Get to know
GEOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

This program applies principles and techniques of the earth sciences to solve engineering challenges such as extracting mineral and energy resources, preventing soil and water contamination, managing natural hazards, and building infrastructure with, or within, earth materials. You will study physics, chemistry, applied mathematics and natural processes such as earthquakes, volcanoes, continental drift and mountain formation. You will also acquire field skills and training in state-of-the-art geological investigation and engineering analysis tools.

Degree OPTIONS

Bachelor of Science in Engineering
Bachelor of Science in Engineering with Professional Internship

Specializations in Geotechnical, Geoenvironmental, Resource Engineering, and Applied Geophysics

“Geological Engineering is the practical application of principles, concepts and techniques of the geological sciences to provide sustainable engineered solutions to human needs. The Earth is your classroom.”

Queen’s ADMISSIONS

Students apply to Queen’s Engineering (QE) through the OUAC (Ontario University Application Centre) website. Secondary School prerequisites include six 4U and 4M courses, one of which must be English 4U. Calculus and Vectors 4U, Chemistry 4U, and Physics 4U are all required along with one of Advanced Functions 4U, Biology 4U, Data Management 4U, Computer Science 4U, Earth and Space Science 4U. A final grade of 70% must be obtained in English 4U. Applicants outside of Ontario may have additional requirements.

A Common START

Queen’s is unique in offering a common First Year along with an open discipline choice. When you do choose your program, you don’t have to worry about caps or quotas. Provided you pass all of your First Year courses, you are guaranteed a place in your engineering program of choice. Queen’s also offers J-Section, a special extended program for students struggling with First Year courses. Take things at a slower pace and recover in time for Second Year.

Course HIGHLIGHTS

Geological Engineering students have the opportunity to take a wide range of technical courses to help prepare them for the many possible career destinations available. Such courses include:

• Engineering Geology
• Geological Engineering Field School
• History of Life and Earth Dynamics
• Resource Geoscience and Engineering
• Geotechnical (Rock & Soil) Engineering
• Hydrogeology and Groundwater
• Pure and Applied Geophysics
• Exploration and Environmental Geochemistry
## 1ST YEAR

**GET THE COURSES YOU NEED**
- Queen’s Engineering first year is common – courses include: Physics, Chemistry, Calculus, Algebra, Graphics, Computing and Earth Systems Engineering. Also APSC100, the entry level course in our Engineering Design and Practice Sequence (EDPS), focusing on problem solving, experimentation principles and finishing off with a team-based engineering project.
- Discipline selection will take place in February!

**GET RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**
- Join teams or clubs on campus such as the Environmental Sustainability Team (QUEST) and the Queen’s Projects International Development.
- Apply to first year positions such as First Year Project Coordinators (FYPCOs).
- See the AMS Clubs Directory or the Queen’s Get Involved page for more ideas.

**GET CONNECTED WITH THE COMMUNITY**
- Get involved with the Engineering Society (ENGSOC).
- Volunteer on or off campus with different community organizations, such as the EngWeek Committee or the ENGSOCC Committee on Inclusivity.

**GET THINKING GLOBALLY**
- The Queen’s University International Centre is your first stop to learn how to internationalize your degree or to leverage your existing cross-cultural experience.
- Speak to a QUIC advisor or get involved in their programs, events and training opportunities.

**GET READY FOR LIFE AFTER GRADUATION**
- Grappling with program decisions? Go to the Orientation Evenings held by different Engineering departments and attend the various Career Fairs during the year.
- Get some help deciding by visiting Career Services.

## 2ND YEAR

**COURSES**
- You will also take the second EDPS course – APSC200.

**GET THE EXPERIENCE**
- Following 2nd year in the spring, you will take a Geological Engineering Field School course.

## 3RD YEAR

**COURSES**
- In addition to 3 Complementary Studies courses, you will also take 5 Technical Electives in 3rd and 4th year to specialize or diversify in Geological Engineering.

**GET THE EXPERIENCE**
- Stay during the summer as an assistant to a faculty member or apply for external research opportunities.
- Apply for NSERC USRA positions in the department of physics.
- Consider applying to do a 12-16 month QUIP internship between your third and fourth year.

## 4TH OR FINAL YEAR

**COURSES**
- Courses include: History of Life, Geomechanics & Rock Engineering, as well as your 4th year Design Project courses. You will also take a Geological Engineering Field School course prior to the Fall term.

**GET THE EXPERIENCE**
- Investigate requirements for full-time jobs or other opportunities related to careers of interest.
- Assess what experience you’re lacking and fill in gaps through extracurriculars. Consider entrepreneurial opportunities related to careers of interest.
- Choose any remaining Technical Electives and Complementary Studies courses, and you are set to graduate!

**WHERE COULD I GO AFTER GRADUATION?**
- Architecture
- Business administration
- Climatology & meteorology
- Coastal and river engineering
- Community relations for the extractive industries
- Contaminant remediation
- Construction
- Environmental conservation and management
- Environmental engineering
- Excavation design
- Forestry
- Geological engineering
- Geology
- Geomatics, surveying, and cartography
- Geomorphology
- Geophysics
- International development
- Law (environmental and/or regulations)
- Mining industry
- Natural hazard mitigation
- Oceanography
- Oil and gas exploration and extraction
- Paleontology
- Renewable energy
- Toxicology
- Tunneling
- Waste management
- Water resources

*Some careers may require additional training.

Visit careers.queensu.ca/majormap for the online version with links!
What can I learn studying GEOLOGICAL ENGINEERING?

- Knowledge of principles and techniques of the earth sciences
- Practical applications of geological science techniques to engineering design
- Understanding of the variability of earth materials and their changes with time
- Ability to think spatially and analyze in 4 dimensions
- Fieldwork skills – design and carry out site investigations to solve problems
- Technical skills – use up-to-date geological analysis tools, equipment and software
- Research skills – conduct scientific research and analyze quantitative information, develop multiple working hypotheses
- Management and leadership skills - confidence and independence in new situations, group work strategies, time and resource management
- Oral and written communication

What employers want

The Canadian Council of Chief Executives list the top 6 skills sought by employers as:
1. People skills
2. Communication skills
3. Problem-solving skills
4. Analytical abilities
5. Leadership skills
6. Industry-specific knowledge

Take the time to think about the unique skills you have developed at Queen’s, starting with the skills list here for ideas. Explaining your strengths with compelling examples will be important for applications to employers and further education. For help, check out the Career Services skills workshop.

Get the help you need

Queen’s provides you with a broad range of support services from your first point of contact with the university through to graduation. At Queen’s, you are never alone. We have many offices dedicated to helping you learn, think and do.

Ranging from help with academics and careers, to physical, emotional, or spiritual resources – our welcoming living and learning environment offers the programs and services you need to be successful, both academically and personally, and Queen’s wants you to succeed! Check out the Student Affairs website for available resources.