

# GRADUATE STUDIES HANDBOOK

September 2026–August 2027



Welcome to the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the School of Mining and Petroleum Engineering at the University of Alberta!

You are joining one of the best engineering departments in Canada to benefit from a true spirit of cooperation between engineering education and industry. The insight and knowledge shared between professors and students has inspired new ideas and resulted in more excellent research learning opportunities.

We hope your studies will be rewarding and wish you great success in your personal, academic, and professional life.

## Table of Contents

|                                                                                       |           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>1. Introduction.....</b>                                                           | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>2. Important Contacts and Information .....</b>                                    | <b>5</b>  |
| 2.1 Graduate Program Contacts .....                                                   | 5         |
| 2.2 Group Graduate Coordinators .....                                                 | 6         |
| 2.3 Graduate Student Resources .....                                                  | 6         |
| 2.4 Desks and Offices.....                                                            | 7         |
| 2.5 Building Access and Keys .....                                                    | 7         |
| 2.6 Personal Information.....                                                         | 8         |
| 2.7 Mail Service.....                                                                 | 8         |
| 2.8 Email .....                                                                       | 8         |
| 2.9 Civil and Environmental Engineering Graduate Students' Association (CEEGSA) ..... | 8         |
| <b>3. Funding and Financial Support .....</b>                                         | <b>9</b>  |
| 3.1 Teaching and Research Assistantships.....                                         | 9         |
| Graduate Teaching Assistantships (GTAs).....                                          | 9         |
| Graduate Research Assistantships (GRAs).....                                          | 9         |
| Graduate Research Assistant Fellowships (GRAFs).....                                  | 10        |
| 3.2 Awards and Scholarships .....                                                     | 10        |
| 3.3 Fees .....                                                                        | 10        |
| <b>4. Program Requirements .....</b>                                                  | <b>11</b> |
| 4.1 Registration.....                                                                 | 11        |
| 4.2 Appointment of Supervisor(s) for MSc/PhD Students .....                           | 11        |
| Supervisor .....                                                                      | 11        |
| Supervisor on Leave.....                                                              | 11        |
| Supervisory Committee.....                                                            | 11        |
| 4.3 Completion of the Supervisor-Student Guidelines .....                             | 11        |
| 4.4 Progress Report.....                                                              | 12        |

|           |                                                                  |           |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 4.5       | Ethics, Academic Citizenship, and Academic Integrity.....        | 12        |
|           | Ethics and Academic Citizenship Requirement .....                | 12        |
|           | Academic Integrity .....                                         | 12        |
| 4.6       | Professional Development Requirement for Graduate Students ..... | 13        |
| 4.7       | Degrees Offered.....                                             | 13        |
|           | Doctor of Philosophy (PhD).....                                  | 13        |
|           | Master of Science (MSc) .....                                    | 14        |
|           | Master of Engineering (MEng) .....                               | 14        |
|           | Composition of Examining Committees .....                        | 15        |
| <b>5.</b> | <b>Course Requirements.....</b>                                  | <b>16</b> |
| 5.1       | Construction Engineering and Management .....                    | 16        |
|           | MEng .....                                                       | 16        |
|           | MSc .....                                                        | 16        |
|           | PhD .....                                                        | 16        |
| 5.2       | Environmental Engineering .....                                  | 17        |
|           | MEng .....                                                       | 17        |
|           | MSc .....                                                        | 17        |
|           | PhD .....                                                        | 17        |
| 5.3       | Geoenvironmental Engineering .....                               | 18        |
|           | MEng .....                                                       | 18        |
|           | MSc .....                                                        | 18        |
|           | PhD .....                                                        | 18        |
| 5.4       | Geotechnical Engineering .....                                   | 19        |
|           | MEng .....                                                       | 19        |
|           | MSc .....                                                        | 19        |
|           | PhD .....                                                        | 19        |
| 5.5       | Mining Engineering.....                                          | 20        |
|           | MEng .....                                                       | 20        |
|           | MSc .....                                                        | 20        |
|           | PhD .....                                                        | 20        |
| 5.6       | Petroleum Engineering.....                                       | 21        |
|           | MEng .....                                                       | 21        |
|           | MSc .....                                                        | 21        |
|           | PhD .....                                                        | 21        |
| 5.7       | Structural Engineering.....                                      | 22        |
|           | MEng .....                                                       | 22        |

|      |                                                                                               |    |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
|      | MSc .....                                                                                     | 22 |
|      | PhD .....                                                                                     | 22 |
| 5.8  | Transportation Engineering .....                                                              | 23 |
|      | MEng .....                                                                                    | 23 |
|      | MSc .....                                                                                     | 23 |
|      | PhD .....                                                                                     | 23 |
| 5.9  | Water Resources Engineering .....                                                             | 24 |
|      | MEng .....                                                                                    | 24 |
|      | MSc .....                                                                                     | 24 |
|      | PhD .....                                                                                     | 24 |
| 5.10 | Cross-Disciplinary Study (General) with a Degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering ..... | 25 |
|      | MSc .....                                                                                     | 25 |
|      | PhD .....                                                                                     | 25 |
|      | Building Engineering Program.....                                                             | 26 |
|      | MSc .....                                                                                     | 26 |
|      | PhD .....                                                                                     | 26 |
|      | Cellulosic Nanomaterials Program .....                                                        | 27 |
|      | MSc .....                                                                                     | 27 |
|      | PhD .....                                                                                     | 27 |
|      | Pavement Engineering Program.....                                                             | 28 |
|      | MSc .....                                                                                     | 28 |
|      | PhD .....                                                                                     | 28 |
|      | MSc .....                                                                                     | 29 |
|      | PhD .....                                                                                     | 29 |
| 6.   | Course Exemption .....                                                                        | 30 |

