Syllabus: GRFP Roadmap

Stations	Content	Tutorial	Learning Materials
Decide to apply	Make sure you're eligible and ready to apply with our decision tree and checklist (20 minutes)	• Welcome	Videos • Intro Tip sheets • Decide to Apply • Eligibility Worksheet
See what it takes to win	Take a guided tour through the GRF Program, understand what the review criteria really mean, and break down how reviewers actually use them to decide who wins. (1.5 hours)	• Overview of the Program • Writing for the Reviewers	Videos • What it Takes to Win • Write for the Reviewers Tip sheets • Write for reviewers
Plan your campaign	Take a look ahead at how we're going to produce a winning application, and schedule time to complete each step. (30 minutes)	• Create a timeline	Video • Plan your Campaign Worksheet • Roadmap Timeline
Mobilize Support	Get your advisor and letter writers on board, and start thinking about how you will coordinate what they will say in their letters with what you say in your essays. We give you some advice to guide your conversations with them (3 hours)	• Write Two Essays • Mobilize your advisor • Get Great Letters of Reference	Videos • Get Great Letters • Two Essays and Three Letters Tip sheets • Select and mobilize your advisor • Get Great Letters of Reference
Plan your Research	Anticipate gaps in your research plan and broader impacts plan while you still have some time to fill them. We'll help you lay out and assess your plans, and you'll complete a worksheet that will help you frame a compelling research plan that answers all of the program solicitation's questions. (2.5 hours)	• Project Design • Broader Impacts • Field of study	Videos • Plan Your Research • Plan Your Broader Impacts Tip sheet • Select a Research Panel Worksheets • Research Design • Broader Impacts

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Tell Your Story	Find the events that compose your story and make the reviewer want to fund you. You will complete a Brainsteering Tutorial that will guide you towards compelling content for your essays framed in the way that NSF asks for it (3 hours)	• Events capture attention
		• What Motivates you?
		• Preparation
		  • Three types of skills
		  • Two ways to present
		• Goals
		  • Six Career paths
			<u>Videos</u>
			• MPG Overview
			• Motivation
			• Preparation
			• Goals
			
			<u>Tip sheets</u>
			• Model Brainsteering Examples
			• Motivation, Preparation, Goals
			
			<u>Worksheet</u>
			• Brainsteering

Pick a plot	Give your essays an overarching narrative structure that will make your application memorable, convincing, and ready for holistic review. Reviewers say they want to know your story, so we help you tell it (1.5 hours)	• Six Possible Plots • How to choose a plot that fits your events • How to find events that fit your plot • How readers will react	<u>Videos:</u> • Plot Overview <u>Tip sheets</u> • Six Plots

Lay out your storyboards	Plan what will go in each essay and where you will put it. We will give you essay templates to organize your content and put your plot in place. Our storyboard tutorial will help you pick an essay template that's right for you. (1.5 hours)	• Layout your essays
		  • Length of each section
		  • Points to make in each section
		• Required Summary Statements
			<u>Videos</u>
			• The Storyboarding Process
			
			<u>Tip sheets</u>
			• Research Storyboard
			• MPG Storyboard

Write a Draft	Draft both of your essays. We supply some practical writing strategies drawn from the psychology of effective writers to help you if writer's block gets in your way (3 hours)	• Examples: Winning essays' layout and content • Overcoming writer's block	<u>Videos</u> • Constructing the Research Essay • Constructing the MPG Essay <u>Tip sheets</u> • Examples of Research Essays • Examples of MPG Essays

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Self-Evaluate	Complete our self-evaluation rubric to make sure that you have run your plot through your whole application and given the reviewer what they need to award you an "excellent" for intellectual merit and broader impact (30 minutes)	• Look for deficiencies in preparation or research plan • Establish commitment to boarder impacts • Check for holistic links	Videos • Pep talk for writers Exercises • Worksheet - Holistic Review Checklist
Polish your essays	Write a final draft based on your self-evaluation. Then make sure your reader won't misinterpret what you say by addressing the biggest issues that stand in the way of clear, concise, correct written expression. Our worksheet will tell you what to look for and how to correct it as you edit your language (5 hours)	• Use signposts • Clear and concise writing • Active voice • Nominalization	Videos • Pep talk for writers Tutorial shows how to polish Optional: Join the Writer's Room for guided editing of your draft
Submit the application	Complete a final reminders checklist and submit your application. We provide a guide to Fastlane, NSF's electronic submission system, in case you run into problems (1 hour)	• Review everything!	Video • Submit Tip sheets • Fastlane screenshots

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