

SELF ASSESSMENT TOOL

Graduate and postdoctoral positions are a critical time for developing a series of skills that will be fundamental for a future independent research career. Below is a list of topics that you may consider exploring. You needn't get training in all of these, but you can use this document to help you keep track of the skills you build, and alert you of some you may consider adding to meet your career goals.

- 1.- Research
 - a.- New techniques
 - b.- Experimental design
 - c.- Choosing research questions
- 2.- Supervisory skills
 - a.- Undergraduate student
 - b.- High school student
- 3.- Writing
 - a.- Research paper (writing and dealing with referee responses)
 - b.- Review article
 - c.- Grant
 - d.- job applications: CV and research proposals/ teaching statements
- 4.- Presentation skills
 - a.- Group meeting
 - b.- Journal club
 - c.- Local meetings
 - d.- National/international meetings
 - e.- Teaching opportunity
- 5.- Critical assessment skills
 - a.- Ability to comment on other research projects in your group?
 - b.- Research article reviews
 - c.- Grant reviews
- 6.- Networking
 - a.- Finding a second/third mentor
 - b.- Initiating collaborations
 - c.- Do you know peers in your field?
 - d.- Do you know leaders in your field?
- 7.- Teaching
 - a.- Teaching Assistantship
 - b.- Design and teach First Year Writing Seminar (e.g. Buttrick-Crippen Fellowship)
 - c.- Guest lecture
- 8.- Career possibilities (not a skill, but something to consider as you move along)
 - a.- Academic track positions (Professor, Principal Investigator, Research Scientist)
 - b.- Industry
 - c.- Options in teaching
 - d.- Other feasible pathways