WHAT SHOULD I BE DOING NOW?

Graduate School Timeline

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FALL SOPHOMORE YEAR

• Get information and tips on getting into graduate school!
• Get involved in clubs, groups and organizations.
• Volunteer
• Create sections of your CV
• Attend forums on career options and degree options
• Identify professors you may want to write you letters of recommendations
SPRING OF YOUR SOPHOMORE YEAR:

- Stay involved in clubs and organizations
- Think about and develop your research interests
- Discuss ideas with faculty members
- Find faculty members with whom you’d like to do research
- Work on developing or writing a research paper
- If written, present that paper at GSU Research Day
- Look into the course of professors that you may want to request a letter from
- Take courses from these professors, ask to conduct research with these professors
FALL OF YOUR JUNIOR YEAR

• Continue with your extra-curricular activities
• Pursue doing research with professors
• Begin examining the sections of the GRE test – look into GRE practice courses
• Update CV
• Meet with Professors you would like to write letters of recommendation
• Take classes from Professors you would like to write a letter of recommendation
SPRING OF YOUR JUNIOR YEAR

• Decide on area of interest
• Make a rough list of schools to which you might apply - request information from schools of interest
• Contact professors of interest to find out if they are taking new graduate students for the Fall
  • Read his/her work, and go see them if possible
  • Exchange ideas
  • Show your knowledge, interest, and motivation for working with him/her.
• Visit programs if possible
• Begin writing your personal statement
• Continue studying for GRE test – consider taking a prep course for this (e.g., Princeton Review, Kaplan)
• Take the GRE test
• Meet with Professors you would like to write you letters of recommendation
FALL OF YOUR SENIOR YEAR

• Solidify the list of programs to which you will apply – get application information for all
• Finish personal statement
• Request transcripts
• Update CV
• Ask professors to write letter of recommendation – give at least a month
• Complete all application materials and send them off before their due date—send application, financial aid information, statement of purpose, CV, etc.
• Create checklists for application materials
• Retake GRE if needed
WHAT SHOULD I BE DOING NOW?

• Investigate summer research opportunities!
• Arrange to get research experience!!!
• Look at admissions requirements.
• Prepare for GRE
• Be a serious student
• Set five goals related to graduate school planning and preparation.