# **I. Introduction**

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This handbook contains information specific to the graduate programs offered in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the School of Mining and Petroleum Engineering. Graduate students must make themselves aware of the contents of the graduate portions of the University of Alberta Calendar (linked below) and the Graduate Program Manual from the Faculty of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies (**GPS**, also linked below). **If there is a discrepancy between the information presented here and that contained in the Calendar, the Calendar takes precedence.**

**University of Alberta Calendar:**

[calendar.ualberta.ca](http://calendar.ualberta.ca)

**GPS Graduate Program Manual:**

[ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/about/graduate-program-manual/index.html](http://ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/about/graduate-program-manual/index.html)

## **2. Important Contacts and Information**

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### **2.1 Graduate Program Contacts**

#### **Graduate Program Advisors**

Ms. Arlene Figley – 7-389 Donadeo ICE  
Ms. Trina Cattral – 7-387 Donadeo ICE  
Ms. Christina Ezekowitz – 7-381 Donadeo ICE  
Email: [cgradvis@ualberta.ca](mailto:cgradvis@ualberta.ca)

#### **Department Address**

Department of Civil & Environmental, School of  
Mining & Petroleum Engineering  
7-207 Donadeo ICE  
Edmonton, AB, CANADA T6G 1H9

#### **Associate Dean, Graduate Students (CEE-MP)**

Dr. Zaher Hashisho – 7-241 Donadeo ICE  
Email: [ad.ceegrad@ualberta.ca](mailto:ad.ceegrad@ualberta.ca)

#### **Department Reception**

Office: 7-203 Donadeo ICE  
Phone: (780) 492-4235  
Email: [civeinfo@ualberta.ca](mailto:civeinfo@ualberta.ca)

#### **MEng Academic Advisor**

Dr. Lijun Deng – 6-261 Donadeo ICE  
Email: [civmeng@ualberta.ca](mailto:civmeng@ualberta.ca)

#### **Websites**

[ualberta.ca/engineering/civil-environmental-engineering](http://ualberta.ca/engineering/civil-environmental-engineering)  
<https://civleng-uofa.ca/grad-program/>

## 2.2 Group Graduate Coordinators

Individual research groups within the Department enjoy a certain level of autonomy in setting their procedures; there may be variations between groups. Listed below are the graduate coordinators for each of these groups. If you have questions about the program, please contact the appropriate group graduate coordinator.

### Construction Engineering and Management

Dr. Gaang Lee  
7-211 Donadeo ICE\_  
[gaang@ualberta.ca](mailto:gaang@ualberta.ca)

### Geotechnical Engineering

Dr. Gonzalo Zambrano Narvaez  
6-217 Donadeo ICE  
[gonzalo@ualberta.ca](mailto:gonzalo@ualberta.ca)

### Petroleum Engineering

Dr. Nobuo Maeda  
6-245 Donadeo ICE  
[nobuo@ualberta.ca](mailto:nobuo@ualberta.ca)

### Transportation Engineering

Dr. Stephen Wong  
6-269 Donadeo ICE  
[sdwong1@ualberta.ca](mailto:sdwong1@ualberta.ca)

### Cross-Disciplinary Studies

Dr. Qipei Mei  
6-263 Donadeo ICE\_  
[qipei@ualberta.ca](mailto:qipei@ualberta.ca)

### Environmental Engineering

Dr. Yaman Boluk  
7-273 Donadeo ICE\_  
[yaman@ualberta.ca](mailto:yaman@ualberta.ca)

### Mining Engineering

Dr. Yashar Pourrahimian  
6-243 Donadeo ICE  
[pourrahi@ualberta.ca](mailto:pourrahi@ualberta.ca)

### Structural Engineering

Dr. Shay Abtahi  
6-215 Donadeo ICE\_  
[abtahi1@ualberta.ca](mailto:abtahi1@ualberta.ca)

### Water Resources Engineering

Dr. Wenming (William) Zhang  
7-271 Donadeo ICE  
[wenming@ualberta.ca](mailto:wenming@ualberta.ca)

### MEng Academic Advisor *(for all MEng students)*

Dr. Lijun Deng  
6-261 Donadeo ICE\_  
[civmeng@ualberta.ca](mailto:civmeng@ualberta.ca)

## 2.3 Graduate Student Resources

The University offers a variety of support services for graduate students including funding, international services, professional development, timelines, and wellness. Below are a few resources to access information, support, and services you will need to navigate your university journey, and further information can be found on our Department [Graduate Student Resources](#) page.

1. [GPS Graduate Student Resources](#).
2. [GPS](#) supports every aspect of your graduate student experience and offers essential support services throughout your grad career: admissions, funding, scholarships, teaching preparation, professional development, academic record keeping, thesis support, and convocation.
3. [International Student and Visitor Services](#) has many resources for international students to prepare for study abroad, including [immigration FAQs](#) and a [new student arrival checklist](#), along with information on [study permits](#), [working in Canada](#), and [banking](#).
4. Your acceptance letter contains any admission conditions, and GPS collects and verifies any admission condition documents. If you have any questions or concerns on admission condition documents submission, you should contact GPS directly at [grad.admissions@ualberta.ca](mailto:grad.admissions@ualberta.ca).
5. Visit the [Staff Service Centre](#) for employment related inquiries (direct deposit, paycheques, tuition remission, travel/expense claims, etc.)

## 2.4 Desks and Offices

Graduate students will be assigned desks following the Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) Office Space Policy. Important points of this policy are outlined below.

- Graduate students in MSc and PhD programs will be assigned desks according to the policy. Graduate students in the MEng program are not eligible for office space.
- Graduate students may be housed in NREF if available; otherwise, space is open in designated areas on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of Donadeo ICE (6-244, 6-361, and 6-362).
- Office space in NREF is managed by research programs. A delegate of these groups is responsible for assigning these offices.
- Office space in Donadeo ICE is managed by the Department. All requests for space are to go through the Executive Assistant to the Chair. Please contact [civeinfo@ualberta.ca](mailto:civeinfo@ualberta.ca) for more information.
- If no space is available, all requests for graduate student office space will be added to a waiting list, with priority given to PhD students.

