Welcome to Western Engineering!
Thank you for joining us!

To ensure the smooth delivery of this session, please ensure you are following the etiquette for Zoom Meetings listed below:

1. Mute your microphone
2. Keep your camera turned off for the duration of the Town Hall.
3. Hold all questions until the end! We will open the Chat feature to collect your questions at the start of the Question and Answer period.
Agenda

1. Welcome by Associate Dean, Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies
2. Introduction of Graduate Team
3. Graduate program update (Graduate Officer)
4. Western International
5. Question & Answer session
6. Breakout Rooms by Department
Faculty Graduate Office Team

Kamran Siddiqui, PhD, PEng
Associate Dean, Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies
SEB 2078

Kristen Edwards
Graduate Officer
SEB 2077

Emericks Rivas
Graduate Affairs Assistant, Research and Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies
SEB 2079
Welcome to Western University - You’ve made a great choice!

- Ranked among the top 1 per cent of universities in the world, we are an academic institution recognized for leadership in education, research and healthcare
- Ranked one of Canada's top universities based on student satisfaction
- Canada’s most beautiful university campus - situated on nearly 400 acres of rolling hills and wide-open spaces on the banks of the Thames River
Western Engineering

- Western Engineering is home to more than 800 graduate students studying in various degree options in a range of fields and interests.

- As a Graduate Student in Engineering you will study new topics in an excellent learning environment and may have the opportunity to get involved in the development of innovative solutions in Engineering that impact communities locally and globally.

- We are committed to provide graduate students with the best experience.
Departmental Contacts

**Biomedical Engineering**
- Jin Zhang, Associate Chair, Graduate Program
- Christine Ellwood, Graduate Program Coordinator

**Chemical & Biochemical Engineering**
- Lars Rehmann, Associate Chair, Graduate Research Program
- Shahzad Barghi, Associate Chair, Graduate Professional Program
- Jason Cambria, Graduate Program Coordinator

**Civil & Environmental Engineering**
- Ayman El Ansary, Associate Chair, Graduate Research & Professional Program
- Eduard Sviridenko, Graduate Program Coordinator

**Electrical & Computer Engineering**
- Aleksander Essex, Associate Chair, Graduate Research Program
- Vijay Parsa, Associate Chair, Graduate Professional Program
- Andrea Krasznai, Research Graduate Program Coordinator
- Courtney Harper, Professional Graduate Program Coordinator

**Mechanical & Materials Engineering**
- Liying Jiang, Associate Chair, Graduate Research Program
- Samuel Asokanthan, Associate Chair, Graduate Professional Program
- Joanna Blom, Research Graduate Program Coordinator
- Claire Naudi, Professional Graduate Program Coordinator
General Admission Details

• MEng Tuition Deposit Deadline extended: July 1st

• Electronic Transcript Submission: Acceptable; directly to Western from Institution’s Registrar Office

• Transcript Submission Deadline may be extended, if unable to obtain documents (verification required)
How can I pay the tuition deposit?
All MEng students starting their program are required to pay a non-refundable tuition deposit of $500 to secure their spot in their program.

Upon payment of your tuition deposit, your Western Student Center account will reflect a credit balance of -$500.

Receipt of payment can take up to 10 business days.
If you are paying from a **Canadian bank**, you can find instructions here:

https://www.registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/fees_refunds/fee_payment_methods/methods_from_a_canadian_bank.html
International payments are detailed here:

https://www.registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/fees_refunds/fee_payment_methods/international_payments.html
Deadline for Payment of the Tuition Deposit:

July 1st 2021
Where can I find information about tuition fees?
Tuition fees for all students at Western are set and controlled by the Office of the Registrar.

Graduate Student Tuition Fee schedules are available 1 month before the start of each term.
If you wish to view the current or previous Tuition Fees Schedules at Western, please visit:

https://www.registrar.uwo.ca/student_finances/fees_refunds/fee_refund_schedules.html
Some students may require a receipt of payment of tuition fees

You can download a copy of your Statement of Account directly from the Student Center
How will courses be offered in Fall 2021?
The Faculty of Engineering is planning to offer all graduate courses in person for Fall 2021.

