services, support groups, and meditation practices provided by the **UK Counseling Center**
- Set up an **individual advising appointment** with the **Student Financial Wellness Center**
- Continue to participate in **departmental outings** and **GSC events**
- Establish a **mentor relationship** with someone outside your department

NAVIGATING YOUR TRANSITION (LATE)

- Attend a workshop on **turning a CV into a resume** for diverse career paths
- Polish your **CV** or **resume**
- **Draft a cover letter** that can be tailored to specific job postings
- Hone **transferable skills** through Preparing Future Faculty/Professionals offerings or workshops
- Ask your advisor, a colleague, an alumnus, and/or a representative in UK Career Center for advice on **job and salary negotiations**
- Schedule a **mock interview** with UK Career Center or set up a practice **job talk** with departmental faculty and colleagues
- Polish your **online presence**

- Consult with faculty to submit a paper for **publication** and seek public outlets for disseminating your research
- Participate in **UK GradResearch Live!** to sharpen your skills at communicating your research to the public
- Establish correspondence **relationships** with people in your specific area of research
- Attend **thesis and dissertation writing camps** hosted by The Graduate School and/or by your college or program
- **Complete your thesis or dissertation** and schedule your defense
- Practice your **thesis or dissertation talk**

- Polish your **teaching philosophy statement** and **diversity statement**
- Assemble your **teaching portfolio**
- **Consult with CELT** and/or the **Preparing Future Faculty program** on your portfolio
- Practice your **teaching demonstration** for job interviews
- Enhance your **pedagogical practice** through professional development workshops
- Continue to participate in **UK GradTeach Live!**
- Seek out and attend **webinars and conferences on teaching**

- **Cultivate support** within your family, friends, and graduate cohort
- Participate in a hobby or activity that helps you to **de-stress and unplug**
- As needed, continue seeking support from the **UK Counseling Center**
- Nurture **mentor relationships** with professionals outside the institution
- Network with **recent alumni** who have careers in your field
- Visit the **Arboretum** for a reflective nature walk
- **Celebrate** each milestone and success, and regularly take the time to reflect on your accomplishments