

Civil Engineering M.A.Sc. Map

Navigating Graduate Studies and Beyond

GRAD MAP FOR M.A.SC. STUDENTS 

How do I **USE THIS MAP?**

Whether you are considering or have embarked on graduate studies at Queen's, use this map to plan for success in five overlapping areas of your career and academic life. The map helps you explore possibilities, set goals and track your individual accomplishments. Everyone's journey is different – the guide offers options for finding your way at Queen's and setting the foundation for your future. To make your own customized map, use the online [My Grad Map](#) tool.

Why **GRADUATE STUDIES** in **CIVIL ENGINEERING?**

As a Master's student in the field of Civil Engineering, you can play a vital role in future developments in such areas as rock mechanics, design of foundations, water quality, sediment transportation, pipeline flow, construction and rehabilitation of structures, and many other areas. Civil Engineering has a wide range of applications that contribute to modern life and its infrastructure.

Graduate students and their work are an important part of an ongoing research process that provides the community with ways of understanding natural, cultural, imaginative, social and technological phenomena. Check out whygradstudies.ca for more reasons to choose graduate studies in engineering.

Why **QUEEN'S?**

The Civil Engineering Department's objective is to provide a broadly-based education in civil engineering which is intrinsically supported by world-class research in the areas of Structural, Geotechnical, Hydrotechnical, and Environmental Engineering.

As a Master's student in Civil Engineering at Queen's you are part of one of the most research intensive universities in Canada. Our research program is internationally renowned with a wide range of research activities in all of the major specialization areas of Civil Engineering.



The Queen's graduate programs in Civil Engineering are home to some of the finest minds in the fields of civil and environmental engineering. Students have the chance to study engineering in an environment where multidisciplinary research and activities are encouraged and facilitated. Research activity in the Department is generally classified under two fields: Civil Engineering Environment and Civil Engineering Infrastructure.

Our students come from all over the world. At Queen's, graduate students from all disciplines learn and discover in a close-knit intellectual community. You will find friends, peers and support among the graduate students enrolled in Queen's more than 130 graduate programs within 50+ departments & research centres. With the world's best scholars, prize-winning professional development opportunities, excellent funding packages and life in the affordable, historic waterfront city of Kingston, Queen's offers a wonderful environment for graduate studies.

Why **KINGSTON?**

Described by students as both "quaint" and "eclectic," Kingston is big enough to provide all the conveniences of modern life, and small enough for students, staff, and faculty to feel instantly comfortable and at home.

Queen's is an integral part of the Kingston community, with the campus nestled in the core of the city, only a 10-minute walk to downtown with its shopping, dining and waterfront. For more about Kingston's history and culture, see Queen's University's [Discover Kingston](#) page.

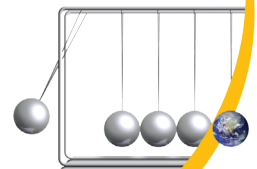
Program **STRUCTURE**

MASc (2 years): 4 graduate term length courses, research, and a thesis.

RESEARCH Areas

- Geotechnical Engineering
- Environmental Engineering
- Hydrotechnical Engineering
- Structural Engineering

School of
Graduate
Studies
Create an impact
www.queensu.ca/sgs



Civil Engineering M.A.Sc. MAP

MASTER OF APPLIED SCIENCE (M.A.Sc.)

Queen's
175
YEARS

GETTING STARTED

INTERMEDIATE STAGE

WRAPPING UP

ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS

- Start with key priorities like developing your relationship with your supervisor, and completing your coursework.
- Consider how your course papers can contribute to your MASc research thesis.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and [Expanding Horizons](#) professional development workshops, the department Grad Chair and the [SGS Habitat](#).

MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT

- Start to think about the audiences for your research.
- If you will be continuing graduate studies, apply for NSERC and OGS funding.

BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Consider positions in student services, the [SGPS](#), or media outlets like the [Queen's Journal](#), [CFRC](#), [QTV](#) and the [SGS Blog](#). Look in the [AMS Clubs Directory](#) for more ideas.
- Serve on departmental or university committees. Talk to the Graduate Student President for tips on getting involved.
- Check out professional development workshops from [Expanding Horizons](#) and the Chemical Engineering Department.

ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

- Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus.
- Consider volunteering with different community organizations.

LAUNCH YOUR CAREER

- Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking the [Career Services Career Planning workshop](#) or meeting with a career counsellor. Check out books like *So What Are You Going to do With That?* for advice on various career options.
- Start reading publications like [University Affairs](#) and the [Chronicle of Higher Education](#). Browse non-academic labour market websites. Stay on the lookout for special events like Graduate Student [Career Week](#) to explore your career pathways.
- Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.

- Complete your coursework; begin to research and write your thesis.
- Complete the module mandatory course(s) in laboratory safety (CIVL 801).
- Learn about academic integrity at Queen's.

- Attend or present at a graduate conference which your supervisor can advise as to which conference would be best for you.
- Consider participating in the [3 Minute Thesis \(3MT\)](#) competition.
- Expand your research audience through social media such as Twitter or a blog.

- Start keeping an eportfolio of your skills, experiences and competencies.
- Use a Teaching Assistant position to develop your research or teaching skills.
- For help with teaching, get support from the [Centre for Teaching and Learning](#). Enroll in [SGS901](#) or the [PUTL certificate](#) for more professional development in teaching and learning.

- Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organizing conferences, and research groups like [Material Matters](#).
- Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking QUIC's [Intercultural Competency Certificate](#).
- If you are an international student interested in staying in Canada, consider speaking with an [International Student Advisor](#).

- Explore different careers of interest by reading [alumni profiles](#) on the SGS website, and using [QueensConnects](#) on LinkedIn to connect with Queen's alumni, or find alumni in various careers through "[Ask an Alum](#)".
- Check out the free online modules at [MyGradSkills](#) to help you plan your career.
- If you are considering a PhD, explore programs of interest reach out to faculty, and apply to PhD programs and external scholarships.

- Present your research to Civil Engineering graduate students and faculty and/or attend a conference to present.
- Complete and defend your Master's research thesis and obtain your final grade in CIVL 801.

- Consider publication options for your research.
- Attend a major conference in your field, at which former graduate students from Civil Engineering have done exceptionally well. See your supervisor for more guidance.

- Practice articulating the skills you have been developing in settings outside the university, such as casual conversation, networking, and interviews. Get help with the [Skills and Experience workshop](#).
- Check out opportunities for extra training through CTL, Expanding Horizons, Mitacs, or other sources to boost your skills.
- Investigate internships from [Mitacs](#) and [other sources](#).

- Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through [QueensConnects](#) on LinkedIn, the [Queen's Alumni Association](#), professional associations, and at conferences. Check out Career Services' [networking workshops](#).
- Consider joining professional societies like the [Canadian Society for Civil Engineers](#).

- Participate in hiring committees and attend job talks. Start focusing on areas of interest. Research organizations of interest and start putting together your CV or resume for potential positions of interest. Get help from Career Services with [job searching](#), [resumes](#), or [interviews](#).

EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS

Knowledge and technical skills in area of specialization

Communication: effective and clear in written, oral and multimedia forms, for diverse audiences

Information management: prioritize, organize and synthesize large amounts of information

Time management: meet deadlines and responsibilities despite competing demands

Project management: develop ideas, gather information, analyze, critically appraise findings, draw and act on conclusions

Creativity and innovation to address complex, multifaceted challenges

Perseverance to work through challenges to achieve desired outcome

Independence and experience as a **collaborative** worker

Awareness and understanding of sound **ethical** practices, **social responsibility**, responsible research and **cultural sensitivity**

Professionalism in all aspects of work, research, and interactions

Leadership: initiative and vision leading people and discussions

M.A.Sc. Map FAQs

What do I need to know to apply?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- 4-year Bachelor's degree in Engineering or a cognate science.
- **Grade requirements:** minimum B (70%+) average over the four years of undergraduate study. Grades in specific courses in the final two years are also considered.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet the **TOEFL requirements** in writing, speaking, reading, and listening.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES

- **Application deadline:** March 1 to qualify for internal funding.
- **Notification of acceptance:** 2-3 months after the full application has been received.

Before you start your application, please review the [Graduate studies application process](#).

How do I find a supervisor?