Accommodations will be made in some courses, for students who are continuing or beginning their program remotely.
Can I defer my admission to January 2022?
Deferrals may be issued for 1 term if students are not able to join the program due to legitimate reasons (e.g., delay in the study permit approval or travel restrictions).

If your deferral request is approved, it can only be offered once per application.
MEng Students: You must pay your tuition deposit to secure your spot in the program prior to requesting a deferral.
MESc and PhD Students: Research Students must consult with their Supervisor and Graduate Program.

A deferral of your program could influence your funding package and/or project availability.
Is there a deadline for the decision to defer?
Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) is planning to process all study permit applications received before May 15, by August. We suggest that you wait till 3rd week of August before requesting deferral.
Combined MEng-Diploma Option
Combined MEng-Diploma Option

• It is a 4-term (16 months) program
  ➢ Students are required to complete 8 technical courses or 6 technical courses and a project
  ➢ Students are required to complete 2 professional courses, which are cross-listed as GDip elective courses
  ➢ Students are required to complete 4 courses of the GDip program (3 core courses and one elective course)
• Upon successful completion of the courses, students will get an MEng degree and a Graduate Diploma (Engineering Leadership and Innovation)
• Per term tuition fee for the combined MEng-GDip program is the same as per term tuition fee for the MEng only program. For the combined program, students need to register for 4 terms.
Western International

Sandra Pehilj
Immigration Updates and Travelling to Canada

Presented by:
Sandra Pehilj, RCIC
International Student Advisor
June 22, 2021
Agenda

- Travel restrictions due to COVID-19
- PGWP and online studies
- Quarantine and other health requirements
- Western arrival support and IESC services
- Q & A
Current Travel Exemptions and Restrictions for International Students

To be able to enter Canada as a student:

- You must have a valid study permit or have been approved for a study permit.
- You’ve completed an immigration medical examination, if required, and the results are still valid.
- Your DLI must be on the list of DLIs with approved COVID-19 readiness plans.
  - Before you travel, you can contact the Border Information Service for more information.
  - A border services officer will make the final decision on whether you’re eligible to enter Canada when you arrive.
Study Permit

Processing study permit applications for the fall 2021 semester

- If you submitted your complete study permit application (including your biometrics and immigration medical examination results) by May 15, 2021, you should get a decision by August 6, 2021, in time to attend the fall semester.

- IRC will process complete applications submitted after May 15, 2021, as quickly as possible—but they can’t guarantee that you’ll get a final decision before the fall semester begins.

- Some applications take longer to process and may not be finalized by August 6, 2021, such as those that
  - are incomplete
  - require the officer to request more information from you
Study Permit and PGWP

If you’re eligible for the post-graduation work permit program, you’ll still be able to get a post-graduation work permit (PGWP) if

- your in-person classes in Canada have been moved to an online-only format and you had to begin or will continue your classes online because of COVID-19
- have been enrolled in a program that was in progress in March 2020, or have started or will start a program between spring 2020 and fall 2021, and
  - you have a study permit, or
  - you’ve been approved for a study permit, or
  - you applied for a study permit before starting your study program
    - your study permit must eventually be approved
PGWP eligibility

If you applied for your study permit before starting your program

▪ Any time spent studying online from outside Canada since spring 2020 now counts toward the length of a PGWP. (Before, only the time spent studying online after you were approved for a study permit counted.)

