

Career and Professional Development for Graduate Students

IDEA

The Career Competencies for Graduate Students model was designed to allow graduate students to develop and practice skills that enhance their graduate education and prepare them for success in post-graduate careers. Interactive learning sessions and career development programs intentionally engage these competencies to promote personal and professional growth.

Professionalism

To develop this competency, learn to:

- Understand expectations of your intended profession
- Write professional emails
- Know dining etiquette for networking and interview dinners
- Manage conflict in a professional setting



Reflection & Resilience

To develop this competency, learn to:

- Engage in reflective activities to assess and explore career options and in goal setting strategies
- Balance personal and professional goals
- Practice viewing failures as opportunities to learn and grow

Community Building & Networking

To develop this competency, learn to:

- Define roles and appropriate norms for interaction
- Initiate professional conversations and relationships
- Maintain professional relationships
- Present your authentic self

Storytelling

To develop this competency, learn to:

- Enhance the range of your communication skills: writing, presentation, and interpersonal
- Communicate with impact
- Craft a personal narrative for your application materials
- Learn how to identify your audience and target your story

Collaboration & Inclusion

To develop this competency, learn to:

- Work effectively in diverse teams and on collaborative projects
- Value and respect diverse perspectives and approaches
- Identify common goals and rules for engagement

Strategic Thinking & Goal Setting

To develop this competency, learn to:

- Define the vision for your research and for your professional career
- Identify the next actionable steps
- Set time-bound, measurable, and attainable goals
- Engage in process of tracking and revising goals
- Identify individuals impacted by your goals
- Develop your strategy with stakeholders in mind

Career Competencies are supported with these programs:

Finding a Career Fit Series:

- Career Exploration: Identify Skills, Values, Interests
- Career Exploration: Informational Interviewing
- Social Media Profiles
- Navigating Your PhD: An Introduction to Career Development
- Networking at a Conference
- Reading Group: So What Are You Going To Do With That?
- Career Panels

Job Search Series:

- LinkedIn for Job [Re]Search
- Tailoring Your Resumes and Cover Letters - Prepping for Career Fairs
- Interviewing and Acing Common Questions
- Evaluating and Negotiating Job Offers

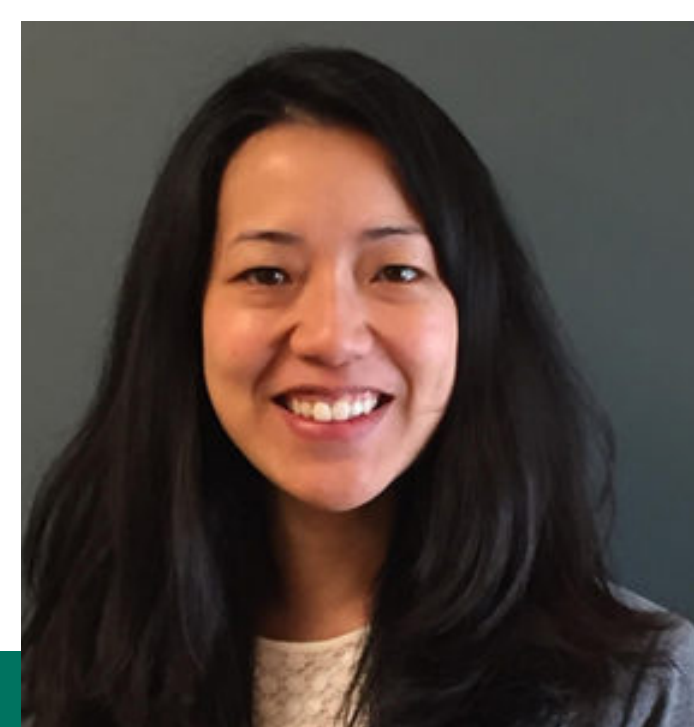
Professionalism and Productivity Series:

- Communicating Your Research With the Public
- Establishing Effective Mentoring Relationships
- How to Fail Better
- Identifying Your Transferable Skills

KEY TAKEAWAYS

These competencies have been helpful in both program development (making decisions about what topics to engage), how to talk about our programs with graduate students so that they can see the value, and we also have plans to eventually assess the graduate students on their development of these competencies through the programs.

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