

Career and Professional Development Programs

Graduate Internship Program – Each year the Graduate Internship Program allows 1000+ Master's and Ph.D. students to receive a tuition-free audit credit for interning with an external organization in an area directly related to their program of study. Processes are in place to accommodate students who participate in the NSF's Graduate Research Internship Program as well as those who are paid by an external employer. Master's and Ph.D. students may intern in the fall, spring, or summer semesters, and may intern up to three consecutive semesters. International students holding F1 and J1 visas who are registered with the Graduate Internship Program may apply for and receive work authorization (CPT or OPT) if they fulfill the appropriate requirements. Students review guidance at the before beginning their internship and are required to submit their goals for the internship. Near the end of the internship, both the student and the supervisor are required to submit a final assessment to the program manager.

Career Development – The graduate-focused team housed in the Center for Career Discovery and Development facilitates one-on-one career counselling, workshops, events, and the Graduate Co-op/internship program. One-on-one career advising is available to every graduate student, and can include Clifton Strengths Finder and Meyer's Briggs assessments. Career development workshops offered regularly include job and internship search strategies, writing a resume, interviewing skills, negotiating job offers, and setting goals using individual development plans. These workshops are offered centrally each year, and are also available at the request of graduate programs and student organizations. Specifically designed for and by graduate students, the Career, Research and Innovation Development Conference is annual two-day event that includes 10+ career exploration panels, a career fair specifically for graduate students, and a research poster competition. Career Fairs, job and internship postings, mock interviews, and on-campus interviews are also available to all students.

Teaching and Future Faculty Development – The Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) offers the Tech-to-Teaching certificate, teaching assistant training, and Preparing Future Faculty programs. The Tech to Teaching program is designed to prepare Georgia Tech graduate students and postdocs for college teaching positions. Through the workshops and courses offered as a part of this certificate program, participants develop a thorough understanding of the scholarship of teaching and learning, and will demonstrate their ability to apply these skills in the classroom. CTL’s preparing future faculty specialists also provide consultations and workshops on how to prepare for an academic interview and how to craft a dynamic job talk.

Communications – Recognizing that oral and written communications are a key competency for graduate students, this is another key focus across campus. Designed to help build communication proficiency, the non-credit Graduate Communications Certificate program is composed of a series of core and elective workshops to and a capstone experience. One of the potential capstones is the Three Minute Thesis (3MT), a research communication competition during which graduate students have three minutes to present compelling talks about their thesis topics. In addition, the Nagle Communication Center runs an annual dissertation boot-camp and offers one-on-one coaching on any communications-related projects that students may need assistance with.

Training in Mentoring, Team Science and Collaboration, and Conflict Mediation – Training in mentoring, collaboration skills and tools for effective teams, and conflict mediation is available to faculty, graduate students, and postdocs by request of the school or program. Four facilitators have been trained by the National Research Mentoring Network (NRMN) to facilitate Entering Mentoring training using the curricula provided by cimerproject.org. Team science training, developed by a NSF IGE project led by former Vice Provost Susan Cozzens, is also available. The Team Science curriculum includes four interactive modules; innovation and creativity, diversity for better teams, effective communications, and leveraging and managing conflict.

Onboarding and Life Skills Programs – Grad Groups is Georgia Tech’s optional extended orientation course for new graduate students. Graduate Studies, in partnership with the Graduate Student Government Association (Grad SGA), sponsors the program, which provides opportunities for networking with other new graduate students from across campus and exposure to valuable campus resources that they may not otherwise be aware of. Each group of 16 is led by a senior graduate student, which allows participants to tap into their Group Leader’s valuable experience and leverage that for their own success. In fall 2018, the Grad Groups program was reorganized into a one-credit hour course (pass/fail) that meets once per week through the first eight weeks of the semester. Via the Graduate Pathways for Success program, Georgia Tech has also started offering whole-person education programs that include financial wellbeing and other life skills.