Graduate Development Conference
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3—3:50

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Backward Design

“Design”

...to have purposes and intentions, to plan and execute.

Oxford English Dictionary
To **begin with the end in mind** means to start with a clear understanding of your destination. It means to know where you’re going so that you better understand where you are now so that the steps you take are always in the right direction.

--Stephen R. Covey, The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People
Stages in Backward Design Process

• Identify desired results

• Determine acceptable evidence

• Plan learning experiences and instruction
• Core ideology—what drives or motivates you? Why are you pursuing a graduate degree?
  – Example: I think it’s important that graduate students know what relevant resources are available to them at MSU.

• Envisioned future—what state do you wish to be in in the future?
  – Example: I hope every attendee acts on at least one idea discussed in the workshop.
• What is your core ideology?

• What is your envisioned future?
How about you?

• Core ideology:
• Five-year (post graduate school) goal:
• Within five years of receiving my graduate degree, I hope to ____________________.
• I will know I’ve achieved this if________________________.
Now comes the planning

- What experiences at MSU will help you achieve your goal?
- What experiences outside of MSU will help you achieve your goal?
In order to gain these experiences, I can...

- At MSU
- Outside MSU

To be there in five years, I would like experience in...

- At MSU
- Outside MSU

In five years post MSU, I will...