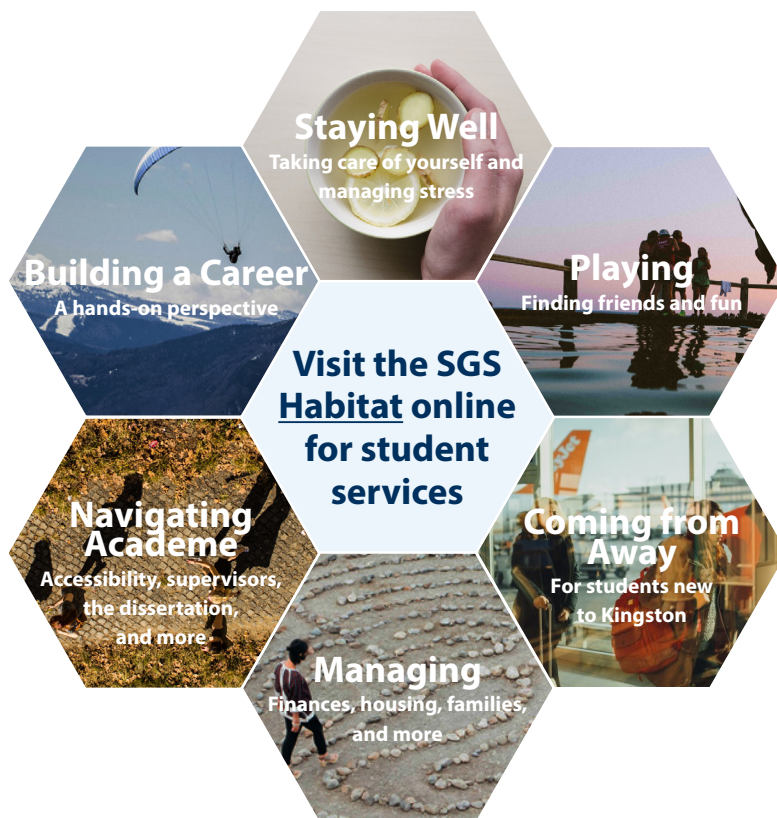
We encourage you to identify an area of research interest and contact a potential supervisor before applying.

Visit the Civil Engineering website to read about [research areas](#) and learn more about faculty members' research specialization. When you find a faculty member with similar research interests to yours, contact him/her and tell them about your interest in graduate work and related experience.

What about funding?

The basic funding package for Civil Engineering Master's students may include teaching or research assistantships and graduate awards. The funding package is something to be discussed between yourself and your supervisor before accepting the offer.

Apply for external funding from OGS, NSERC and other sources. Queen's will automatically issue a \$5,000 top-up to Masters winners of federal government tri-council awards. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies' information on [awards and scholarships](#).

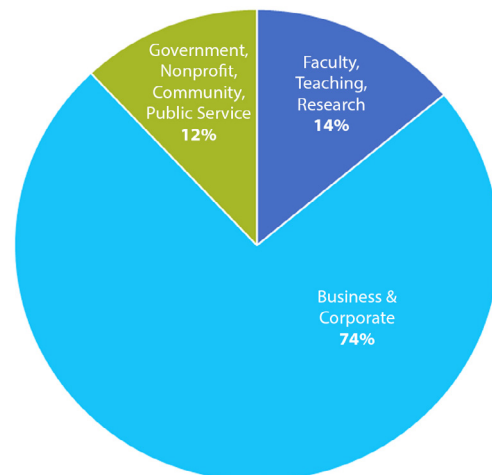


Where Can a Graduate Degree Take Me?

A Master's degree in Civil Engineering can take your career in many directions. Many of our M.A.Sc. students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master's students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

- Academia and Research
- Consulting
- Public sector
- Manufacturing
- Policy and Governance
- Civil Engineering in the public domain
- Law

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.



M.A.Sc. Career Outcomes in Engineering

Council of Graduate Schools and Educational Testing Service. (2012). Pathways Through Graduate School and Into Careers. Princeton, NJ: Educational Testing Service.



DEPARTMENT OF
CIVIL
ENGINEERING

Department of Civil Engineering
613.533.6000 ext. 74228
civil.graduateinfo@queensu.ca
www.civil.queensu.ca/graduate-studies