

MY GRAD MAP – *Get what YOU want from school by tracking ideas, goals, and successes.*

	Beginning Stage	Early Intermediate	Late Intermediate	Wrapping Up	After Graduation
ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS (core courses, requirements...)					CAREERS OF INTEREST
MAXIMIZE RESEARCH/PRACTICUM /LEARNING IMPACT (skills, publishing, presenting...)					
BUILD SKILLS & EXPERIENCE (clubs, jobs, volunteering, research, internships...)					SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS I MIGHT NEED
ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY (conferences, student gov't, associations...)					
LAUNCH YOUR CAREER (career or grad school prep)					

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HOW TO USE THIS MAP:

1. Note careers of interest and skills/qualifications needed.

With some potential long-term goals in place, it will be easier to figure out what steps you need to take to get there! Need help figuring this out? Look at the Grad Maps for ideas and then stop by Career Services to find out about all kinds of careers, what skills they need, and next steps.

2. Keep track of ideas and possible short-term goals

Note any interesting courses, workshops, clubs, conferences, and other ideas that you come across on the map in the appropriate boxes. **Look at the Grad Maps to get some ideas.** Get more ideas by talking to friends, profs, advisors or looking at websites like:

- Expanding Horizons: <http://www.queensu.ca/exph/home>
- SGS Habitat: <http://www.queensu.ca/sgs/current-students/sgs-habitat>
- MyGradSkills: <https://www.mygradskills.ca/>
- AMS clubs: <http://myams.org/clubs/clubs-categories.aspx>
- Get Involved at Queen's: <http://www.queensu.ca/learn/getinvolved>

3. Track your accomplishments for future resumes and interviews

When you've accomplished one of your goals, this can be a great place to track all those little details you might otherwise forget. You can include key skills you learned or evidence of success. Check out the [Skills and Experience workshop](#) for ideas.

COMMON GRAD STUDENT QUESTIONS:

I'm feeling lost! How do I get started?

Many students feel overwhelmed figuring out where to go next. The key is using this energy instead of letting it paralyze you. Start by breaking things into smaller steps with the year by year plan. You don't have to figure it out all at once – just start at the beginning with a few ideas...

What about career options outside of academia?

Good question. With much less than 50% of graduate students ending up in academic careers (varying by discipline), it is important to consider ALL of your options. The Grad Maps will suggest some ideas to get you started. To take it further, stop by Career Services for [drop-in advising](#), [a career workshop](#), or a [career counselling](#) appointment.

How do I learn how to network?

Besides taking advantage of resources like professional associations, conferences, and LinkedIn that are mentioned on the Grad Maps, you can get help with the basics of networking by signing up for an Effective Networking [workshop](#) from Career Services.

How do I convert my CV to a resume? Or apply to jobs outside academia?

The skills you get from your grad degree are valued by employers, but your job is to make it easy for them to see what you have to offer. Start by getting a sense of your skills from the [Skills and Experience workshop](#). From there you can get help in resumes, cover letters, and interviews through [workshops](#) or [appointments](#) at Career Services.