How to Succeed in Graduate School?

♦ Set your standard as high as you can live with, and work as closely as possible at the boundary of your abilities

♦ Begin with the End in Mind
  – Have clear, bold plans for yearly, monthly, weekly, and daily milestones

♦ Be forceful, and dare to accomplish your plan/vision
  – Put first things first
  – Avoid distractions, and defer→delegate→drop “urgent, unimportant” things; learn when/how to say “no”
  – Effectively work >80 hours per week

♦ Be proactive, and teach/push your advisor
  – Embrace “problems/challenges”, and focus on “solving” problems/challenges

♦ Be courageous, and dare to take the lead
  – Not confined by your local settings

♦ Be a good colleague
  – Think win-win
  – Seek first to understand, then be understood
  – Synergize

♦ Sharpen your saw
  – Renew all four dimensions of your nature - physical, spiritual, mental, and social/emotional

The only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work, and the only way to do great work is to love what you do.

— Steve Jobs

What you can accomplish is only constrained by your imagination and will power, diligence, and intelligence of executing your vision.

— DNC

© Dependable Networking and Computing (DNC) Research Group
Contact: Dr. Hongwei Zhang, (313)577-0731, hongwei@wayne.edu