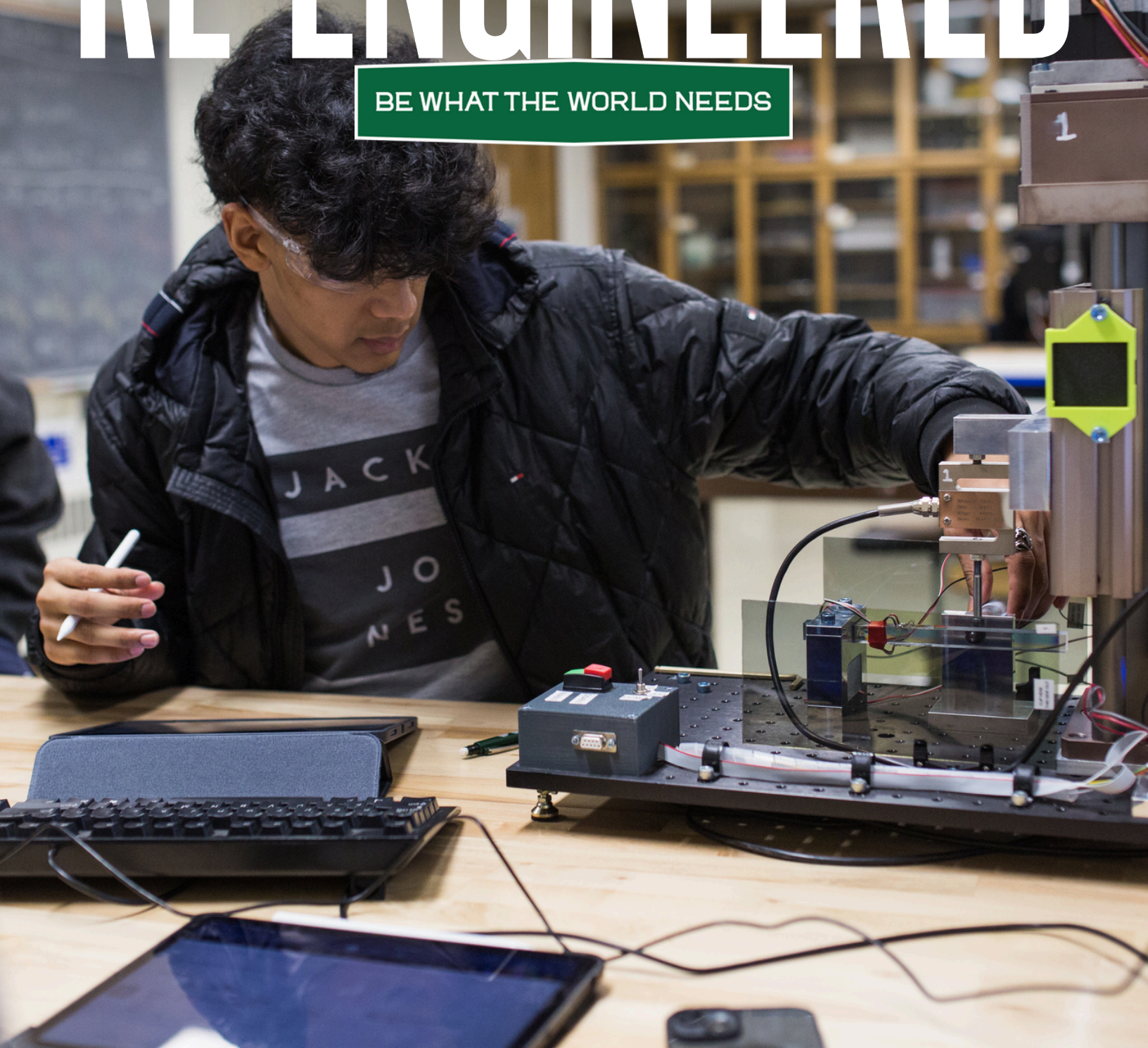



RE-ENGINEERED

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS



**FIRST-YEAR HANDBOOK
2025-2026**



**The University of Saskatchewan's
main campus is located on Treaty 6
Territory and the Homeland of the
Métis.**

**We pay our respect to the First
Nations and Métis ancestors of this
place and reaffirm our relationship
with one another.**

RE-ENGINEERED

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

STUDENT HANDBOOK

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WELCOME TO FIRST-YEAR

We are excited to welcome you to the College of Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan!

Life as an engineering student is an exciting blend of creative problem solving, academic rigor, hands-on learning, innovation, and collaboration. Embrace challenges with grit and determination and remember that you're not alone; faculty, advisors, peers are here to support you.

University is more than just equations and theories; it's also about forging connections with students, mentors and industry professionals. Take advantage of internships, research opportunities, student clubs and extra curricular to broaden your skills. Embrace challenges, celebrate victories, and value moments of growth.

Welcome to a community where curiosity and innovation thrive!



What Are They and Why They Matter

Engineering Jumpstarts serve as your pre-flight checks before your first year of engineering. They include online quizzes and tutorials in Math, Physics, Chemistry, Technical Communication, Computer Programming, and Indigenous Reconciliation. Math, Physics, and Chemistry Jumpstarts offer quick reviews of high school materials relevant to university courses. Technical Communication, Computer Programming, and Indigenous Jumpstarts provide preparatory material for university courses.

