

**I think I'm interested in grad school! But I'm not sure if it's right for me...**

With the Further Education Team



**UNIVERSITY OF  
WATERLOO**

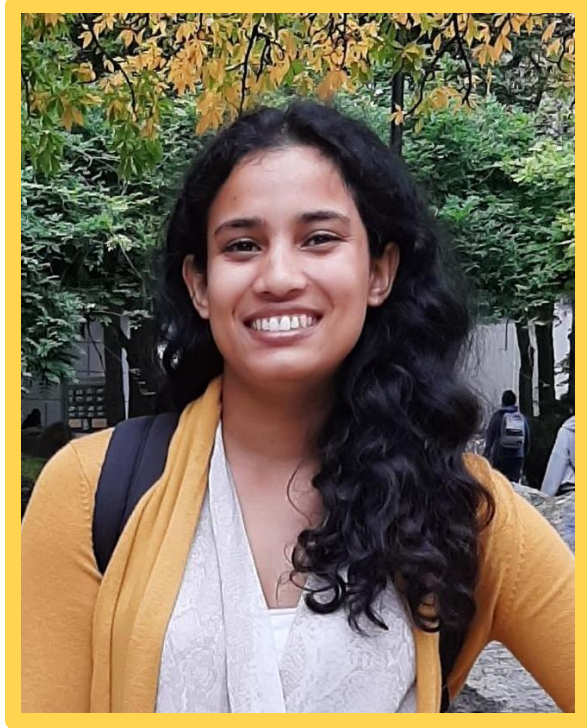
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# Who are we?



Tamara (she/her): In my free time, I enjoy playing sports, going on walks, spending time with friends, and bonding over good food. I am facilitating from the territories of the Neutral, Anishinaabeg and Haudenosaunee people.



Becky (she/her): I make windchimes from thrifted materials; am passionate about land restoration; and love swimming with my dog. I'm facilitating from the territories of the Neutral, Anishinaabeg, and Haudenosaunee Peoples.

# What's on the agenda for today?

Outline key aspects of  
graduate school  
programs

Discuss finding and  
applying to programs

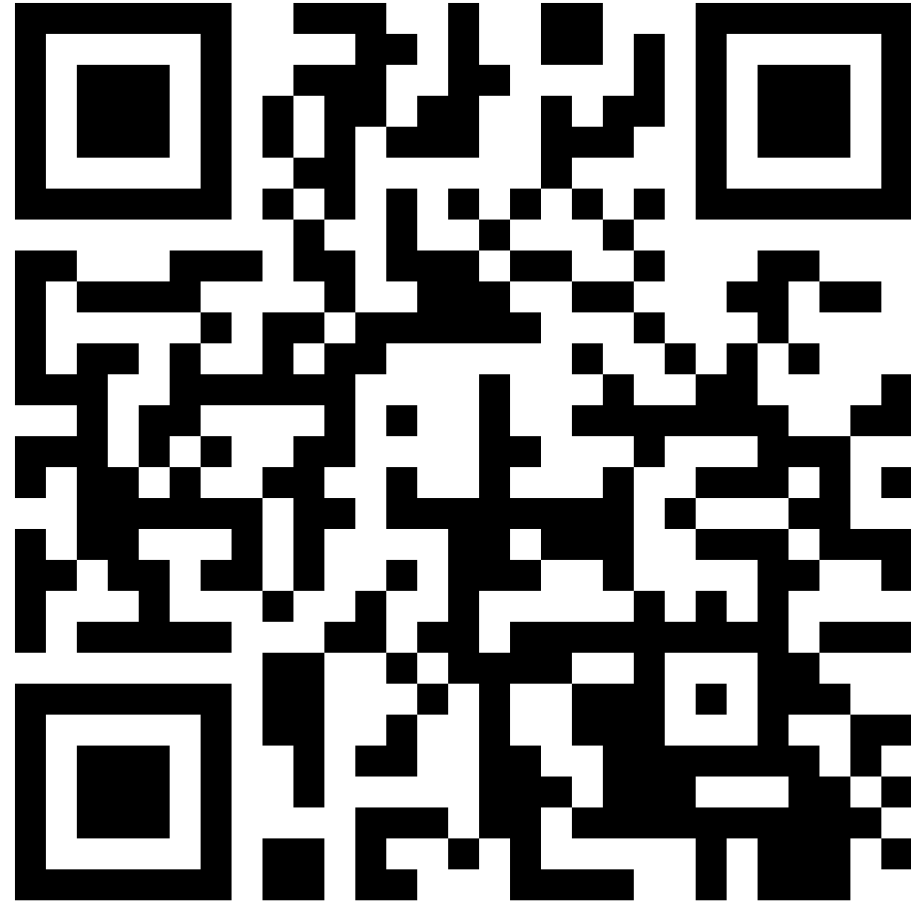
Overview application  
components



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# What do you have questions about?