## 2.5 Building Access and Keys

Some spaces in Donadeo ICE and NREF are accessible to authorized personnel only by using keys or a Proximity ONEcard. Office and laboratory keys are available to graduate students with a mandatory \$20 refundable cash deposit. A key requisition form can be picked up from the CEE-MP Reception desk at 7-203 Donadeo ICE, signed by your supervisor, and submitted back to the receptionist. Please allow one full working day for your keys to be issued.

Additionally, if you have been assigned office space in the ICE building, please see the Executive Assistant to the Chair (Jomana Haymour) for Proximity ONEcard access information.

Further information on obtaining your Proximity ONEcard is available on the ONEcard Office website at: [ualberta.ca/onecard](http://ualberta.ca/onecard)

Keys are non-transferable; they are not to be loaned to anyone, including family members. If keys are lost and new ones are issued, the deposit will not be refunded when the second set of keys is returned to the office.

**Upon program completion or termination, all keys must be returned to the CEE-MP Reception desk. Your TAPC form will not be forwarded to GPS until you have done so. Your desk/office space must be left clean. Please notify Jomana Haymour at [jomana@ualberta.ca](mailto:jomana@ualberta.ca) when this has been done.**

## 2.6 Personal Information

Students are responsible for the accuracy and validity of their contact information in Bear Tracks ([beartracks.ualberta.ca](http://beartracks.ualberta.ca)), including mailing address, email address, and telephone number.

Transcripts can be requested from the Office of the Registrar at: [ualberta.ca/registrar/records/transcripts](http://ualberta.ca/registrar/records/transcripts).

International students must submit a copy of their study permits to [Shared Services](#) – please include your ID number

International students should also obtain a Social Insurance Number (SIN). A SIN is required for all graduate students receiving financial support. Please submit the SIN number directly to [Shared Services](#).

For International students, it is the student's responsibility to ensure that their study permit is current. Information on renewing a study permit can be found at <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/study-canada/extend-study-permit.html>

## 2.7 Mail Service

*Campus Mail:* A Graduate Student Mailbox for Department-specific mail is currently unavailable. Department mail for students will be held, and you will be contacted via email to come and pick it up. **Mail not picked up within 3 months from the date received will be discarded appropriately. Personal mail should NOT be sent here.**

## 2.8 Email

A Campus Computing ID (**CCID**) and password are issued to every student applicant upon receipt of their application for admission to the University. An email account is provided for communication between the applicant and the University. Note that your CCID is your email username.

Students can access their university email account at [ualberta.ca/gmail](http://ualberta.ca/gmail)

If you need help with your CCID or password, contact Information Services and Technology (IST) <https://www.ualberta.ca/information-services-and-technology/index.html>

## 2.9 Civil and Environmental Engineering Graduate Students' Association (CEEGSA)

The Civil and Environmental Engineering Graduate Students' Association (**CEEGSA**) is a student-run organization. Our objective is to enrich graduate students' life through academic, social, and professional events. We hope to create a space for graduate students in the Department to make a difference and give back to our community.

CEEGSA represents graduate students from the eight key research groups within the Department: Construction, Environmental, Geotechnical, Mining, Petroleum, Structural, Transportation, and Water Resources Engineering.

CEEGSA works closely with the departmental councillor, who represents CEE to the University's Graduate Students' Association (**GSA**). The elected GSA departmental councillor integrates with CEEGSA as VP of Student Life, collecting student feedback and representing the Department's interests to the GSA council.

Want to get involved? Want to know about upcoming events? You can reach us directly through our website, [ceegsa.ca](http://ceegsa.ca)

## 3. Funding and Financial Support

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The Department may provide financial support to MSc and PhD students in a variety of ways, including Graduate Teaching Assistantships (**GTAs**), Graduate Research Assistantships (**GRAs**), Graduate Research Assistantship Fellowships (**GRAFs**), and scholarships. Please contact your supervisor or Group Graduate Coordinator for information. All students who receive pay from the University must provide their banking information on Bear Tracks.

The Department is unable to provide financial assistance to graduate students in the MEng program.

### 3.1 Teaching and Research Assistantships

#### Graduate Teaching Assistantships (GTAs)

GTAs provide support to the undergraduate program. This may be in the form of marking, or it may involve assisting in a laboratory or tutorial. GTAs are assigned on a term-by-term basis, and the number of hours per week ranges from 3 to 12. This number reflects the average time commitment of the assignment and not the peak time commitment in any one week. It should be noted that, while the academic term is thirteen weeks long, a student with a GTA is paid for sixteen weeks of work.

Prior to the term, students will be asked to complete a survey indicating their interest for a GTA the following term.

*Note: Students are not eligible for TA funding in their first semester at the U of A.*

- New students arriving at the University of Alberta in their first semester should be focused on getting settled in and completing their coursework and other program requirements (ethics, professional development, etc.)
- New students will learn over this first semester what it is like to be a student at the U of A (i.e., what resources, help, etc. is available; what professors expect from students; etc.)
- TA training is typically offered in August or late December/early January and is only open to students registered in a program at the U of A at the time of offering. Thus, new students arriving in Fall 2025 complete the TA training in late December 2025/early January 2026.

#### Graduate Research Assistantships (GRAs)

The duties of a GRA are primarily in support of a faculty member's academic research. Such responsibilities may include, but are not limited to, collecting/coding/analyzing data, literature reviews, library research, writing reports, designing conference presentations, and preparing materials for submission to funding agencies.

The graduate assistantship supervisor and the GRA is an employment relationship. Please note that hours related to GRA are the maximum hours students can work per week.