If you've had a challenging last year of high school or have been out of school for a while, don't worry! Jumpstarts offer feedback on quiz questions and unlimited retries. Tutorials are available for unfamiliar material, and teaching assistants will assist at the start of classes.

Jumpstarts are "Assignment 0" for some of your first-year courses. Completion of the Jumpstarts helps prepare you for the corresponding university courses.

How to Access Jumpstarts

You are automatically enrolled in Jumpstarts once you register in your fall courses. You will receive an email on your new USask account saying you can start the Jumpstarts in the university's learning management system (LMS), which is called [Canvas](#), when they become available. (See page 21 for more details on our LMS to be able to access your Jumpstarts.)

We encourage you to start on your Jumpstarts when they become available in July/August (and to complete them before the end of August) so you will be ready to go at the start of the school year. All Jumpstarts, except for Chemistry, must be complete by the beginning of Fall term; your Chemistry Jumpstart will need to be completed by the beginning of Term 2 which starts in January.

More information on Jumpstarts will be emailed to you in July/August.



GETTING SET UP

HARDWARE FOR FIRST-YEAR ENGINEERING

Required Hardware

Laptop Computer

- Audio/headphone jack
- At least 1920x1080 screen
- Webcam
- Microphone (can be 3rd party)
- Bluetooth
- Wifi-6 (802.11)
- HDMI port (or adapter for HDMI)
- At least 2 USB-A 3.0 ports (or adapters for USB-A)
- At least 1 USB-C port (could use hubs for these USB ports)
- Windows 10 (Linux capable*)
- AMD or Intel CPU quadruple core (or better*)
- 2.5-2.9 GHz processor (3.0 or better*)
- 8 GB RAM (16 recommended, 32 preferred*)
- At least 500 GB solid-state drive; partitionable or ext HD*
- Dedicated GPU for video processing
- 2nd solid-state memory slot for expansion*
- **IT support will not be available for Apple products / programs****

Calculator

- TI-36X Pro (\$30-35 from USask Bookstore) - Required Calculator
- Can't graph data, store documents, talk with other devices or do symbolic integration, but it can do basic arithmetic/trig
- Can handle complex numbers and do numerical integration

Scanner

- Must scan to PDF
- Could be from phone or copier/scanner

Stationery

- HB, 2H and 4H pencils

Optional Hardware

Printer

- Black and white ink

Camera

- Cellphone

USB Thumbdrive

- At least 1GB
-

*good to have for students who are considering majoring in computer or electrical engineering

****All teaching will be on PC-based software/hardware; faculty will not teach on Apple-based software/hardware.**

YOUR SCHEDULE

Weekly Schedule

The schedule below shows what a typical week will look like in first-year engineering. The green Lecture or Lab time slots show times when you may have lectures or labs. [You are expected to attend these](#). Depending on which block you are registered in, you may have some spares in some of these time slots. There may also be weeks with additional spares, such as “off” weeks for some labs. Some registration blocks may also have evening labs.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:30		Lecture or Lab		Lecture or Lab	
9:30	Lecture or Lab	Lecture or Lab	Lecture or Lab	Lecture or Lab	Lecture or Lab
	Lecture or Lab	Lecture or Lab	Lecture or Lab	Lecture or Lab	Lecture or Lab
12:30	Lunch Break	Lecture or Lab	Lunch Break	Lecture or Lab	Lunch Break
1:30	Lecture or Lab	Lecture or Lab	Lecture or Lab	Lecture or Lab	Lecture or Lab
	Lecture or Lab	Lecture or Lab	Lecture or Lab	Lecture or Lab	Lecture or Lab
4:30	Help Session	Help Session	Help Session	Help Session	Help Session
5:30		Break		Break	

