IGM Student Four Year Checklist

First Year:
- Meet your academic advisor
- Find your faculty advisor on SIS (and introduce yourself in person!)
- Review your program worksheet
- Go to class, take notes, work on examples, and ask questions
- Look at student handbooks
  - New Media: [https://www.rit.edu/gccis/igm/bs-new-media-interactive-development-overview](https://www.rit.edu/gccis/igm/bs-new-media-interactive-development-overview)
  - Game Design & Development: [https://www.rit.edu/gccis/igm/bs-game-design-development-overview](https://www.rit.edu/gccis/igm/bs-game-design-development-overview)
- Visit the Academic Support Center (ASC) [http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/asc/](http://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/asc/)
- Visit the IGM tutor website [http://igm.rit.edu/tutors](http://igm.rit.edu/tutors)
- Expect to spend 3 hours (or more) on homework and studying per 1 hour of class (on average)
- Explore clubs and organizations on campus [https://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/campuslife/](https://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/campuslife/)
- Review probation/suspension policy [http://www.rit.edu/academicaffairs/policiesmanual/sectionD/D5_1.html](http://www.rit.edu/academicaffairs/policiesmanual/sectionD/D5_1.html)
- Schedule your first year advising meeting with your specific academic advisor prior to spring registration – advisor calendars fill up quickly
- Consider applying to become a Student Ambassador
- Consider Study Abroad – start with your academic advisor for information
  - Fall application deadline is mid-April
- Attend one or two weekend jams/workshops/events
- Enroll in the IGM Career Seminar next fall or spring semester

Sophomore:
- Meet with your advisor to review your program worksheet and plan your advanced courses
- Attend your IGM Career Seminar classes
- Start compiling a list of any volunteer work, work experience, awards, etc., for resume
- Prepare resumes, portfolio, and cover letters
- Register for Career Services and upload a final resume: [http://www.rit.edu/emcs/oce](http://www.rit.edu/emcs/oce)
- Start applying for co-ops; attend the Fall and Spring Career Fairs
- Meet with your Co-op Program Coordinator to discuss your job search strategy
- Consider Study Abroad – start with your academic advisor for information
  - Application deadlines => spring & Intercession is mid-October; summer is mid-March
- GDD students: consider BS/MS. You can learn more about this program during the Career Seminar Course.
- Attend RIT Creative Industry Day (held in March/April)
- Consider the Center for Leadership and Student Engagement for professional development [https://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/lead/](https://www.rit.edu/studentaffairs/lead/)
- Consider immersion options [http://www.rit.edu/programs/immersions](http://www.rit.edu/programs/immersions). Please note that immersions are required for graduation.
- If you are considering a minor, pursue options: [https://www.rit.edu/programs/minors](https://www.rit.edu/programs/minors). Please note that a minor is optional.
- Consider doing research or working in labs
- Start think about Graduate School – meet with a Graduate Advisor soon (if applicable)
- Summer co-op--report your assignment to the Co-op website Job Zone
- Attend more jams/workshops/events (eg., Global Game Jam, Imagine Cup, Brick Hack, WiC Hacks, etc)
Junior
- Meet with your academic advisor to review your Academic Advising Report and make a plan through graduation
- Meet with your Co-op Program Coordinator if you need assistance finding a co-op
- Keep refining your job search material
- Collaborate with a team of students to start building a large-scale project (eg., Production Studio)
- Meet your faculty advisor to discuss career paths
- Identify programs of interest regarding graduate schools, tour schools during summer, find out what admissions test(s) they require and begin to prepare (if applicable)
- In selecting a Grad School, start with RIT's Office of Graduate & Part-time Enrollment Services: http://www.rit.edu/emcs/ptgrad/grad.php
  - Some other very helpful sites include:
    - www.allaboutgradschool.com
    - www.gradschools.com
    - www.graduateguide.com
    - www.petersons.com/GradChannel/
    - www.princetonreview.com/grad/
- Apply for graduation. You are eligible to apply once you earn 90 total credits and you should apply before you enroll in your last semester of classes)

Senior
- Meet with your academic advisor to check your academic progress
- If you have not done so yet, apply for graduation. You are eligible to apply once you earn 90 total credits and you should apply before you enroll in your last semester of classes)
- Plan for Post RIT (A, B, or C):
  A) Grad school:
    - Apply to graduate or professional schools
    - Colleges and universities usually require a specific graduate admissions test, such as the GRE (Graduate Record Exam), GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test), or LSAT (Law School Admission Test), as part of your application. RIT offers a GRE preparation program on-campus through the Institute Testing Service in the Academic Support Center and the Center for Multidisciplinary Studies. You should plan to take the required admissions exam approximately 4-6 months prior to the application deadline, to allow yourself time to retake the test, if necessary.
  B) Full-Time Work:
    - Attend the job fair in the fall and spring https://www.rit.edu/emcs/oce/student/career-fairs-all-majors
    - Visit the Cooperative & Career Services Office to meet with your Program Coordinator for assistance in finding full-time employment
  C) Not Sure:
    - Visit the Career Counseling Center
    - Visit the Cooperative & Career Services Office
    - Visit your faculty advisor
- Contact References to discuss plans and network
  - Letters of recommendation are usually required as part of the application. Your references will need time to write the letter. Make sure to write a thank you note to each reference and let them know your decision.
- Update Resume
- Attend Graduation Fair (February)
- Apply for jobs
- Cooperative Education & Career Services – Alumni/Networking opportunities
- Consider back up options if not accepted to graduate or professional school
- Make hotel reservations and dinner reservations for commencement weekend
- GRADUATE!