

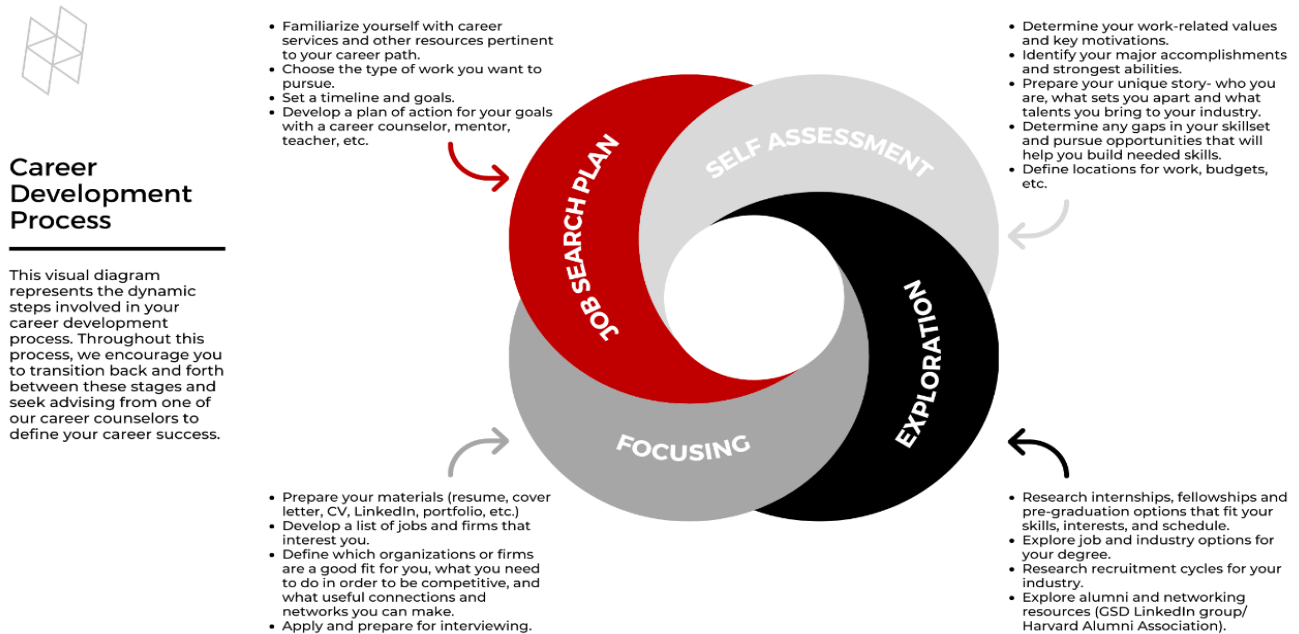
Careers in Focus

Creating your Individual Career Plan (ICP)

Career planning is a dynamic, on-going process. Graduate students who are looking to advance their career by gaining additional academic coursework will find this career management tool helpful for a variety of reasons including:

- The development of career and professional objectives.
- Keep on track and make progress toward these ever-evolving goals.
- Reflect and update as needed to create new goals, change course, or pivot as needed.
- Connect career and professional development with your graduate training experience.

Creating an effective ICP requires self-reflection, and commitment to revision as you progress in your time at the GSD and in your professional career.



What skills do you have now?

You have developed a diverse array of skills that build upon and expand beyond theory and discipline related and skills. It is critical to understand where you are now since self-knowledge is

a key to your success in school, career and in life. Evaluating your strengths and weaknesses helps you identify areas that you need to work and will inform how you speak about yourself.

Below are some of the major skills that employers value:

- Teamwork/collaboration
- Digital technology
- Critical thinking/problem solving
- Communication (verbal/written)
- Leadership
- Project management
- Professionalism/work ethic
- Diversity, equity and belonging
- Design thinking

What are your current career interests and which paths appeal to you?

Your career interests are likely to shift. Many graduate students often change their career direction throughout their training. It is rare to have identified a specific career path.

What skills do you think you need to develop and how?

Are there any personal/family situations that may impact your career plan?

Your unique personal or family situations will likely inform your worldview, impacting both your daily interactions and your career preference. Think about your current personal or family situation and any potential impacts. Balancing work and life are not easy, becoming more aware of your multiple identities is a first step toward balancing them.

Professional Development: What/who can support your career endeavors?

What are your SMART goals for the skills you want to develop?

GOAL STATEMENTS (Specific)	KEY PERSON	RESOURCES NEEDED	PEOPLE WHO CAN HELP	INDICATORS OF SUCCESS (Measurable)	TIMELINE (Timely)
Goal One:					
Goal Two:					
Goal Three					
Etc.					

Your Unique Story:

Who am I?

- Name
- Relevant Background
- Tagline

What do I do?

- Be Specific, Name Your Specialization/Interest
- What do you aspire to do?

How do I do it?

- What is distinct about you, your approach and/or skillset?

For whom do I, do it?

- Identify your ideal audience or environment.
- Determine why you are speaking with this person.
- What is your call to action?

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