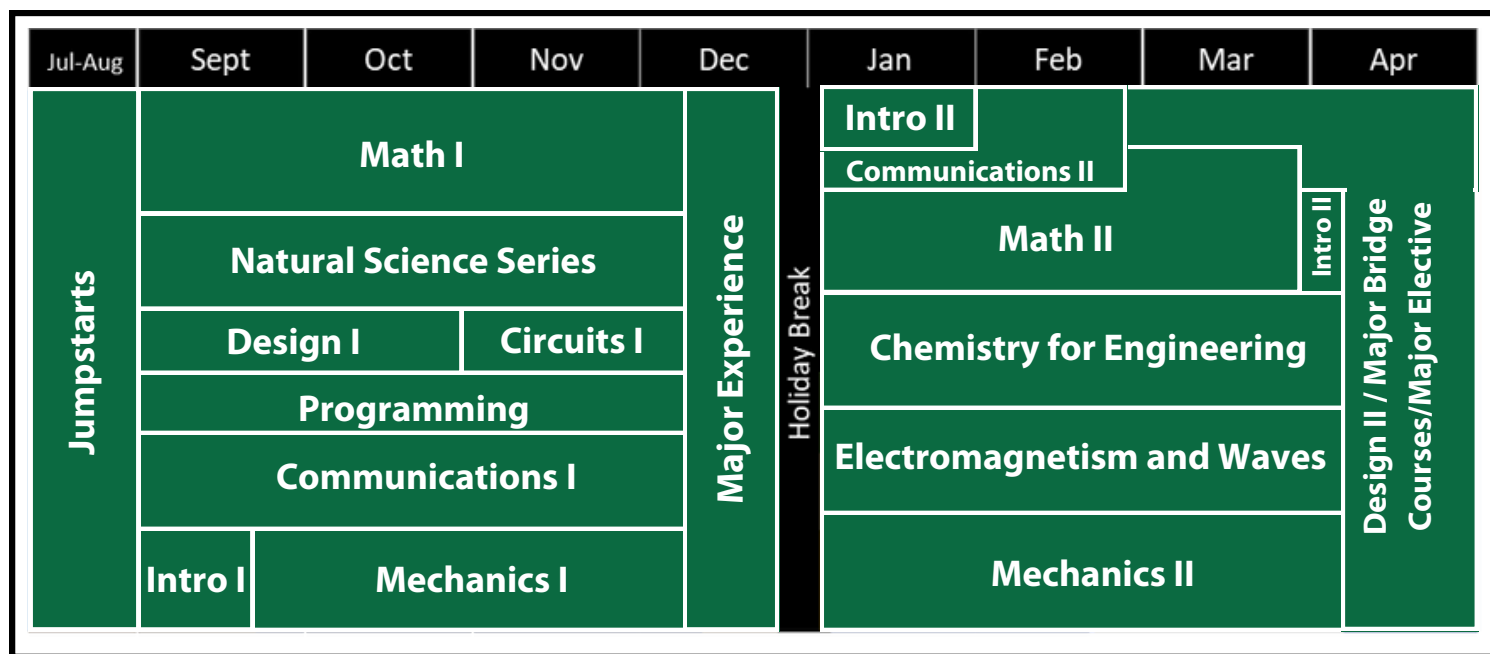
The Help Session time slots (grey) are optional. During these sessions, you can work with your peers and get help from teaching assistants on specific topics. Each day will feature targeted help for multiple topics. The schedule of these topics throughout the term will be posted online. The yellow time slots represent free time.

Note that Module Tests and Top Up opportunities will happen outside of the time slots shown here, often during the evening. A schedule of these assessments will be posted in each course syllabus.

YOUR SCHEDULE

Program Structure

This figure below shows approximately when you'll take your various first-year courses throughout the academic year. Each course varies in intensity and there are often labs associated with each course. For example, Math I is a four-credit course and will take up much more time as compared to Electrical Circuits, which is a one-credit course.



Based on the discipline you enter, you'll follow a different combination of bridge and common courses after the February Reading Week. These specialized courses are tailored to provide the specific knowledge required for your field, while the common courses are essential for all disciplines.

For students entering:

- **Computer Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Engineering Physics** will take GE153, CMPT146 and GE143
- **Chemical Engineering** will take GE163, CHE113, and GE143
- **Mechanical Engineering** will take either GE153 or GE163, and ME113 and GE143
- **Environmental Engineering** will take GE163 and CHE113
- **Civil Engineering and Geological Engineering** will take GE183 and CE171

NOTE: **GE153** - Circuits II; **GE163** - Process Engineering; **GE183** - Mechanics and Problem Analysis; **GE143** - Design II; **CMPT146** - Principles of Computer Science for Engineers; **CHE113** - Unit Operations in Chemical Process Engineering; **ME113** - Engineering Analysis I; CE171 - Survey Camp



YOUR SCHEDULE

Important notes about your schedule

- The four natural science courses (Biology, Geology, Chemistry, and Physics) which make up the Natural Science Series are each offered four times in series, with one-quarter of first-year students taking each class at each time so students will rotate through this series in differing orders.

***IMPORTANT*:** Because of the modular nature of our first-year schedule, class withdrawal deadlines will vary for individual classes.

IF you are considering dropping a class(es):

- refer to the class specific drop deadline information which will be available in PAWS in the first-year engineering student resources section.
- speak with an academic advisor in order to discuss how your decision will impact pre- and co-requisites for other classes you are and/or are planning to take.



YOUR SCHEDULE

Flex Option Schedule

The Flex Option schedule is available for anyone wishing to pursue a reduced course load. This option extends required first-year courses over two years, to allow for more time for to adjust to university and post-secondary learning, family, a job, sports, or extracurricular activities. The Flex Option schedule is predetermined to ensure prerequisites are met and so that you are still considered a full-time student.

To enroll in the Flex Option or if you have remaining first-year courses, please fill out the form which best fits your needs and an academic advisor at the Engineering Student Centre will register you into the Flex option or your remaining first-year classes.

- To enroll in the flex schedule Year 1 option, please submit the [2025-26 New Student Flex Schedule Registration Form](#)
- For questions about the Flex Option, [contact the ESC](#).

The green courses indicate what you will take in your first year with the Flex Option. In your second year, you take the remaining courses noted in grey.