▪ You won’t have time deducted from the length of your PGWP for studies you complete outside Canada until December 31, 2021.
PGWP eligibility

- You can complete 100% of your studies online from outside Canada.
- All your time studying online outside Canada between spring 2020 and December 31, 2021, counts toward the length of a PGWP. This applies even if you’re completing 2 study programs.
PGWP eligibility

- If you’re completing 2 study programs, you can finish 100% of your studies online if the programs were ongoing or started between March 2020 and fall 2021, and
  - both study programs are from an eligible DLI and are completed within 2 years
  - each program meets all PGWP eligibility requirements and is at least 8 months long
PGWP eligibility

The following time won’t count toward the length of a PGWP:

• time spent studying outside Canada after December 31, 2021
• time spent studying before you applied for a study permit
PGWP eligibility

▪ If you started your online studies outside Canada **before** you applied for a study permit, you may still be eligible for a PGWP. Only the time you spent studying online **after** your application was received will count toward the length of your PGWP.
When you travel to Canada

- CBSA officers may look at several factors, including:
  - your reason for travelling to Canada
  - your ability to complete a **14-day quarantine period** as soon as you arrive at your final destination
  - if you either
    - have time to complete your quarantine before you physically attend classes, or
    - can study online during your quarantine

- You must bring
  - a valid study permit or a letter of introduction
  - a letter of acceptance or verification of enrollment from Western
  - proof of financial support for yourself and accompanying family members
Western International Arrival Support

**IMMIGRATION & TRAVEL INFORMATION**

Note: Currently, only students with valid study permits on or before March 18, 2020 are exempt from travel restrictions and allowed to enter Canada. Students must also prove that travel to Canada is essential.

**QUARANTINE IN RESIDENCE**

Open to students planning to live in residence. **Note: the deadline has passed to register for early-move in for self-quarantine.** Please contact housing@uwo.ca regarding your quarantine arrangements.

**BOOK OFF-CAMPUS QUARANTINE ACCOMMODATIONS**

If your off-campus accommodations are not suitable for self-quarantine, please register for off-campus quarantine accommodations. **REGISTRATION AVAILABLE NOW.**

**TRANSPORTATION FROM AIRPORT**

**HEALTH CARE INFORMATION**

**OTHER SUPPORT NEEDS**
West International Arrival Support

https://iesc.uwo.ca/internationalarrival2020

Check travel eligibility

Plan for your quarantine. Book your accommodations & transportation.

Register your quarantine plan with Western

Download the ArriveCan app and enter your travel and quarantine information.

Take a COVID-19 molecular test within 72 hours prior to travelling

Gather all your required documents and carry them with you while travelling.
ArriveCAN app

- As of **November 21, 2020**, you must use [ArriveCAN](#) before checking in at the airport or crossing the border to submit your
  - travel and contact information
  - quarantine plan
  - COVID-19 symptom self-assessment
- Please bring your ArriveCAN receipt (electronic or paper) with you to show the border services officer upon arrival.
Plan your Quarantine Accommodation

Book your accommodations

1. **Government-approved quarantine hotel** upon arrival for 3 days while awaiting airport COVID-19 test result
   - Mandatory for anyone flying to Canada as of Feb. 22, 2021

2. Quarantine location for the remaining days of your 14-day quarantine
   - **Western-arranged quarantine accommodations**
     - Strongly recommended, especially if this is your first time in Canada
   - Self-arranged accommodation
     - ensure it is a suitable place of quarantine
Register with Western

All Western students (international students and Canadian citizens) traveling to Canada from another country MUST register their travel and quarantine plan with Western prior to their arrival to Canada.

https://iesc.uwo.ca/internationalarrival2020
Prepare to travel to Canada

- Required documents to travel with:
  - Valid Study Permit or a Letter of Introduction
  - Letter of Acceptance or **Verification of Enrollment** from Western
    - If you studied online before entering Canada or you are re-entering Canada, order a Verification of Enrollment Letter from Western online on https://student.uwo.ca
  - Proof of financial support for yourself and accompanying family members
  - **Valid immigration medical examination results** if required
  - Any other documents you would have submitted with your Study Permit application
  - Details of your quarantine plan and transportation
  - Receipt from ArriveCan
IESC services and appointments

- Email us at iesc@uwo.ca
- Visit our International Arrival 2020 page and COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- **Book an appointment** (Advising Appointments via Zoom)
- Remote Advising Hours: 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday
Questions?
Thank you!
General Questions?

• Use the "Chat" feature in Zoom to send in your questions

• Following this Q&A session, you will be moved to your department-specific breakout room for department-specific inquiries