

The OPTIONS Program – PhD and Postdoctoral Fellow Cohort – Fall 2021

Tuesday September 28 to November 30 (exclusive of November 9) | 2 – 4 pm ET

Date	Topic	Description	Instructor
Sept 28	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
Oct 5	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
Oct 12	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 Institute for Leadership Education in Engineering
Oct 19	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)
Oct 26	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 with engineering professionals.	Albert Huynh, Leadership Education and Curriculum Coordinator, Troost Institute for Leadership Education in Engineering
Nov 2	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.	Lydia Wilkinson, Assistant Professor, Engineering Communication Program
	Job Search Strategies I: Resume and Cover Letter	Apply strategies to showcase your engineering PhD and post-doc experiences in an employment-oriented resume and cover letter.	Lydia Wilkinson
Nov 16	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.	Emily Moore
Nov 23	Job Search Strategies II: Interviewing	Learn about types of interview questions and how best to answer them. Participate in mock interviews.	Teresa Didiano
Nov 30	Reflect, Synthesize, and Next Steps	Reflect on and synthesize your personal learning from the past nine weeks. Take inventory of your Career Exploration Plan and set goals for next steps.	Jason Anderson