Graduate study period is a period to

- Prepare yourself
 - Start to set your career goal
 - A master or Ph.D. degree is a minimum
 - What kind of person you want to be when you graduate

- Graduate study period is a period to
- Enrich yourself
 - Through courses
 - Very limited, Need to know how to learn by yourself
 - Through research activities
 - Not only your thesis!
 - Volunteer other research projects
 - Read more professional research articles
 - Write a proposal
 - Through other professional activities
 - Attend seminars, conferences, workshops...

- Graduate study period is a period to
- Enrich yourself
 - Knowledge and Skill
 - Communication skill presentation; cooperation; networking
 - Writing skill technical writing
 - English

Graduate study period is a period to

- Learn how to be a good researcher
 - Learn how to do research
 - Review papers
 - Divide a tough problem into small targets
 - Be persistent but smart
 - Hard working is a must but also be efficient
 - Have a vision
 - Do NOT only focus on what you are doing
 - Know the hot topics
 - Know who is doing what
 - Know the status and the trend in your area

When you graduate:

- Hard evidence
 - Paper
 - Project
 - Other activities
 - Reference
 - Soft evidence
 - Communication skill
 - Understanding of your interested research area
 Personality

English, English, English...

- Why
- How people judge your English
 Speaking, Listening, Writing, Reading
 - Spending your time and effort
 - Speak English whole day
 - Watch TV, movie... (turn of the caption!)
 - Fiction (or non-fiction) on tape
 - Learn to pronounce correctly
 - Learn the culture

A good book for academic job searching: The Academic Job Search Handbook -- Mary Heiberger and Julia Vick