# What kinds of graduate programs are there?

## Research-based

- 1 to 2 years
- Some courses and a research project or thesis
- Supervisor required
- Usually funding available
- Sometimes an internship or co-op available
- Furthers disciplinary expertise via more depth

## Course-based

- 1 to 2 years
- All courses
- No supervisor
- Sometimes funding available
- Sometimes a practicum or co-op available
- Furthers disciplinary expertise via more breadth



# What kinds of graduate programs are there?

## PhD or Doctorate

- Minimum 4 years
- Some courses, a dissertation, sometimes exams
- Supervisor required
- Funding available
- Sometimes an internship or co-op available
- Furthers disciplinary expertise via lots of breadth and depth

## Grad Diploma or College Degree

- 1 to 3 years
- All courses
- No supervisor
- Sometimes funding available
- Usually a practicum or internship, not always paid
- Builds skills necessary for a specific profession



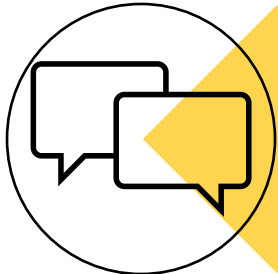
# How do I find a program? What about one that matches what I want?



Try an internet or database search



Investigate the program page



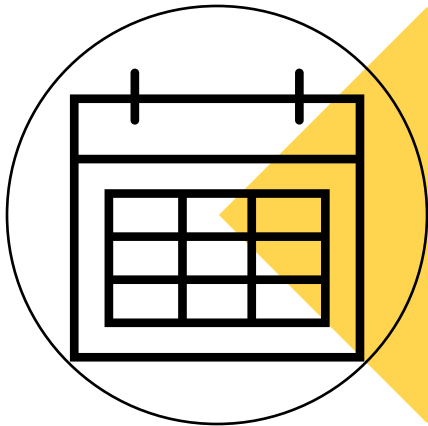
Connect with the program or school directly



# How do I apply? And when do I apply?



Completing an online application found on individual program websites or through an application portal



Mid-December to early March for many graduate school programs





# How much will it cost me to apply?



Application fees



Supplementary application fees



Official transcript fees



Transcript evaluation fee for international program\*



Sometimes a deposit to hold your spot



# What will grad programs look at?



Grades



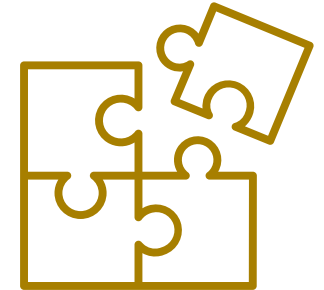
Prerequisite  
knowledge



Resume



References



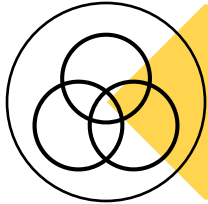
Fit



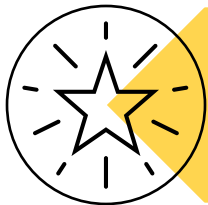
# My program is asking for a personal statement. What will I have to write about?



Motivation



Fit



Skills



Other



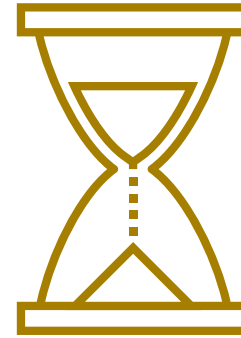
# My program requires references. What do I need to know?



Who do I ask?



How do I ask?



When do I ask?



What happens if they say no?



# Grad school is expensive! How do I fund my studies?



Office of education in your country



University financial aid office



Program website



Scholarship database



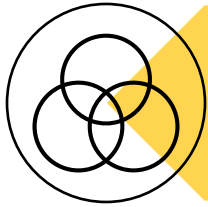
Institutional funding and loans



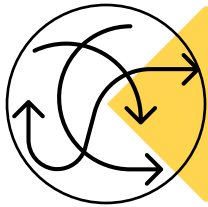
# What happens if I don't get it?



This happens and it can bring up emotions. That's okay.



You might not know why you weren't accepted.



What do you want to do if you don't get it?



Further Education Support



# What do you have questions about?

