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Grad School 101

Imagine Day 2010 Seminar

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A Strong Research Program

- One of the most active research programs in Canada
 - Home to seven Research Chairs, and every research faculty member holds at least one NSERC grant
- We are a world-class university
 - UBC ranked in the Top 40 internationally (Shanghai Jiao Tong University Institute of Higher Education)
- Four major research areas:
 - Biomedical, Design & Applied Mechanics, Mechatronics & Manufacturing, and Thermofluids


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Why Go To Graduate School?

- Graduate school provides a deeper challenge than any of you will face as a undergraduate
- It gives you a chance to work with an expert mentor to become the BEST in the world at some aspects of engineering research

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A Range of Degree Options




Degree Options to suit your needs...

- M.Eng.** – 1 year project-based professional program
- M.A.Sc.** - 2 year thesis and research-based program
- Ph.D.** – 4-5 year advanced thesis and research program



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Biomedical Engineering Research Group




Current Projects:

- MEMS drug delivery devices
- Safe vehicle seat design
- Medical robotics & computer-assisted surgery
- Biomedical sensing
- Cerebrospinal fluid pressure sensor
- Biomechanics:
 - Injury prevention & treatment
 - Medical device development
- 3D ultrasound

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Design and Applied Mechanics Research Group




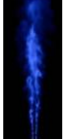


Current Projects:

- Mechanics of nano-composites
- Vehicle occupant dynamics
- Measuring residual stresses
- Development of high-speed scanner for lumber inspection
- Fatigue of Memory Shape Alloys
- Crack detection and propagation in rotating components



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 <h2>Mechatronics and Manufacturing Research Group</h2> <p>Current Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual machining, milling, drilling, and turning • MEMS optical scanner • Vision guided robots, industrial robots • Human-Robot interaction • High performance machine tools • Electromechanics   						

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 <h2>Thermofluids Research Group</h2> <p>Current Projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computational fluid mechanics for biomechanics, engines, aerospace and industrial applications • Aerosols, sprays and fibers: healthy buildings, industry and the environment • Advanced power systems: natural gas engines and fuel cells • Active noise control and acoustics in green buildings • Energy conservation   						

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<h2>Competitive Tuition and Funding</h2> <p>Funding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department is committed to providing funding opportunities to every accepted M.A.Sc. and Ph.D. student • Very competitive tuition rates; International students are granted partial tuition waivers that lower rates to those of domestic students • Scholarships available for outstanding students • Domestic Tuition Fees for 2010/2011: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M.A.Sc. = approx. \$4180 • M.Eng = approx. \$5080 • Ph.D. = approx. \$4180 (min. 2 years) • For more information on tuition and fees, visit http://mech.ubc.ca/graduate-students/tuition-fees-cost-living/ 						

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<h2>MECH: Scholarships and Top-Ups</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four Year Doctoral Fellowship (4YF) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Up to \$16,000 + Tuition • Gartshore Graduate Entrance Fellowship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Up to \$17,500 for M.A.Sc Students – Up to \$21,000 for Ph.D Students • Graduate Entrance Scholarship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – \$5,000 one-time entrance scholarship • Merit Award <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – \$2,000 one-time entrance scholarship 						

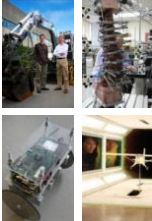
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<h2>NSERC Scholarships</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offers both Graduate and Undergraduate opportunities • Must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant; minimum GPA requirements, etc. • Details and forms at www.nserc.ca    						

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<h2>NSERC – CGS, PGS</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For outstanding students planning to pursue a Master's or Doctoral degree (GPA 88+). • Department Deadline: September 24, 2010 • Single application process for two awards: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Canada Graduate Scholarships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worth \$17,500 for one year for Master's students and \$35,000 per year for up to 3 years for Ph.D. – NSERC Post Graduate Scholarships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worth \$17,300 for one year for Master's students and \$21,000 per year for up to 3years for Ph.D. 						

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MECH: NSERC Top-Ups

- NSERC PGS-D, CGS-M, PGS-M:
 - A minimum top-up package of \$6,000 per year.
- NSERC CGS-D:
 - A minimum top-up package of \$10,000 per year.