## **Graduate Research Assistant Fellowships (GRAFs)**

GRAFs are a form of financial assistance provided to graduate students to focus on their education and training and relates to their own thesis or cited capstone project (directed research project). The relationship between the assistantship supervisor and GRAF is not an employment relationship. The GRAF is normally funded through restricted funds (such as a supervisor's research grant) and may form part of a funding package to support graduate students in their studies. The value of the fellowship may vary by discipline and by the requirements of the funds supporting the GRAF. There is a minimum stipend to be considered a fully-funded GRAF.

## **3.2 Awards and Scholarships**

Detailed information on all available scholarships can be found on the GPS website: [ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/awards-and-funding/scholarships](https://ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/awards-and-funding/scholarships)

## **3.3 Fees**

The University of Alberta's fees policies and procedures are stated in the [Tuition and Fees](#) section of the Calendar.

Please refer to <https://www.ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/current-students/tuition-and-fees/index.html> for 2026-2027 fees information and additional sample fee assessments.

Individuals seeking fees information should email [grad.fees@ualberta.ca](mailto:grad.fees@ualberta.ca)

## 4. Program Requirements

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All graduate students in the Department must fulfill the requirements described in this section. As a graduate student in the Department, **you** are responsible for ensuring that all program requirements are met on the required timeline. Please contact the Graduate Program Advisors if anything is unclear or if you have questions about any requirements or deadlines.

### 4.1 Registration

Although students are ultimately responsible for the accuracy and completeness of their registration, the Department and specifically the supervisor and/or supervisory committee must assist the graduate student in planning the student's program (see [Areas of Responsibilities Related to Graduate Programs](#) in the [GPS Graduate Program Manual](#)).

### 4.2 Appointment of Supervisor(s) for MSc/PhD Students

#### Supervisor

Every student in a thesis-based program is required to have a supervisor identified in the admissions process.

#### Supervisor on Leave

If a supervisor's leave exceeds two months, they are required to make adequate provision for supervision of their graduate students during their leave. They must submit a written statement to the Department and the student, describing arrangements for satisfactory supervision during leave.

#### Supervisory Committee

The supervisory committee is typically formed no later than the end of the first year of the student's program. The Department nominates the supervisory committee on an *Approval of Supervisor and Supervisory Committee* form to GPS.

The supervisory committee meets with the graduate student annually to review their program and progress. This annual supervisory committee meeting typically occurs no later than August 31 of a given year.

More information can be found by consulting:

- The [Supervision and Supervisory Committees](#) in the [GPS Graduate Program Manual](#).
- [Areas of Responsibilities Related to Graduate Programs](#) in the [GPS Graduate Program Manual](#).

### 4.3 Completion of the Supervisor-Student Guidelines

Students registered in an MSc or PhD program must meet with their supervisor and complete the "Supervisor-Student Guidelines" form in the first term of their program, as detailed in the *Completion of the Supervisor-Student Guidelines* in Section 8.1 of the [GPS Graduate Program Manual](#).

## 4.4 Progress Report

Students registered in an MSc or PhD program are required to report their progress to GPS annually, using the standardized “Progress Report” form, as described in Section 8.1 of the [GPS Graduate Program Manual](#). In instances where the progress report is not submitted at least once within 12 months, the student’s registration in subsequent terms will be restricted as a last resort and temporarily to determine a plan for completion.

**Note:** *The Progress Report form will be initiated by GPS for all student–supervisor pairings noted on the [Appointment of Supervisor\(s\) & Supervisory Committee](#) form, which is submitted by the Department to GPS. You and your supervisor(s) will receive an email prompt from GPS when it is time to complete the report.*

A student who receives 2 consecutive evaluations of “in need of improvement” or 1 “unsatisfactory” rating will usually be required to withdraw from their program on the recommendation of the Associate Dean—Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies and/or the Department Chair.

## 4.5 Ethics, Academic Citizenship, and Academic Integrity

### Ethics and Academic Citizenship Requirement

As members of the University of Alberta community, graduate students are expected to conduct their education, research, workplace behaviour, and professional activities in an ethical manner. As such, [Ethics and Academic Citizenship Requirement](#) ensures that all graduate students have equal access to information about academic integrity, understand what it means to act with integrity, and are equipped to conduct themselves in ways that uphold the values of the University of Alberta.

Full details can be found in the [Calendar](#). Briefly, graduate students should complete the following by the end of the *first term* of registration in their degree program to fulfill the Ethics and Academic Citizenship requirement:

#### MEng and MSc students

- The six-hour, online, non-credit course INT D 710—Ethics and Academic Citizenship

#### PhD students

- The six-hour, online, non-credit course INT D 710—Ethics and Academic Citizenship
- The two-hour, online, non-credit course INT D 720—Advanced Ethics and Academic Citizenship

*Note: PhD students who completed their Master’s degree at the University of Alberta and previously passed INT D 710 Ethics and Academic Citizenship are only required to take INT D 720—Advanced Ethics and Academic Citizenship.*

New students will automatically be registered in their respective courses by GPS at the start of each term.

### Academic Integrity

All graduate students are expected to adhere to the University of Alberta’s [Student Academic Integrity Policy](#) and [Student Conduct Policy](#). The University of Alberta provide information about Academic Misconduct and Sanction Descriptions and Impact.

If you have questions concerning what is acceptable or not acceptable in a specific course, consult with the instructor as some rules (e.g. with respect to group work or use of generative AI) may be course-dependent.

## 4.6 Professional Development Requirement for Graduate Students

All graduate students at the University of Alberta are required to meet the [Professional Development \(PD\) Requirement](#) to complete their program, as described in the Calendar. Further information can be found on the GPS website, under [Professional Development Requirement](#) and the [Faculty of Engineering Professional Development requirement page](#).

