Placement-Ready Roadmap (5th Semester → Placement Season)

Timeline: ~12–14 months | Goal: Be fully prepared for coding rounds, technical interviews, and HR rounds by 7th semester.

Phase 1 — Foundation + Skill Edge (Now → Dec 2025)

Goal: Build a strong placement profile & gain confidence in both development and competitive programming.
DSA & Competitive Programming: - Continue 90-Day Candidate Master roadmap. - After Oct: 3 contests/week (2 Codeforces + 1 AtCoder/LeetCode). - Target: By Dec → Candidate Master (1900+) + 250+ tagged problems.
Core CS Subjects: - OS: Scheduling, Memory Mgmt, Synchronization, Deadlocks. - DBMS: SQL, indexes, transactions, normalization, joins, recursion. - CN: TCP/UDP, HTTP, routing, congestion control. - OOP: Class design, polymorphism, abstraction, patterns.
Projects: - 2–3 major resume-worthy projects (MERN + AI, problem-solving tool, domain-specific app). - All live-deployed with clean GitHub repos.

Phase 2 — Placement-Mode Acceleration (Jan → May 2026)

Goal: Transition from learning to testing under placement conditions.
DSA: - Daily: 1 easy-medium in 15 min, 1 medium-hard in 45 min. - Weekly: 1 full mock OA (aptitude + DSA).
Core Subjects: - Revise 2 subjects/week. - Solve GFG interview Qs for CS subjects.
System Design: - Learn LLD patterns (Singleton, Observer, Factory). - Basics of HLD (chat app, e-commerce).
Resume: - Keep 1-page, highlight CGPA, CP achievements, projects, internships.

Phase 3 — Mock Drills & Company-Specific Prep (June → Placement Season)

Goal: Simulate & polish for actual interviews.
Daily Schedule (3 hrs min): 1. DSA Warm-up (20 min) 2. Company-specific prep (1 hr) 3. Mock interviews (1 hr) 4. CS theory revision (40 min)
Weekly: - 2 mock coding rounds. - 1 mock interview (peer or platform). - 1 HR round using STAR method.

Non-Negotiable Rules

- No skipping contests unless emergency. - Every project must be live-deployed before placement. - Maintain GitHub streak (≥3 commits/week). - Re-solve every wrong mock problem within 48 hrs. - Maintain sleep, fitness, and mental health.