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NSERC IPS

- Collaborative research between university and company (your former coop employer?)
- No deadlines (apply any time)
- Company pays \$6000/year, NSERC pays \$15000/year – total value \$21000/year.
- Up to 2 years support for a Masters degree, up to 3 years for a Doctoral degree.
- Certain percentage of time must be spent at the company.
- IP (Intellectual Property) agreements must be in place (takes time to organize).
- UBC UILO office involved, standard agreements available to facilitate process.
- For students interested in health, public policy and engineering, check out the Bridge Program <http://www.bridge.ubc.ca/>

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Other Scholarships and Opportunities

- MITACS – industrial internship for graduate students - matches industry funding. www.acceleratecanada.ca
- Grad studies webpage has links to other scholarship opportunities: www.grad.ubc.ca
- Faculty have Research Assistantship funding for specific research projects.



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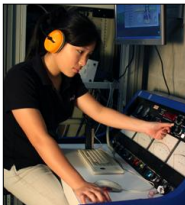
M.A.Sc Eligibility Criteria

- GPA
 - Minimum overall average of 76% in third and fourth year courses
- or
 - Academic standing with at least 12 credits of third and fourth year courses in the A grade range (80% or higher) in the field of study
- GRE
 - Not mandatory but strongly recommended

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Application Process

- Ensure that you meet the Minimum Academic Requirements
- Fill in the application & pay fees:
 - PhD/M.A.Sc Applicants <http://www.grad.ubc.ca/prospective-students/application-admission/apply-online>
 - M.Eng Applicants http://www.engineering.ubc.ca/prospective_students/graduate/mEng/forms/index.php



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Application Process

- Prepare supporting documents
 - Electronic copies for review (submitted application, letter of intent, CV including publications, and transcript)
 - Official paper documents (letter of intent, CV including publications, 2 sets of official transcripts, 2 sets of official degree certificates, official TOEFL/IELTS score report if applicable, a copy of your PR Card if applicable, a Recommendation for Admission to the BMEG Program form if applicable, an Affidavit of Support if applicable)
 - Three letters of reference

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What Kind of References Should I Get?

- For your application you will need three letters of reference from referees who are prepared to provide a report on your academic ability and qualifications
- These letters can be submitted electronically through eReference or in a sealed envelope with their signature across the seal
- References should be a combination of professors and employers (especially employers holding higher degrees or for research positions). Typically references are two professors and one employer



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Application Deadlines


- For admission for September 2011 entry, applicants need to submit their application by:
 - February 1, 2011** for all international applicants; and domestic applicants who would like to be considered for 2011-2012 award competition
 - May 1, 2011** for domestic applicants
- *These deadlines are for complete application packages (including all supporting documents), and apply to all graduate programs
- January entry offers limited intake only and the deadline for admission for January 2011 entry has already passed.

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Is there any advantage to getting my application in early?

Yes! Faculty members start reviewing applications as soon as they are received. Once a faculty member has chosen all of their students, further applications will not be considered.

The admissions process begins in November 2010. Please do not send any materials until November, as earlier material will not be considered.




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How do I Make Myself Competitive?

- Admission to UBC Mechanical Engineering is competitive and based on a combination of your statement of research interest, your grades, your reference letters, and your GRE and TOEFL scores (if applicable)
- Competitive applicants generally have first class standing (>80%) and strong research backgrounds
- Research experience and past publications are particularly emphasized for Ph.D applicants

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What are professors looking for in a grad student?



- First class standing (avg. >80%)
- A well rounded person
- Experience in research
- An interest in their work

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What should I be doing now as an undergrad to help me get into grad school?

- Study hard!
- Take advantage of undergraduate research opportunities (eg. co-op, work study/learn, MECH 493, NSERC USRA)
- Get involved in student teams or clubs
- Take courses related to the topic you are interested in
- Research the faculty member you would like to work with and take their class or read their publications

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<h2>Questions?</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visit our website at www.mech.ubc.ca/graduate-students• To contact Yuki, our Graduate Student Secretary, email mech-admission@apsc.ubc.ca• If you're interested in speaking with a grad student about grad life in MECH, you can email the Mechanical Engineering Graduate Association (MEGA) at mega@mech.ubc.ca				