

## Reflect

- Consider career aspirations, current experiences, values, etc.
- Decide whether it is time to apply for graduate school, a post-bacc, neither
- Consider your own timeline:
  - How many schools are you applying to?
  - What does your fall schedule look like?
  - How long do you need to write?

# Jan

## Investigate

- Read papers of mentors you would be interested in working with
- Look on website of schools/programs you would consider
- Examine program requirements and differences (GRE, accreditation, funding, etc.)
- Study and take the GRE if applicable

# Mar

# Apr

# May

## Narrow List

- Refine list of programs and potential mentors

- Discuss appropriate number of applications with current mentors (this number varies considerably with some recommending 10-15, with others recommending 20+)

# July

## Compile Materials

- Create general outline/idea for Personal Statement/Statement of Purpose (see example statements [here](#))
- Compile relevant education, experience, etc. in a [CV](#)

# Sept

## First Draft

- Finish first drafts of your statement and CV
- Get feedback from others

# Oct

## Finalize Materials

- Tailor statements to each program
- Finalize CV

# Nov

## Submit Applications

- Keep an eye on deadlines!
- Aim to hit priority/early deadlines
- If applicable, apply for application fee waivers at least a few weeks before (find USC's [here](#))

# Dec