The Mines geology and geological engineering graduate program offers degrees in geology, geological engineering, petroleum reservoir systems and mineral exploration. Graduate students desiring to study ground water, engineering geology/geotechnics, mining engineering geology and some environmental applications are generally expected to pursue the geological engineering degree. Students desiring to study petroleum, minerals exploration, development sciences or geology generally pursue geology degrees.

DEGREE OPTIONS

- **Doctor of Philosophy in geology or geological engineering**: 72 credit hours, comprised of at least 24 credit hours of research. Doctoral students must pass the qualifying exam and complete and successfully defend a satisfactory thesis.

- **Master of Science in geology or geological engineering (thesis based)**: 36 credit hours, comprised of at least 12 credit hours of research.

- **Master of Engineering in geological engineering (non-thesis)**: 30 credit hours, comprised of 24 credit hours of coursework and 6 credit hours of independent study.

- **Professional Master’s in mineral exploration (non-thesis)**: 30 credit hours of coursework.
RESEARCH EMPHASIS

The Department of Geology and Geological Engineering conducts research in a wide variety of areas that are related, but not restricted to, economic geology; engineering geology and geotechnics; hydrology; petroleum systems; and underground construction and tunneling.

Research centers associated with the department include the Advanced Subsurface Earth Resource Models; the Center for Mineral Resources Sciences; the Chevron Center of Research Excellence; and the Integrated Groundwater Modeling Center.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

- The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required.
- For international applicants or applicants whose native language is not English, a TOEFL score of 79 or higher (or 550 for the paper-based test, 213 for the computer-based test) is required. In lieu of a TOEFL score, an IELTS score of 6.5 or higher will be accepted.
- Statement of purpose and updated curriculum vitae or resume.
- Applicants must submit a minimum of three letters of recommendation and transcripts for all post-secondary degrees.

DOMESTIC APPLICATION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1

WITH ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS, CONTACT:
Office of Graduate Admissions
303-273-3247 | grad-app@mines.edu

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