

The OPTIONS Program – MEng Cohort – Winter 2026

Thursday, January 22 – Thursday, March 19 | 3 - 5 pm ET (exclusive of week of February 17)

Date	Time (ET)	Location	Topic	Description	Instructor
Thurs. Jan 22	3 - 5pm	GB202	Labour Market and Transferable Skills	Identify sectors that employ engineering graduates, and the skills and attributes employers seek from the workforce.	Markus Bussmann, Professor, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering
Thurs. Jan 29	3 – 5 pm	GB202	Networking I: Personal Value Proposition and Optimizing your LinkedIn Profile	Develop a personal value proposition that communicates the unique value you bring to the workplace. Learn the fundamental building blocks of a LinkedIn profile to support you in building a network of engineering professionals.	Joanne Lieu, Graduate Professional Development Coordinator, Institute for Studies in Transdisciplinary Engineering Education & Practice
Thurs. Feb 5	3 – 5 pm	GB202	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.	Mark Franklin, Practice Leader, CareerCycles.com
Thurs. Feb 12	3 – 5 pm	GB202	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
Week of Feb 16 (Complete on your own time)		Online	Job Search Strategies I: Resume and Cover Letter	Apply strategies to showcase your engineering experiences in an employment-oriented resume and cover letter.	Anny Fong, Lecturer, Rotman School of Management
Thurs. Feb 26	3 – 5 pm	GB202	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.	Chirag Variawa, Director, First Year Curriculum, and Associate Professor, Teaching-stream
Thurs. Mar 5	3 – 5 pm	GB202	Job Search Strategies II: Interviewing	Learn about the types of interview questions and how best to answer them. Participate in a mock interview.	Joanne Lieu
Thurs. Mar. 12	3 – 5 pm	GB202	Job Search Strategies III: Workplace Fit and Job Offer Negotiation	Define the workplace and culture factors that are important for your career and life. Learn about the job negotiation process including what you can negotiate and how to have a negotiation conversation.	Mark Franklin
Thurs. Mar. 19	3 – 5 pm	GB202	Leading In Your Career	You landed a job! Now what? Use a self-assessment to discover your working style to transform from an individual, technical expert to a collaborative engineering leader. Identify strategies to take initiative in your new job.	Joanne Lieu