What is mining engineering?

Mining is the business, science, and engineering of creating a profitable mining operation. Mining engineers design, develop, and implement processes and technologies for the economic extraction of minerals from the earth’s crust in a safe, sustainable, and environmentally friendly way.

Is this program for me?

The Mining Engineering program is unique, allowing its graduates to choose from a wide variety of career paths globally. A degree in mining engineering builds the skills and experience necessary to work in fields such as mining, energy and utilities, construction, engineering and management consulting, scientific and technical services, finance and mining investment, manufacturing and processing, and agriculture.

Coursework and research areas

Mining engineers study math, physics, chemistry, geology, economics, and a mix of applied engineering subjects such as materials handling, rock mechanics, ventilation, mining methods, mineral processing, and environmental mining. Students can apply this knowledge to large surface and deep underground mine designs, short and long-term mining production, and the assessment of mining project sustainability including environmental impact assessment and corporate social responsibility.

Why McGill?

McGill’s Undergraduate Program in Mining Engineering was established in 1871, making it the oldest mining engineering program in Canada and the second oldest in North America. Students benefit from smaller class sizes as well as peer and global industrial networks. Up to five paid work terms give students the opportunity to gain diverse and practical work experience in the mining sector before they graduate.

Since 1988, the Department’s co-op program has provided students with a number of exciting and relevant job opportunities in industry. With the program’s extensive network of employers, students often take more than the required three work-terms during their undergraduate studies.

How do I apply?

Admissions information:
www.mcgill.ca/undergraduate-admissions/apply
What can I do when I graduate?

Most graduates work in the mining industry—their capacity for responsibility and management skills means that they often move onto larger project management roles, both in operations and consulting. Starting as junior mining/project engineers, graduates have quickly moved up in their careers, securing senior positions such as mine managers, principal engineers, and senior analysts within a few years from graduation.

Recent graduates from the program have gone on to careers in a variety of industries such as:

- BHP
  Long Range Mine Planner
- Laurentian Bank Financial Group
  Mining Analyst
- IAMGOLD
  Jr. Mining Engineer
- Arcelor Mittal
  Mining Optimization Engineer
- Suncor
  Field Engineer
- Glencore
  Process Engineer
- Caterpillar
  Technical Sales Representative
- BBA
  Mining Engineering Consultant
- DRA Global
  Consulting Mining Engineer

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Promoting Opportunities for Women in Engineering (POWE)

The Canadian Mining Games

CIM Student Chapter

Contact us

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Magdalena Mroz
Mining Engineering undergraduate student

Magdalena Mroz is a student in the Department of Mining Engineering. Since joining the program, she has participated in numerous projects and internships, including optimizing a haulage network for an iron mine in Labrador, building a thin-seam geologic model for a mine in BC, and has most recently been the Captain of the Canadian Mining Games team.

“I chose Mining Engineering because I’ve always loved geology and being outside and I wanted to combine that with solving challenging and unique problems. Through the program’s numerous opportunities (especially the co-op aspect), I’ve discovered a passion for design and using that to always see where things can be improved and optimized.”

Student life and engagement

The Faculty of Engineering provides several opportunities to participate in a variety of clubs, activities, and student government. Below are a few groups students can join to connect with others and enhance their lives outside of the classroom:

- Co-op Mining Engineering Undergraduate Society (CMEUS)
- Engineering Undergraduate Society (EUS)
- Engineers Without Borders - McGill Chapter