### APEGA Professional Development Series

The APEGA Professional Development Series provides workshops and speaker events to support graduate students as they prepare to enter the workforce. This series is hosted by the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and the School of Mining and Petroleum Engineering in collaboration with the [Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta \(APEGA\)](#), with support from the [U of A Career Centre](#).

MEng students will be enrolled in the APEGA PD Series by default using the Canvas platform. A minimum attendance of 8 **distinct\*** sessions (over the duration of the MEng program) is a graduation requirement for MEng students in CEE-MP. Some students may be eligible for an exemption (see exemptions below). In 2026-2027 we are offering 20 sessions in total: 6 are offered online + in-person, 1 exclusively online, and 6 exclusively in-person. PhD and MSc students are encouraged to take advantage of these offerings.

\*\*\*Distinct: In-person and online sessions of the same title/topic will only be counted *once* toward total session number and/or PD hours.

PD CREDIT: Students who attend a session AND complete the corresponding assessment/activity/poll for the session will receive 1 hr of PD credit (per session). Please note that receiving an exemption from the APEGA series does not grant exemption from completing the [Required Graduate Professional Development hours](#), which can be acquired by various means.

### Exemptions

CEE-MP MEng students seeking exemption from the APEGA Professional Development Series must complete the exemption form within one month of their start date.

[Exemption Request Form](#)

Eligible categories that will be approved:

- Having 4 or more years of experience working as a civil/enviro/mining/petroleum engineer in Canada (as of September 2026)
- Having Professional Engineer Status (PEng) in Alberta
- Being enrolled as a part-time student
- Currently working full time in a professional capacity as an engineer

For more details, including the schedule of offerings, please visit our [department website](#). If you have any questions, please email [bongaro@ualberta.ca](mailto:bongaro@ualberta.ca)

## 4.7 Degrees Offered

### Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

The PhD is a research-based degree with a minimum period of residence of 2 full-time academic terms at the

University of Alberta. The 2 terms need not be consecutive. Residency requirements provide students with exposure to university life and interaction with faculty members and other graduate students. Through coursework, seminar participation, teaching, faculty interaction and faculty-directed research, students learn to be independent researchers and scholars in an academic discipline.

The course requirements for the PhD vary by research discipline (see [Section 5](#)); however, all PhD students must complete a minimum of 10 courses beyond their bachelor's degree (3 of which must be during their current PhD program) in addition to INTD 720 and the Faculty of Engineering Professional Development requirements. All PhD candidates must prepare and defend a thesis of high calibre on an approved topic.

## PhD Candidacy Examination

A doctoral degree is awarded upon successful completion of a doctoral degree program, including passing a candidacy examination. The candidacy examination is an oral examination, in which students must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the examining committee that they possess: 1) an adequate knowledge of the discipline and of the subject matter relevant to the thesis; and 2) the ability to pursue and complete original research at an advanced level.

Normally, the candidacy exam occurs within 2 years of the beginning of the PhD program and not less than 6 months prior to the final examination. All program requirements, other than the thesis research, must be completed within 36 months of the commencement of a student's program.

The student should prepare a PhD proposal to present at the candidacy exam. The proposal should summarize the issues and ideas of the research and to present the approach to solve the problem. The proposal should not exceed 25 pages (1.5 line spacing), including all figures and references. Students should check the proposal requirements in the "Preparation of a PhD Candidacy Exam Proposal" document found at <https://civileng-uofa.ca/grad-program/courses-and-exams/>. The student should distribute the written proposal to all members of the examining committee no less than 2 weeks prior to the date of the examination.

5 weeks prior to the candidacy examination, the supervisor proposes a date for the examination and the composition of the examining committee, and then the Department notifies GPS.

After a successful examination, the Department notifies GPS. If not successful, the Department recommends the best course of action to GPS.

## PhD Final Oral Examination

Prior to setting examination dates, and before the thesis is sent to the external examiner, all supervisory committee members declare in writing to the supervisor that the thesis is adequate to proceed to the final oral examination by signing the *Preliminary Thesis Acceptance Form*.

3 months before the exam, the supervisor requests approval of an external examiner. The Department invites the external examiner.

A minimum of 5 weeks prior to the exam, the supervisor proposes a date for the examination and the remaining committee members, and they submit the thesis to the Graduate Office. The Department recommends the examining committee members to GPS, notifies examiners of the date, and supplies a copy of the thesis.

Shortly after the examination, the Department advises GPS of the examining committee's decision.

Within 6 months of examination, the student must submit their thesis for review and approval by GPS.

## Master of Science (MSc)

The MSc is a research-based master's degree with no residency requirement. All MSc students must complete a minimum of 6 courses (minimum of 18 credits; course requirements for the MSc vary by research discipline, see [Section 5](#)) in addition to INTD 710 and the Faculty of Engineering Professional Development requirements.

All MSc students must defend the thesis before a panel of 3 or more academic staff members, including the thesis supervisor(s).

The time required to complete the MSc program will vary according to the previous training of the student and the nature of the research undertaken. However, 2 years is normally the minimum time required, with a maximum of 4 years to complete the program (from the date of first registration).

### MSc Final Oral Examination

*A minimum of 5 weeks* prior to the exam, the supervisor proposes a date for the examination and the composition of the examining committee, and they submit the thesis to the Graduate Office. The Department recommends the examining committee members to GPS, notifies examiners of the date, and supplies a copy of the thesis.

Shortly after the examination, the Department advises GPS of the examining committee's decision.

Within 6 months of examination, the student must submit their thesis for review and approval by GPS.

## Master of Engineering (MEng)

The MEng is a non-thesis, course-based master's degree with no residency requirement. The MEng program can be completed in a minimum of twelve months with a maximum time of four years from the date of first registration.

An MEng requires the completion of a minimum of 8 graduate courses (minimum of 24 credits) and a directed research project (900 level), as well as INTD 710 and the Faculty of Engineering Professional Development requirements. The directed research project is equivalent to one three-credit course (approximately 160 hours of work).

