Designing your PhD Program: Odyssey Plan Activity

# Instructions

**Part 1: Academic milestones / degree requirements**

1. Identify your academic milestones, and list them in Section 1: Academic milestones/degree requirements on page 2. There are examples already listed. Feel free to keep or delete these depending on whether they are relevant to you.
2. Copy the pre-created academic milestones into the correct year within the Odyssey plan table on page 3. Write in your own academic milestones as needed. For milestones that span multiple years, you can copy these into each column separately.
3. Once completed, copy these milestones into the corresponding places in your Odyssey plan tables on pages 4 and 5.

**Part 2: Personal and professional plans and goals**

1. Create a title for each of your Odyssey plans (alternate futures) on pages 3-5.
   1. Remember, these should all be completely different; consider one academic, one industry/public sector, and one wild idea
2. Add additional plans or goals into each of your three Odyssey plans (slides 3-5) to complement the academic milestones already there. To do so, create your own, or use examples from sections 2-4 on page one.
   1. Try to include at least one personal and one professional development item in each year
   2. Consider if you need to move around your degree requirements based on the theme of the Odyssey plan
3. Evaluate each alternative futures using the rating system at the bottom of each page.
   1. Resources: Do you have the objective resources (time, money, skills, contacts) to pull this off?
   2. Liking: How do you feel about this plan?
   3. Confidence: Are you full of confidence that you can pull this off?
   4. Coherence: Does that plan make sense with itself? And, is it consistent with who you are?

# Section 1: Academic Milestones/Degree Requirements

## Examples

* Coursework: [number of courses/ specifics]
* Comprehensive exams
* Data collection and research
* Proposal defence
* Oral thesis exam
* Write your thesis

## Your Additions

[add any additional milestones or degree requirements that you wish to plan for here]

# Section 2: Professional Development Opportunities

## Examples

* Fundamentals of University Teaching
* Certificate of University Teaching
* English for multilingual Speakers courses
* Entrepreneur-ship programming (Concept, GreenHouse, etc.)
* Writing and Communication Centre programming
* Research communication/dissemination
* Centre for Career Action programming
* Student Leadership Program
* Publication
* Conference attendance/presentation
* Volunteering
* English for multilingual Speakers courses

## Your Additions

[add any additional professional development goals/opportunities that you are interested in here]

# Section 3: Personal Goals

## Examples

* Wellness and/or exercise goal
* Family and relationship plans
* Hobby

## Your Additions

[Add any additional personal goals you might have here]

# Section 4: Post-Degree Goals or Activities

## Examples

* Moving or travel
* Jobs and career
* Further education (apply and/or begin)

## Your Additions

[Add any additional post-degree goals or activities you want to plan for here]

# Odyssey Plan (alternate life) #1

Odyssey plan title or theme:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

## Evaluate your plan

On a scale of 1 to 100, rate the following aspects of your plan, based on the definitions provided on page 1.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Aspect of your plan | Scale (from 1 to 100) |
| Resources (100 meaning you have everything you need) |  |
| Liking/Enthusiasm (100 meaning you are feeling absolutely great about this plan) |  |
| Confidence (100 meaning you are perfectly certain you can do this) |  |
| Coherence (100 meaning this plan makes total sense and aligns perfectly with your plan’s theme) |  |

# Odyssey Plan (alternate life) #2

Odyssey plan title or theme:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

## Evaluate your plan

On a scale of 1 to 100, rate the following aspects of your plan, based on the definitions provided on page 1.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Aspect of your plan | Scale (from 1 to 100) |
| Resources (100 meaning you have everything you need) |  |
| Liking/Enthusiasm (100 meaning you are feeling absolutely great about this plan) |  |
| Confidence (100 meaning you are perfectly certain you can do this) |  |
| Coherence (100 meaning this plan makes total sense and aligns perfectly with your plan’s theme) |  |

# Odyssey Plan (alternate life) #3

Odyssey plan title or theme:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

## Evaluate your plan

On a scale of 1 to 100, rate the following aspects of your plan, based on the definitions provided on page 1.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Aspect of your plan | Scale (from 1 to 100) |
| Resources (100 meaning you have everything you need) |  |
| Liking/Enthusiasm (100 meaning you are feeling absolutely great about this plan) |  |
| Confidence (100 meaning you are perfectly certain you can do this) |  |
| Coherence (100 meaning this plan makes total sense and aligns perfectly with your plan’s theme) |  |

# Odyssey Plan (alternate life) EXAMPLE

Odyssey plan title or theme: Becoming Google’s leading software developer

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Year 1 (now!) | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 |
| * Graduate academic integrity module * Coursework (4 courses) * Conference attendance * Ski run training * Student leadership program | * Visit family back home * Comprehensive exam 1 * Start volunteering with Go GODE Girl * Seminar presentation (1 of 3) * Comprehe-nsive exam 2 (oral Research Proposal) * Half marathon training * Student Leadership Program (continued) | * Data collection and research * Conference presentation * Publication * Seminar presentation (2 of 3) * Google EIS Networking * Half marathon training (continued) | * Data collection and research (continued) * Write thesis * Coding competitions * Google EIS networking (continued) * Seminar presentation (3 of 3) * Half marathon training (continued) * Oral thesis exam | * Volunteer with Girls Who Code * Move to California * Apply to Google jobs, and other software jobs in Cali. |

## Evaluate your plan

On a scale of 1 to 100, rate the following aspects of your plan, based on the definitions provided on page 1.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Aspect of your plan | Scale (from 1 to 100) |
| Resources (100 meaning you have everything you need) |  |
| Liking/Enthusiasm (100 meaning you are feeling absolutely great about this plan) |  |
| Confidence (100 meaning you are perfectly certain you can do this) |  |
| Coherence (100 meaning this plan makes total sense and aligns perfectly with your plan’s theme) |  |