

Elliott School of International Affairs

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Tips for a Successful Graduate Career at the Elliott School

1. Check your gmail.gwu.edu e-mail account regularly.

This is how the university communicates with you. If you don't want to have to check another account, your GW e-mail can easily be forwarded to your primary account.

2. Register for program requirements first.

Don't wait until your last semester to try to take one of your core requirements. Registering for program requirements early allows you more flexibility at the end of your program.

3. Plan for your Foreign Language Exit Exam now.

If your program requires that you demonstrate proficiency in a modern foreign language, begin making plans to meet the requirement now. Review your options to meet the requirement, sign up for language classes, plan to study abroad (<http://www.gwu.edu/~elliott/academics/grad/studyabroad>), and participate in embassy cultural events in your foreign language. If your language is not taught at GW, contact esialang@gwu.edu about arranging for an outside expert to conduct your examination.

4. Take full advantage of GW resources.

Take a yoga class at the Lerner Health and Wellness Center (<http://gwired.gwu.edu/gwellness/info/LHWC>), join the Elliott School Graduate Student Forum (<http://www2.gwu.edu/~gsf/>), improve your study habits through the UCC's Academic Support Workshops (<http://gwired.gwu.edu/counsel/AcademicSupport/AcademicServices>), or participate in a mock interview at Graduate Student Career Development (<http://www.gwu.edu/~elliott/gscd/current/>).

5. Major life changes and emergencies can impact your studies.

Contact your Advisor ASAP if you have questions or concerns. Life happens: marriage, birth of children, moving out of the state or country, illness, death in the family, military deployment...any number of life issues can impact your studies. We can help. The earlier you contact your Advisor, the more options your Advisor will have to assist you in successfully completing your studies.