MEng students must register in the appropriate Directed Research Project (900-level). *Please contact the Graduate Office to register.* Directed Research Project (900-level) is restricted to students in course-based Master's programs.

## Composition of Examining Committees

For all examination committees, at least half of the examiners must have a degree equivalent to or higher than the degree being examined. Brief guidelines are presented below, and detailed information can be found in [Section 8](#) of [GPS Graduate Program Manual](#).

### Master's Thesis Examination Committee

Where there is a supervisor only, the examining committee is the supervisor and 2 university examiners or 1 university examiner and 1 specialized knowledge examiner.

### Doctoral Candidacy Examination Committee

The examining committee consists of the supervisor, supervisory committee, and either 1 university examiner or 1 specialized knowledge examiner.

When deemed necessary by the supervisor, 1 additional university examiner or specialized knowledge examiner may be appointed to the examining committee. In such cases, the examining committee consists of the supervisor, supervisory committee and either 2 university examiners or 1 university examiner and 1 specialized knowledge examiner. The examining committee does not normally include an examiner from outside of the University of Alberta. However, when deemed necessary by the supervisor, an external examiner may be appointed to the committee. In this case, the external examiner replaces a university examiner or a specialized knowledge examiner.

### Doctoral Thesis Examination Committee

The examining committee consists of the supervisor, supervisory committee, one external examiner, and either 1 university examiner or 1 specialized knowledge examiner.

## 5. Course Requirements

The following sections outline the course requirements for each of the degree options and different discipline areas offered in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Students must maintain a GPA of at least 2.7 to remain in the MSc and MEng program, or 3.0 to remain in the PhD program.

### 5.1 Construction Engineering and Management

#### MEng

8 courses (minimum of 24 credits):

- At least 3 core courses from: CIV E 601, CIV E 602, CIV E 608, CIV E 610, CIV E 611, and CIV E 630.
- At least 3 elective courses from CIVE 603, CIVE 605, CIVE 606, CIVE 607, CIVE 709, CIVE 789-Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Career Development in the AEC Industry), including any non-selected courses from the six courses listed above.
- At most 2 elective courses: any 500-, 600- or 700-level Engineering or Science course, **as approved by the MEng Academic Advisor**.

Plus, a Capstone project (CIV E 900).

#### MSc

6 courses (minimum of 18 credits):

- At least 2 core courses from: CIV E 601, CIV E 602, CIV E 608, CIV E 610, CIV E 611, and CIV E 630.
- At least 3 elective courses from CIVE 603, CIVE 605, CIVE 606, CIVE 607, CIVE 709, CIVE 789-Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Career Development in the AEC Industry), including any non-selected courses from the six courses listed above.
- At most 1 elective course: any 500-, 600- or 700-level Engineering or Science course, as approved by the supervisor

Plus, a thesis.

#### PhD

10 courses beyond the bachelor's degree, with a minimum of 3 courses completed during the doctoral program at the University of Alberta:

For students with a master's degree related to Construction Engineering and Management,

- At least 3 courses from CIV E 601, CIV E 602, CIVE 603, CIVE 605, CIVE 606, CIVE 607, CIV E 608, CIV E 610, CIV E 611, and CIV E 630, CIVE 709, and CIVE 789-Entrepreneurship, Innovation, and Career Development in the AEC Industry).
- Electives, as approved by the supervisor and the supervisory committee

For students without a master's degree related to Construction Engineering and Management,

- At least 3 core courses from: CIV E 601, CIV E 602, CIV E 608, CIV E 610, CIV E 611, and CIV E 630.
- Electives, as approved by the supervisor and the supervisory committee

Plus, a thesis.

## 5.2 Environmental Engineering

### MEng

8 courses (minimum of 24 credits):

- 4 courses from CIV E 620, CIV E 622, CIV E 624, CIV E 628 or CIV E 657
- 1 elective course from CIVE 524, CIVE 525, CIVE 526, CIVE 623, CIVE 652, CIVE 728, CIVE 729.
- 3 elective courses: any 500-, 600- or 700-level Engineering or Science courses, within Environmental Engineering and Science or related field, **as approved by the MEng Academic Advisor**

Plus, a Capstone project (CIV E 900 Directed Research).

### MSc

6 courses (minimum of 18 credits):

- 3 courses from CIV E 620, CIV E 622, CIV E 624, CIV E 628 or CIV E 657
- 3 elective courses: any 500-, 600- or 700-level Engineering or Science courses, within Environmental Engineering and Science or related field, approved by the supervisor

Plus, a thesis.

### PhD

10 courses beyond the bachelor's degree, with a minimum of 3 courses completed during the doctoral program at the University of Alberta:

- 3 courses from: CIV E 620, CIV E 622, CIV E 624, CIV E 628 or CIV E 657
- Electives: any 500-, 600- or 700- level Engineering or Science course, within Environmental Engineering and Science or related field, approved by the supervisor and the supervisory committee

Plus, a thesis.

## 5.3 Geoenvironmental Engineering

### MEng

8 courses (minimum of 24 credits):

- 3 core courses: CIV E 680, CIV E 682, and CIV E 695
- 3 elective courses related to discipline area from: CIV E 681, CIV E 683, CIV E 684, CIV E 697, CIV E 690, CIV E 799
- 2 elective courses: any 500-, 600-, 700-level Engineering or Science course, **as approved by the MEng Academic Advisor**

Plus, a Capstone project (CIV E 900 Directed Research).

### MSc

6 courses (minimum of 18 credits):

- 3 core courses: CIV E 680, CIV E 682, and CIV E 695
- 2 elective courses related to discipline area from CIV E 681, CIV E 683, CIV E 684, CIV E 690, CIV E 697, CIV E 799, approved by the supervisor
- 1 elective course: any 500-, 600-, or 700-level Engineering or Science course approved by the supervisor

Plus, a thesis.

