

# AGRONOMY, PHD

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRADUATE SCHOOL RESOURCES

Take advantage of the Graduate School's professional development resources (<https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/>) to build skills, thrive academically, and launch your career.

### PROGRAM RESOURCES

The agronomy program does not require but encourages all students to complete an Individual Development Plan (IDP). As you begin your Graduate School career, an Individual Development Plan (IDP) is an essential tool to help you:

- (1) Assess your current skills and strengths
- (2) Make a plan for developing skills that will help you meet your academic and professional goals
- (3) Communicate with your advisors and mentors about your evolving goals and related skills.

For graduate students in the natural sciences and engineering, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) online tool provides a comprehensive set of materials and exercises that will guide you through the process of self-assessment, career exploration, goal-setting, and implementation of your plan. Set up a free account to create and monitor your IDP at [myidp.sciencecareers.org](http://myidp.sciencecareers.org) (<http://myidp.sciencecareers.org/>).

The UW–Madison IDP template (<https://grad.wisc.edu/pd/idp/>), which includes instructions and examples, is flexible and appropriate for all disciplines.