Jul-Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	
Jumpstarts	Math I			Major Experience	Intro II		Design II / Major Bridge Courses / Major Elective		
	Natural Science Series				Communications II				
	Design I	Circuits I			Math II				Intro II
	Programming				Chemistry for Engineering				
	Communications I				Electromagnetism and Waves				
	Intro I	Mechanics I			Mechanics II				
Holiday Break									

CLASS REGISTRATION

Block Registration

All first-year engineering students will register for their classes by block registration. This means you'll be placed in a pre-determined group, or block, of classes. Step-by-step instructions on how to register can be found in the [Registration Guide](#) or the registration tutorial video link here.



Transfer Credit

Some first-year engineering students may have transfer credit for coursework they've completed at another post-secondary institution.

Please review the [College of Engineering's transfer credit webpage](#) to learn how transfer credits work and the general rules and principles that must be followed.

To start the transfer credit process, please email: enr.transfercredit@usask.ca and provide the following information:

- your first and last name
- your student number
- where you think you might have transfer credit courses from (i.e. the name of the external institution)
- submit course outlines / syllabi for all classes you want to be considered for credit

The transfer credit assessment process is complex and lengthy so we strongly recommend you ask us about transfer credit as soon as possible.

We will work with you to complete your assessment as quickly as is feasible.

First-year students work together to raise the college's tipi.

STUDENT SUPPORTS

Engineering Student Centre (ESC)

The Engineering Student Centre – also known as the ESC – is a one-stop-shop for undergrads (students earning their Bachelor of Science in Engineering degree). It is located on the second floor of the College of Engineering in the A wing.

You can meet with the college's academic advisors who can help you map out your plan to earn your degree. They can also provide support and coaching to help you reach your academic goals.

Have questions about your transfer credit or registration? The ESC can help.

Want to study abroad or do a student exchange? The ESC can give you advice!

The Engineering Student Centre advisors are there for you.

Contact us: esc@usask.ca; (306) 966-5274; or [book an appointment](#) with an advisor.

Visit our [USask Student Support](#) page



At USask, we want to recognize your academic achievements and personal accomplishments. Start by learning more about the scholarships, bursaries and awards you may be eligible to receive [HERE](#).



You can also reach out to the ESC if you're struggling with your mental health or wellness, in crisis, at risk, facing challenges, or experiencing a difficult situation that is impacting your academic journey.



Engineering's Student Support and Outreach Coordinator, Jamie Gegner

The **Student Support and Outreach Coordinator (SSOC)** can provide practical support to ALL engineering students (undergrad and/or graduate) or anyone who may be concerned about a student's wellbeing. The SSOC can also provide mental health and wellness prevention programming.

Contact the SSOC at Jamie.Gegner@usask.ca or by calling 306-966-5274. You can book an appointment online [by clicking here](#).

Additional health and mental wellness supports can also be found here:

- **Student Wellness Centre:** Offers medical and mental health care to USask Students and their dependents.
- **Empower Me:** Free mental health and wellness support that is available 24/7 by calling
toll-free – 1-833-628-5589
- **Student Affairs and Outreach:** Available for support when College of Engineering SSOC is not available.
- **USask Students Mental and Physical Health:** Practical tips to support your wellbeing.



PROGRAM SUPPORTS

Study Squads

All first-year students will be put into a study squad, a group of around 10 students that have the same classes together. You can do your homework and work on your assignments with your study squad.

Help Sessions

Dedicated times are built into the first-year course schedule so you can easily get help with your homework. Teaching assistants will be available Monday through Friday afternoons to offer help and answer questions on various subjects and class material.

"I think the Study Squads were a super great idea. I definitely think a lot of people don't go into first-year university with a whole lot of connections and I think they did a great job putting a lot of kids into a group that they can really connect with and learn with. I'm still pretty good friends with a lot of my Study Squad from last semester, and this semester I made some brand-new friends too that I can talk to as I go through university."

Mitchel Van Kessel
First-year engineering student



IMPORTANT DATES

SUMMER PREP & FALL TERM

June 14, 2025 - 1:00 PM	First-year registration opens
Mid-July – August	Jumpstarts become available (to be done in summer)
July 1 / August 4, 2025	Stat Holidays, university closed
August 29, 2025	Residence move-in for College Quarter, Seager Wheeler, Voyageur Place
September 1, 2025	Labour Day, university closed
Early September (TBD)	Deadline to change to the half-speed option without financial penalty; check with ESC
September 2, 2025	First day of classes
September 29, 2025	Tuition payment deadline for Fall Term classes
September 30, 2025	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, university closed
October 13, 2025	Thanksgiving Day, university closed
November 10-14, 2025	Fall reading week
December 11-17, 2025	FY Engineering Major / Discipline Experience
December 18-22, 2025	Top Ups for Fall Term classes (Dec. 23 is last day before break)
December 25– January 1	University closed

The University of Saskatchewan's Academic Calendar 2025-2026 can be viewed online [HERE](#).