### PhD

10 courses beyond the bachelor's degree, with a minimum of 3 courses completed during the doctoral program at the University of Alberta:

- 3 core courses: CIV E 680, CIV E 682, and CIV E 695
- Electives, as approved by the supervisor and the supervisory committee

Plus, a thesis.

## 5.4 Geotechnical Engineering

### MEng

8 courses (minimum of 24 credits):

- 3 core courses: CIV E 680, CIV E 690, and CIV E 695
- 3 elective courses related to discipline area from, CIV E 664, CIV E 681, CIV E 682, CIV E 683, CIV E 684, CIV E 685, CIV E 697, CIV E 698, or any CIV E 799 offered by geotechnical engineering.
- 2 elective courses: any 500-, 600-, or 700-level Engineering or Science course, **as approved by the MEng Academic Advisor**

Plus, a Capstone project (CIV E 900 Directed Research).

### MSc

6 courses (minimum of 18 credits):

- 3 core courses: CIV E 680, CIV E 690\*, and CIV E 695
- 2 elective courses related to discipline area from, CIV E 664, CIV E 681, CIV E 682, CIV E 683, CIV E 684, CIV E 685, CIV E 697, CIV E 698, CIV E 799 (Rock Engineering), or any CIV E 799 offered by geotechnical engineering, as approved by the supervisor
- 1 elective course: any 500-, 600-, or 700-level Engineering or Science course approved by the supervisor

Plus, a thesis.

\*Students in the Subsurface Energy Geomechanics (SEG) research area with no civil engineering background can take CIVE481 instead of CIVE 690

### PhD

10 courses beyond the bachelor's degree, with a minimum of 3 courses completed during the doctoral program at the University of Alberta:

- 3 core courses: CIV E 680, CIV E 690\*, and CIV E 695
- Electives, as approved by the supervisor and the supervisory committee

Plus, a thesis.

\*Students in the Subsurface Energy Geomechanics (SEG) research area with no civil engineering background can take CIVE481 instead of CIVE 690

## 5.5 Mining Engineering

### MEng

8 courses (minimum of 24 credits):

- 3 Core courses from the following list: MIN E 610, MIN E 612, MIN E 620, MIN E 631, MIN E 641, MIN E 651, and MIN E 661.
- 2 courses selected from the remaining courses in the core-course list, MIN E 650, and CIV E 680 (Engineering Properties of Soils)
- 2 elective courses related to the discipline area: any 500-, 600-, or 700-level Engineering or Science course, as approved by the MEng Academic Advisor
- 1 elective course: any 500-, 600-, or 700-level Engineering or Science course, as approved by the MEng Academic Advisor

Plus, a Capstone project (MIN E 900 Directed Research).

### MSc

6 courses (minimum of 18 credits):

- 1 core course: MIN E 610
- 2 courses: 600-level MIN E courses approved by the supervisor
- 3 elective courses: any 500-, 600-, or 700-level course approved by the supervisor

Plus, a thesis.

### PhD

10 courses beyond the bachelor's degree, with a minimum of 3 courses completed during the doctoral program at the University of Alberta:

- 1 core course: MIN E 610
- 2 courses: 600-level MIN E courses approved by the supervisor and the supervisory committee
- Electives, as approved by the supervisor and the supervisory committee

Plus, a thesis.

## 5.6 Petroleum Engineering

### MEng

8 courses (minimum of 24 credits):

- 4 core courses: PET E 630, PET E 631, PET E 664, and either PET E 636 or PET E 649
- 4 elective courses: a 500-, 600- or 700-level, Science or Engineering course (one of which must be a PET E course), **as approved by the MEng Academic Advisor**

Plus, a Capstone project (PET E 900 Directed Research).

### MSc

6 courses (minimum of 18 credits):

- 3 core courses from: PET E 630, PET E 631, PET E 664, PET E 636, or PET E 649.
- 3 elective courses: any 500-, 600-, or 700-level Engineering or Science course (one of which must be a PET E course) approved by the supervisor.

Plus, a thesis.

### PhD

10 courses beyond the bachelor's degree, with a minimum of 3 600-level courses completed during the doctoral program at the University of Alberta:

- The 10 courses beyond the bachelor's degree must be 500/600-level, and a maximum of two 500-level can be counted
- At least 5 courses must be 500/600-level PET E courses offered at the U of A or equivalent
- Electives, as approved by the supervisor and the supervisory committee

Plus, a thesis.

## 5.7 Structural Engineering

| List 1 – Analysis-focused Courses*         | List 2 – Design-focused Courses* |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| CIV E 660                                  | CIV E 662                        |
| CIV E 661                                  | CIV E 670                        |
| CIV E 664                                  | CIV E 672                        |
| CIV E 665                                  | CIV E 676                        |
| CIV E 659                                  | CIV E 674                        |
| CIV E 668                                  | CIV E 678                        |
| CIV E 779 – Machine Learning for Engineers |                                  |
| CIV E 779 – Structural Reliability         |                                  |

### MEng

8 courses (minimum of 24 credits):

- **3 core courses**, including **at least one from each of List 1 (Analysis) and List 2 (Design)**
- **No exemption** from core course requirements
- **3 electives**, selected from:
  - Courses in **List 1, List 2**, and/or
  - **Electives** (including CIV E 779 offerings) offered by the **Structures Group**
- 2 electives may be taken outside the Structures discipline (e.g., CIV E 789 or similar)

Capstone Project (CIV E 900) is encouraged, or Directed Research (with advisor approval).

### MSc

6 courses (minimum of 18 credits):

- **3 core courses**, including **at least one from each of List 1 (Analysis) and List 2 (Design)**
- **No exemption** from core course requirements
- 3 electives: Any 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses in Engineering or Science **approved by the supervisor**

Plus, a thesis.

