A SMART goal is defined as a goal that is specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound.

**Specific:** Goals should be simply written and clearly define what you are going to do. Specific is the what, why, and how of the SMART model.

**Measurable:** Goals should be measurable so that you have tangible evidence that you accomplished the goal. Usually, the entire goal statement is a measure for the completion of the goal, but there are several short-term or smaller measurements built in along the way.

**Achievable:** The goal should be achievable; it should stretch you slightly so you feel challenged but also be defined well enough that you can achieve it. You must possess the appropriate knowledge, skills, and abilities needed to achieve the goal. Achievable goals are motivating. Impossible goals can be demotivating.

**Realistic:** The goal should be something you can realistically accomplish within the given timeframe.

**Timely:** Goals should be linked to a timeframe that creates a practical sense of urgency, or results in tension between the current reality and the vision of the goal. Without such tension, the goal is unlikely to produce a relevant outcome.

**Goals to Think About:**
- Manage one’s professional brand; increase social media presence
- Building or enhancing a LinkedIn Profile
- Researching Graduate Schools
- Expanding one’s network outside of college/university
- Gaining more visibility within my current organization
- Dealing with a difficult boss
- Starting a new job
- Interviewing techniques
- Dealing with interview stress – best practices
- Researching potential employers
- Increasing executive presence
- Enhancing my communication skills

Flip to the back for worksheet!
## S.M.A.R.T. Goal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific</th>
<th>Measurable</th>
<th>Attainable</th>
<th>Realistic</th>
<th>Timely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What do I want to accomplish?</td>
<td>How will I measure my progress?</td>
<td>How can the goal be accomplished?</td>
<td>Is this a worthwhile goal?</td>
<td>How long will it take to accomplish this goal?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why do I want to accomplish this?</td>
<td>How will I know when the goal is accomplished?</td>
<td>What are the logical steps I should take?</td>
<td>Is this the right time?</td>
<td>When is the completion of the goal due?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What are the requirements?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Do I have the necessary resources to accomplish this goal?</td>
<td>When am I going to work on this goal?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What are the constraints?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Is this goal in line with my long term objectives?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>