DiscoverPD
Your Guide to Professional Development

DiscoverPD is an innovative tool for UW-Madison graduate students to match their development needs with campus events, self-guided activities, online training, and more. Log in with your netID and get started at: my.grad.wisc.edu/DiscoverPD
Inquiry, discovery, and creation
Inquiry, discovery, and creation describe characteristics of higher order thinking embodied by graduate students, including analyzing, evaluating, and creating.
- Creating, inventing, or producing new and innovative concepts or products
- Evaluating information, critiquing, and making judgments based on internal or external evidence
- Pursuing answers to complex questions
- Thinking and acting innovatively to create opportunity
- Challenging conventional thinking

Disciplinary expertise and interdisciplinary connections
Core to graduate education, disciplinary expertise and interdisciplinary connections inform solutions to complex problems and creating new knowledge.
- Achieving learning outcomes of the academic program, as well as those defined for all UW-Madison graduate students
- Demonstrating depth and breadth of knowledge in subject area
- Demonstrating skills in subject area
- Working across disciplines
- Embracing values of the profession
- Employing critical and analytical thinking and problem solving
- Obtaining funding for research and projects
- Conducting oneself ethically and professionally
- Seeking and utilizing information and technology resources appropriate to the discipline

Leadership
Leadership occurs at all levels of successful organizations, regardless of formal authority or management role.
- Guiding strategy and vision
- Moving ideas into action
- Inspiring others
- Fostering creativity and innovation in others
- Understanding organizational dynamics
- Being proactive and taking risks
- Acquiring resources

Career development
Career development is a lifelong, proactive process of planning and implementation toward evolving, personally-defined career goals.
- Assessing skills, values, and interests
- Obtaining mentorship
- Exploring careers
- Developing job search skills, such as self-marketing, applying, and interviewing
- Participating in professional service
- Building and communicating transferable skills
- Taking a lifelong approach to career management

Managing projects and people
Managing projects and developing people's potential requires an understanding of systematic approach methods, evaluation, and effective use of resources.
- Managing projects by setting goals and monitoring results
- Supervising and/or mentoring others
- Providing constructive feedback
- Managing financial resources, e.g. reading financial statements or budgeting
- Employing systems and technology for productivity

Communication
Communication is a bidirectional exchange of information, effective through understanding the intersection of media, audience, and message.
- Selecting and utilizing optimal media - written, oral, visual, digital, and smart media
- Tailoring media and message to audience, including the public and peers
- Creatively engaging the public
- Specialized writing skills, such as technical writing, grant writing, and academic publishing
- Consulting and listening

Inclusion and diversity
True learning calls for free and open debate, requires respect of all individuals and ideas, and prepares students to live and work in a world that speaks with many voices and from many backgrounds and experiences.
- Gaining global and cultural competence
- Developing equitable and inclusive leadership skills
- Promoting equitable, inclusive, and respectful workplaces and/or classrooms
- Cultivating relationships with people from different backgrounds, experiences, and cultures
- Recognizing differences and similarities as they enhance and enrich experiences for all

Interpersonal effectiveness
Interpersonal effectiveness entails recognizing and assessing the impact of one's behavior on others, as well as understanding and cultivating positive relationships - e.g., with peers, coworkers, and advisors.
- Forming teams and collaborating
- Fostering diverse perspectives
- Networking
- Negotiating
- Resolving conflict
- Mentoring others
- Creating positive climate
- Working effectively with one's faculty advisor, mentor, or supervisor

Personal effectiveness
Personal effectiveness describes a set of attitudes and attributes that are needed for lifelong career success.
- Openness to new ideas and perspectives
- Curiosity
- Motivation
- Resilience
- Integrity
- Introspection
- Civic engagement
- Wellbeing - physical, emotional, and financial health
- Time management
- Organizational skills