### PhD

10 courses beyond the bachelor's degree, with a minimum of 3 courses completed during the doctoral program at the University of Alberta:

- **3 core courses**, with **at least one from each of List 1 (Analysis) and List 2 (Design)**

- **No exemption** from core course requirements
- Electives, as **approved by the supervisor and supervisory committee**

Plus, a thesis.

## 5.8 Transportation Engineering

### MEng

8 courses (minimum of 24 credits):

- 3 core courses from CIV E 612, CIV E 613, CIV E 614, and CIV E 616
- 3 elective courses related to discipline area, from CIVE 615 (Traffic Flow and Network Modeling), CIV E 617 (Highway Geometric Design), CIV E 618 (Pavement Materials and Design), CIV E 719 (any offering), CIV E 779 (Machine Learning), CIV E 779 (Future Infrastructure Systems). One of the following three can also be taken: CIV E 619 (GIS in Transportation), PLAN 570, or HGEO 570
- 1 elective course related to the discipline area: any 500-, 600-, or 700-level Engineering or Science course, **as approved by the MEng Academic Advisor**
- 1 elective course: any 500-, 600-, or 700-level Engineering or Science course, **as approved by the MEng Academic Advisor**

Plus, a Capstone project (CIV E 900 Directed Research).

### MSc

6 courses (minimum of 18 credits):

- 3 core courses from CIV E 612, CIV E 613, CIV E 614, and CIV E 616
- 2 elective courses related to discipline area, such as CIVE 615 (Traffic Flow and Network Modeling), CIV E 617 (Highway Geometric Design), CIV E 619 (GIS in Transportation), CIV E 719 (Resilient Transportation), CIV E 618 (Pavement), CIV E 779 (Machine Learning), CIV E 779 (Future Infrastructure Systems), as approved by the supervisor
- 1 elective course: any 500-, 600-, or 700-level Engineering or Science course, as approved by the supervisor

Plus, a thesis.

### PhD

10 courses beyond the bachelor's degree, with a minimum of 3 courses completed during the doctoral program at the University of Alberta:

- 3 core courses from CIV E 612, CIV E 613, CIV E 614, and CIV E 616
- Electives, as approved by the supervisor and the supervisory committee

Plus, a thesis.

## 5.9 Water Resources Engineering

### MEng

8 courses (minimum of 24 credits):

- 5 core courses from: CIV E 631, CIV E 635, CIV E 636, CIV E 641, CIV E 645, or CIV E739.
- 3 elective courses: any 500-, 600- or 700-level, Engineering or Science courses, **as approved by the MEng Academic Advisor.**

Plus, a Capstone project (CIV E 900 Directed Research).

### MSc

6 courses (minimum of 18 credits):

- 4 core courses from: CIV E 631, CIV E 635, CIV E 636, CIV E 641, CIV E 645, or CIV E739.
- 2 elective courses: any 500-, 600- or 700-level, Engineering or Science courses approved by the supervisor.

Plus, a thesis.

### PhD

10 courses beyond the bachelor's degree, with a minimum of 3 courses completed during the doctoral program at the University of Alberta:

- 4 core courses from: CIV E 631, CIV E 635, CIV E 636, CIV E 641, CIV E 645, or CIV E739.
- Electives, as approved by the supervisor or the supervisory committee

Plus, a thesis.

## 5.10 Cross-Disciplinary Study (General) with a Degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering

### MSc

6 courses (minimum of 18 credits):

- 4 courses: 600- or 700-level CIV E, MIN E, or PET E courses, as approved by Associate Dean—Graduate Students of the Department and the supervisor.
- 2 elective courses: 500-, 600- or 700-level Engineering or Science courses approved by the supervisor

Plus, a thesis.

### PhD

10 courses beyond the bachelor's degree, with a minimum of 3 CIV E, MIN E, or PET E courses completed during the doctoral program at the University of Alberta:

- Courses, as approved by the Associate Dean—Graduate Students of the Department, supervisor, and the supervisory committee.

Plus, a thesis.

## 6. Course Exemption

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Graduate students can request exemptions for *no more than two courses* taken at another institution or in another program.

In seeking a course exemption, the student must present detailed course material to the CEE course instructor (not his/her supervisor and not the Graduate Coordinator). The CEE instructor will review the course material from the other institution/program in detail and make sure that the student has learned the material that is covered in the required CEE graduate course.

Note that the student must have obtained a minimum grade of B (or equivalent) or higher in the course(s) from another university/program.

The process is as follows:

1. The student identifies the appropriate course in the Department and provides all the course material from another university/program to the CEE course instructor.
2. The course material must include
  - a. The transcript showing the course title, description, grade, and year taken.
  - b. The official course outline as provided by the institution or instructor of the course.
  - c. If needed, the CEE instructor may request additional course material from the other institution/program, such as notes, assignments, exams, etc.
3. The CEE instructor will decide if the material presented by the student covers the majority (i.e., more than 80%) of the equivalent CEE course.
4. If the CEE instructor is satisfied with the course(s) completed in another university/program, and if the student is not required to take the course, the instructor will send an email outlining the reasons for granting the exemption to the Group Graduate Coordinator.
5. The Group Graduate Coordinator will review the recommendation from the instructor and send an email to the Graduate Program office, advising of the outcome.
6. Final approval will be made by the Associate Dean—Graduate Studies of the Department.

### Important notes

If a student is granted exemption to a required course, it does not mean that they will be given credit for the course. The course will not appear on the student's transcript. The only time a course appears on the transcript is a course completed at the University of Alberta or under an official exchange agreement, such as the Western Dean's Agreement.

MSc and MEng students must complete a minimum of 6 and 8 courses, respectively, regardless of the number of courses being exempted. If a core course is exempted, the student must take another approved graduate course to meet the minimum course requirement.