IMPORTANT DATES

WINTER TERM

January 5, 2026	First day for Winter Term classes
Early January (TBD)	Deadline for registration changes for Winter Term courses without financial penalty; check with ESC
January 30, 2026	Tuition payment deadline for Winter Term classes
February 16 – 20, 2026	Winter Reading Week
Early February (date TBD)	Deadline for selecting your major / discipline; check with ESC
Mid February 2026 (date TBD)	Notification of assignment of major / discipline
February 2026 (date TBD)	Tuition payment deadline for Major /Discipline Bridge Course
Late April 2026 (date TBD)	Last Top Ups for Winter Term classes





COMPETENCY-BASED ASSESSMENT

We will use competency-based assessment (CBA) to determine student grades in most of USask's RE-ENGINEERED first-year engineering courses. Here is how CBA works:

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

Each course will have multiple Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs). Some CLOs will be introduced in a sequence of modules, while others will be addressed throughout a course.

Root Learning Outcomes (RLOs)

Each CLO is broken into more specific root learning outcomes (RLOs). You'll have multiple chances to demonstrate competency in the RLOs through assessments such as assignments, quizzes, labs, and/or module tests.

Each assessment will focus on specific sets of RLOs and you will always know which RLOs are being evaluated on each assessment because it will be shared with you before and during each assessment in the Type A, B, and B+ RLOs (discussed more below).

How RLOs are Used for Grading

Instead of weights being attached to assignments and tests, as in conventional assessment systems, weights are attached to RLOs in a competency-based assessment system. Most RLOs will be evaluated at least two or three times in a course and sometimes more. In other words, you'll have multiple chances to demonstrate your competence in each RLO. For Type B and B+ RLOs, if you earn higher grades on an RLO later in a course, these will replace your earlier lower grades for that RLO. Later lower grades, should they occur, are averaged with earlier higher grades for each RLO.

Passing a Course

Most course learning outcomes must be passed in order to pass the course itself. Passing a CLO means you demonstrate competency in the Root Learning Outcomes (RLOs) it contains. Each course outline will detail which specific CLOs you must pass.

COMPETENCY-BASED ASSESSMENT

Types of Learning Outcomes

The first-year engineering curriculum is broken down into four types of Learning Outcome materials: Type A, B, B+, and C.

Type A

These materials are fundamental building blocks that need to be automatized. They are “plug and chug” repetitive operations requiring little judgment, or they are factual questions requiring only a basic level of understanding.

Evaluation of Type A Materials: Type A material will usually be evaluated through online quizzes accessed through the Canvas Learning Management System. You can repeat Type A quizzes multiple times and helpful feedback is provided instantly after each quiz submission.

Type B

These materials include simple, fully integrated problems with multiple steps. They require some judgment and may include more advanced conceptual ideas. They are characteristic of the field and are thoroughly covered in class.

Evaluation of Type B Materials: Type B materials are evaluated multiple times in a course. Students must achieve a weighted average of at least 70% in each Type B CLO in order to pass the CLO, and therefore the course. Each Type B RLO in a CLO will be assessed multiple times in assignments, labs, and/or module tests. If your grade on Type B materials is below 70% at the end of a module or course, you may be eligible to write a Top Up Module Test to raise your grade to a pass.

Type B+

Type B+ materials and tasks are those that when done at an adequate level, look like Type B problems. However, in order to excel at them, Type C levels of insight and skill will be required. Most writing and design assignments will be Type B+, for example. So, someone could hand in an adequate submission for a writing assignment, and it would appear to have many of the characteristics of a Type B assignment. But to get a high



COMPETENCY-BASED ASSESSMENT

mark on the RLOs covered in that assignment, it would likely require insight and skills more characteristic of Type C problems. In other words, Type B+ problems require Type B skills in order to pass, and Type C skills in order to answer them well. Type B problems only require Type B skills to answer them well.

Evaluation of Type B+ Materials: Like Type B materials, Type B+ materials will usually be assessed multiple times in a course. Students must achieve a weighted average of at least 50% in each Type B+ CLO in order to pass the CLO, and therefore the course. Each Type B+ RLO in a CLO will usually be assessed multiple times with Type B+ questions through the assignments, labs, and/or module tests. If a student is below 50% on Type B+ materials at the end of a module or course, they may be able to write a Top Up Module Test, assignment or lab in order to raise their grade.

Type C

These questions are expected to be challenging. Oftentimes, you will not have seen them in class, and they will require advanced insight and judgment, and/or a deep understanding of fundamentals.

Evaluation of Type C Materials: Like Type B materials, Type C materials are also assessed in assignments, labs, and module tests. However, unlike Type B/B+ grades, later/better scores in Type C RLOs will not replace earlier/lower scores. Rather the type C grade will be the average of all Type C opportunities for that RLO. Top Up assessments will not normally include an opportunity to improve the portion of your grade corresponding to Type C questions. These questions will be clearly identified on all assessments.



