



YOU ARE HERE

Start: a map, not yet a path

That's exactly where every master's journey begins. Follow the four stages below at your own pace, from your first quarter to launch.

START



MID-PROGRAM · EXPLORE & BUILD SKILLS

Stage 2 · Next Steps

- Pursue an internship, real-world project, or capstone with an external partner. Industry hires master's students who have done industry-shaped work.
- Use the Indeed Job Search Academy live sessions, they cycle through Job Search, Resume, Interview Prep, Offer Eval, and Career Direction.
- Do 2–3 informational interviews in your target sector.
- Build your LinkedIn presence: profile, headline, two recommendations, one curated LinkedIn Learning path.

2

1



EARLY QUARTER · BUILD YOUR FOUNDATION

Stage 1 · First Steps

- Activate UCR [Handshake](#) and complete your profile in your first month.
- Take a short assessment, Beyond Graduate School or myIDP, to surface options.
- Start a one-page resume immediately. A master's resume is usually 1 page, not a CV.
- Book a first 1:1 with the Graduate Student Career Specialist within your first quarter.



ONGOING

Stage 3 · Work Across Differences

- Attend at least one professional-development event on collaboration or working across roles each quarter.
- Research employer company culture and hiring practices when narrowing companies.
- Network across communities and disciplines; expand who you know, not just how many you know.

3



FINAL QUARTER

Stage 4 · Prepare to Launch

- Polish your resume and a cover-letter template you can tailor in 15 minutes per role.
- Run two or three mock interviews, at least one with the Career Specialist and one with a peer.
- Apply to a curated set of roles (10–20 tailored is more effective than 100 generic).
- Track your applications in a simple spreadsheet, application date, follow-up date, contact, status.
- Bring the Career Specialist into your offer / negotiation conversation, free, and it almost always changes the outcome.

4



READY TO LAUNCH

You made it to launch

You've built the skills, the story, and the network. Time to step into your next role, wherever it takes you.