



The OPTIONS Program - Fall 2020 PhD and Post-doctoral Fellow Schedule

Tuesday September 29 – December 1 | 2 – 4 pm EST

Date and Time	Topic	Description	Instructor	Optional Activities
Tues Sept 29 2 – 4 pm	You as a Professional I: Labour Market and Transferable Skills	Identify sectors that employ engineering graduates, and the skills and attributes employers seek from the workforce.	Jason Anderson, Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering	
Tues Oct 6 2 – 4 pm	You as a Professional II: Self-awareness	Take a self-assessment to discover how to leverage your talents to transform from an individual, technical expert to a collaborative engineering leader.	Emily Moore, Director, Troost Institute for Leadership Education in Engineering (Troost ILead)	
Tues Oct 13 2 – 4 pm	Career Exploration Plan I	Reflect on your experiences and stories in an organized way to clarify your strengths, desires, interests, personal qualities, and influences using a career management tool. Create a career statement with professional vocabulary.	Teresa Didiano, Graduate Professional Development Coordinator, Troost ILead	
Tues Oct 20 2 – 4 pm	Career Exploration Plan II	Debrief the career management tool. Transform your ‘career statement’ into an actionable Career Exploration Plan for 3+ career possibilities.	Mark Franklin, Practice Leader, CareerCycles.com & Instructor, Engineering Careers (TEP1030)	One-on-one with a Career Coach
Tues Oct 27 2 – 4 pm	Networking I: Personal Value Proposition for Online Networking	Develop a personal value proposition that communicates the unique value you bring to the workplace. Practice the fundamentals of online networking etiquette by discovering online tools to connect to engineering professionals.	Albert Huynh, , Leadership Education Specialist, Troost ILead	
Tues Nov 3 2 – 4 pm	Networking II: Informational Interviews	Learn how to conduct informational interviews that allow you to explore career options and cultivate meaningful relationships with industry leaders. Conduct a mock interview with a U of T Engineering alumni.	Anny Fong, Lecturer, Rotman School of Management	
Week of Nov 9 (Complete on your own time)	Job Search Strategies I: Resume and Cover Letter	Watch a short video on strategies to design an employment-oriented resume and cover letter that showcases your engineering experiences. Submit your resume and cover letter, and have a one-on-one with the instructor for personalized feedback.	Anny Fong	One-on-one resume and cover letter review with instructor
Tues Nov 17 2 – 4 pm	You as a Professional III: Workplace Culture	Discover different workplace cultures and how these cultures might match your desires and strengths to better shape your job search.	Jordan Daniow, Leadership Education Specialist, Troost ILead	
Tues Nov 24 2 – 4 pm	Job Search Strategies II: Interviewing	Learn about types of interview questions and how best to answer them. Participate in mock interviews.	Teresa Didiano	Interview Preparation Toolkit
Tues Dec 1 2 – 4 pm	Design Your Next Steps	Reflect on and synthesize your personal learning. Take inventory of your Career Exploration Plan and set goals for next steps.	Jason Anderson	One-on-one with an engineering professor