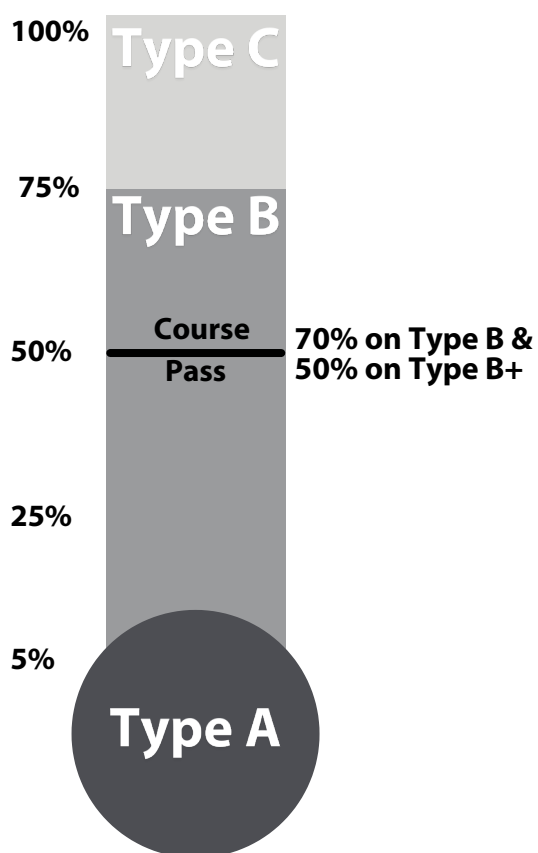
COMPETENCY-BASED ASSESSMENT

Determining your Grade

If you get 70% on your Type B CLOs and 50% on your Type B+ CLOs in a course, your final course grade will be approximately 50% and you will have demonstrated minimal competency.

To get a higher grade, you need to do better on Type B and B+ evaluations and/or do well on Type A and Type C evaluations.

Note that it is possible for you to get an earned course grade over 50%, but still fail the course. This will happen if you have an overall grade below 70% on any Type B CLO and/or an overall grade below 50% on any Type B+ CLO. In this case, you will get a numeric course grade of 49% and will need to redo the course.



Type C Materials: Typically count for about 20-25% of the total course grade; they are challenging.

Type B/B+ Materials: Typically count for about 70-75% of the total course grade; they are generally basic questions.

Type A Materials: Fundamental facts, operations and/or definitions to prepare you for Type B/B+/C materials.

MÖBIUS & CANVAS

Möbius Software

Möbius (<https://digitaled.com/mobius>) is an online learning platform that provides an interactive environment where students can engage with complex STEM concepts. The platform includes lessons, interactive learning activities, hands-on exercises, and assessments that allow you to practice and learn at a guided, yet self-defined pace. Möbius will be used for Type A assessments in several first-year engineering courses and also for at least some of your Jumpstarts.

You must pay an annual fee of approximately \$35 to access Möbius. You will have access to the platform (and will be able to use it for any number of Möbius courses) for one year from the date of purchase.

******To access Möbius for any of your courses for the first time, log in through one of your course websites on Canvas (**do not log in to Möbius directly**), and you will be redirected to the DigitalEd webstore to pay. ******

After the initial payment, if you click on any Möbius link in Canvas, you will be taken directly to the corresponding Möbius resources.

Canvas Learning Management System (LMS)

Canvas is a web-based learning management system (LMS) that allows instructors to manage, create and present online course learning materials and assess student learning.

It also offers an intuitive design for student use with easy ways to set notifications, submit assignments, and view grades, and also includes a mobile app option.

Check out [this USask page that introduces students to Canvas](#) and its features.



KEY ACADEMIC POLICIES

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is a commitment, even in the face of adversity, to the fundamental values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, responsibility, and courage, according to the International Center for Academic Integrity. The USask Library offers a [tutorial on academic integrity](#).

The bottom line is that you are expected to do all aspects of your schoolwork in an ethical manner. The following are some key rules: submitting only your own work for academic credit, properly citing the work of others, and following all exam (test) / lab / assessment rules.

Academic misconduct is the term the university uses to describe cheating. It is not tolerated. You are responsible for understanding the [USask Student Academic Misconduct Regulations](#). The regulations define the [various types of academic misconduct](#). If it's discovered that you are cheating, you will be disciplined.

Academic and Promotion Policy

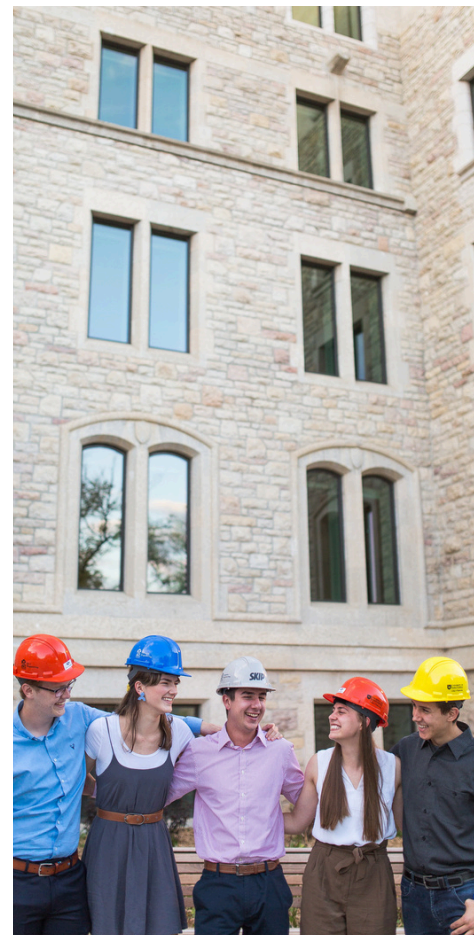
The academic and promotion policy outlines the process and criteria for satisfactory academic progress in the College of Engineering. The policy also stipulates the criteria that will be used when determining whether a student should be placed on academic action (i.e. Warning, Probation, Suspension, or Dismissal) and the implications of each type of academic action.

For more information, see the college's [Academic and Promotion Policy](#).

About Appeals and More

Further information on related policies can be found at:

- [USask Academic Appeals](#)
- [Academic Courses Policy on Class Delivery, Examinations and Assessment of Student Learning](#)



KEY ACADEMIC POLICIES

Academic Accommodation

The College of Engineering strives to foster diversity, inclusiveness, and student success by ensuring that students receive equitable opportunities for academic success and personal development.

Providing academic accommodations requires a coordinated effort by faculty, instructors, staff, students, and other stakeholders.

Undergraduate students are responsible for organizing their own needs assessment, subsequent requirements, and academic accommodations. USask's [Access and Equity Services](#) office can help with this. The [Engineering Student Centre](#) can also provide guidance and referral as needed.



Standard of Student Conduct

USask's [Standard of Student Conduct](#) is a set of principles and expectations for students. They are not meant to actively monitor or control student behaviour, but do provide a way for USask to respond to complaints about student behaviour that violates the standard of conduct expected in non-academic matters.

CO-OP INTERNSHIP

The Engineering Co-op Internship Program is an optional academic program available to undergraduate students, both domestic and international, who are registered in the College of Engineering. Students who participate may take one or more full-time, paid work placements to enhance their degree starting after second year.

Taking on a work placement can help you kickstart your career, learn more about the profession and put into practice the knowledge and skills you are gaining in the classroom!

Flexible Term Lengths

The program offers 4, 8, 12, and 16-month work terms.

Varied Start Dates

Begin your work term at the beginning of January, May, or September.

Gain Experience

Develop a professional network, hone your engineering skills and can gain up to 20 months of paid engineering-focused work experience.

Support

You will receive support from program staff and your workplace supervisor; you may also choose to pair with an industry mentor.



2024 PROGRAM STATISTICS

895 JOBS

posted; many employers hire for multiple positions

145 STUDENTS

placed across Canada

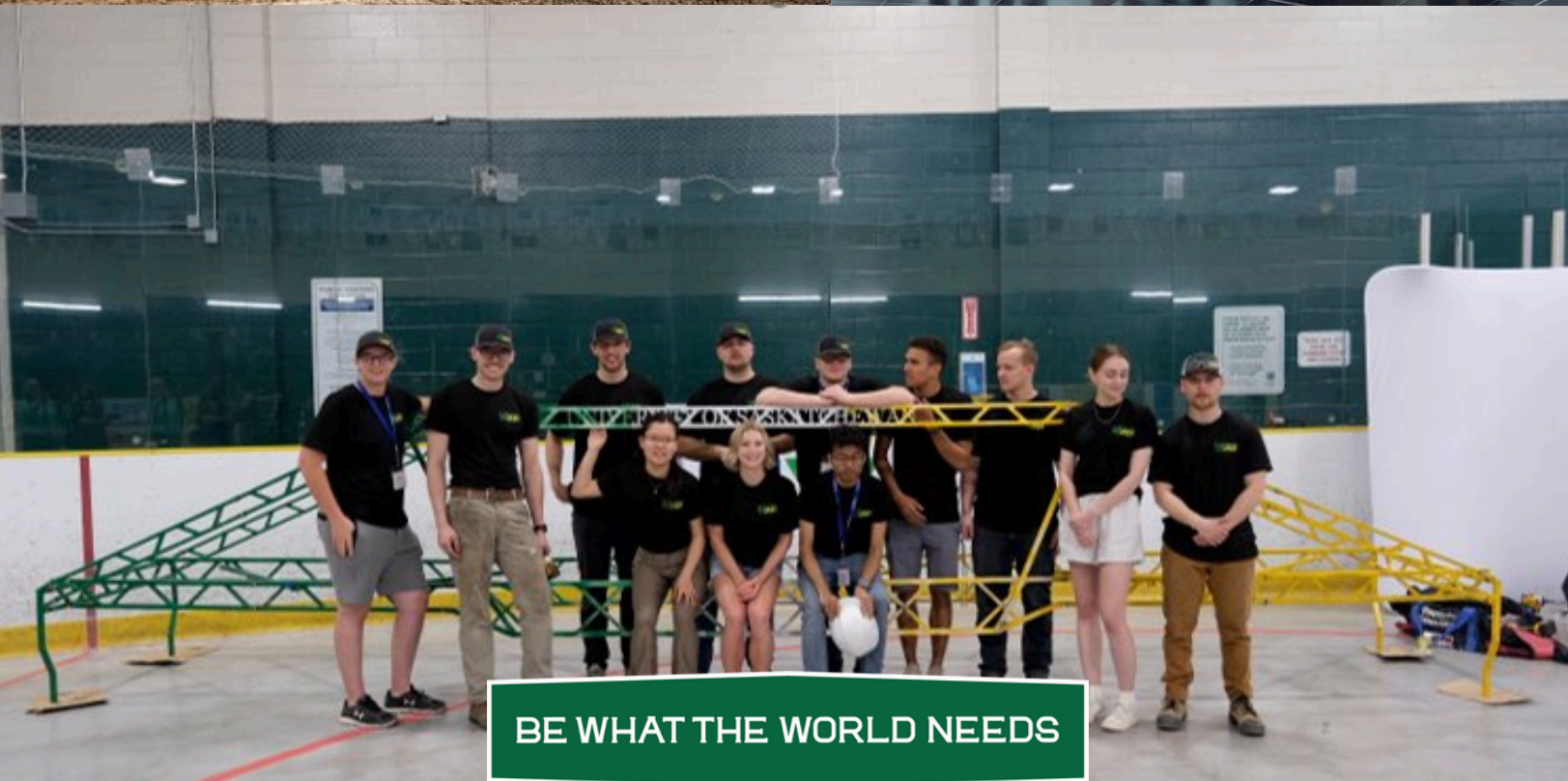
77%

of the placements in Saskatchewan

\$4,682

average monthly salary (\$56,180/year)

For more information on the Engineering Co-op Internship Program visit our [website](https://engineering.usask.ca/co-op/contact-us.php) or contact our program staff <https://engineering.usask.ca/co-op/contact-us.php>.



WORKING PAGES - DO NOT PRINT OR USE

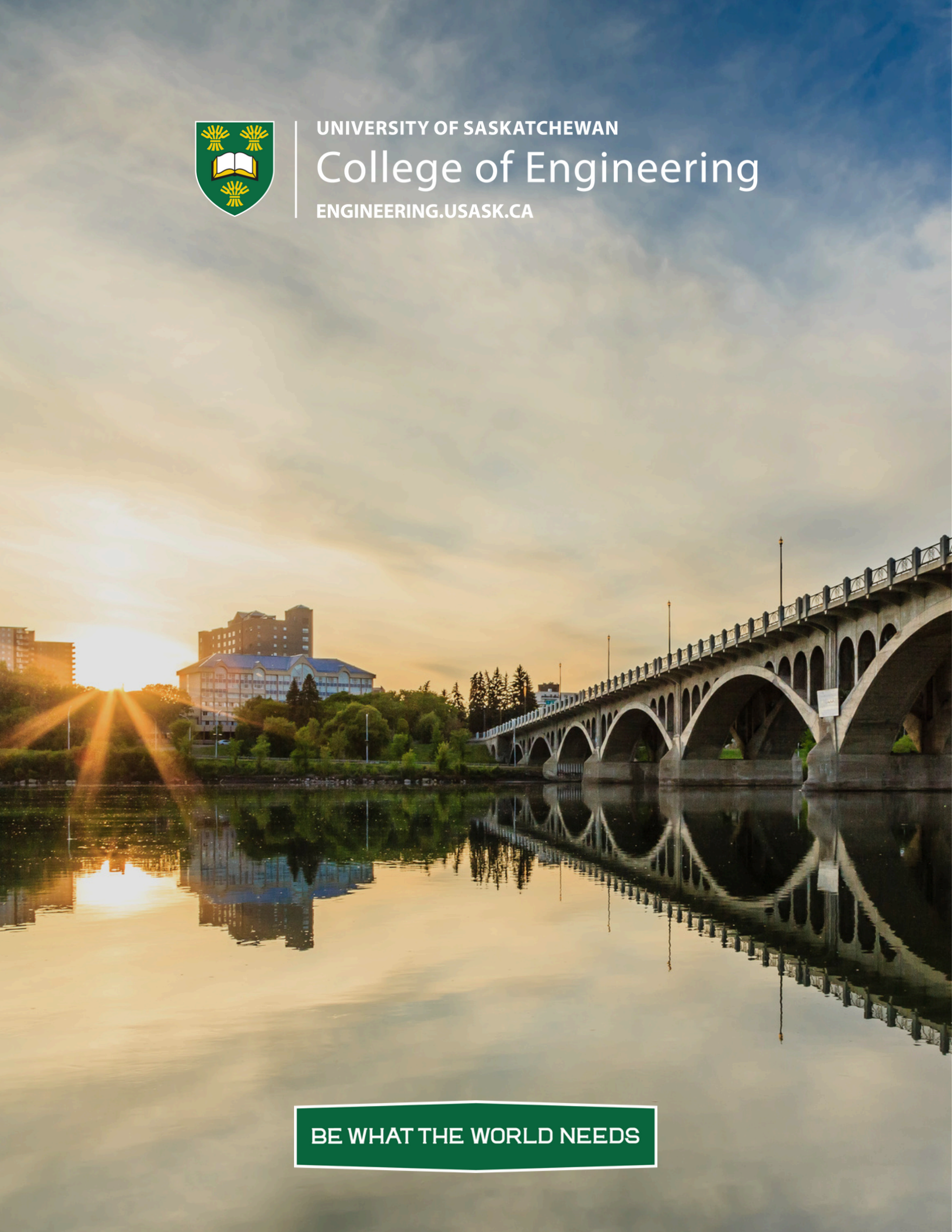




UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

College of Engineering

ENGINEERING.USASK.CA



BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS