

# Information Session on Graduate Studies

Department of Computer Science  
University of Western Ontario

April 1st, 2020

# Plan

① Overview

② Graduate School of Computer Science at Western

# Objectives

- 1 Give a brief presentation of our graduate school

<https://www.csd.uwo.ca/graduate/index.html>

- 2 Answering your questions like *why going to graduate school?*
- 3 What you may not know:
  - Graduate school comes in different flavors
  - Financial support
  - Scholarships and industry internship opportunities
  -

# Tentative agenda

14:00 Welcome!

14:05 I am in 4th year: what to do next?

14:10 Salary trajectories: BSc vs MSc

14:15 *Doing research in our department*

14:20 Graduate studies in Computer Science at Western

14:25 *Streams of the graduate programs*

14:25 How to apply to the graduate programs?

14:30 Experiences from current graduate students

14:45 Questions and answers

This set of slides.

# Plan

① Overview

② Graduate School of Computer Science at Western

# Computer Science Department in Numbers

## Numbers

- 20 faculty members + 2 full-time lecturers
- 150 graduate students
- A research intensive department
- Strong connections with industry (in particular through MITACS and with Bell, IBM, Microsoft, Maplesoft, ...)

# Computer Science Department: Research Areas

## Research areas

- Artificial intelligence & Games
- Bioinformatics
- Computer algebra
- Data analytics
- Distributed systems
- Computational neuro-sciences
- Software engineering
- Vision and image processing
- Theoretical computer science

# Computer Science Department: Facilities

## For graduate students

- Grad student/faculty offices:
  - Middlesex College: 3rd, 4th floors, part of 2nd floor and basement
- Access to all undergraduate labs (Middlesex College basement, 2nd,3rd floors)
- All graduate students receive office space and computer
- Graduate lounge: MC 312



# Graduate school: opportunities

## ① Learn and use advanced technology:

- The SHARCNET consortium  
<https://www.sharcnet.ca/my/front/>
- Compute Canada <https://www.computecanada.ca/>

# Graduate school: opportunities

## ① Learn and use advanced technology:

- The SHARCNET consortium  
<https://www.sharcnet.ca/my/front/>
- Compute Canada <https://www.computecanada.ca/>

## ② Do **real** research

# Graduate school: opportunities

- ① Learn and use advanced technology:
  - The SHARCNET consortium  
<https://www.sharcnet.ca/my/front/>
  - Compute Canada <https://www.computecanada.ca/>
- ② Do real research
- ③ Do industry internships within a real research project
  - MITACS internships <https://www.mitacs.ca/>
  - IBM CAS internships  
<https://www-01.ibm.com/ibm/cas/canada/>

# Graduate school: opportunities

- 1 Learn and use advanced technology:
  - The SHARCNET consortium  
<https://www.sharcnet.ca/my/front/>
  - Compute Canada <https://www.computecanada.ca/>
- 2 Do real research
- 3 Do industry internships within a real research project
  - MITACS internships <https://www.mitacs.ca/>
  - IBM CAS internships  
<https://www-01.ibm.com/ibm/cas/canada/>
- 4 Build connections :
  - Attend conferences <http://2017.hpcs.ca/>
  - Do internships abroad <https://www.mitacs.ca/en/programs/globalink/globalink-research-internship>

## So, why not going to graduate school?

- A Master is only **4 terms**. Generally less course-intensive than a bachelor: this gives you the time to think!

## So, why not going to graduate school?

- A Master is only **4 terms**. Generally less course-intensive than a bachelor: this gives you the time to think!
- A MSc or PhD diploma leads to **faster career progression** in the industry

## So, why not going to graduate school?

- A Master is only **4 terms**. Generally less course-intensive than a bachelor: this gives you the time to think!
- A MSc or PhD diploma leads to **faster career progression** in the industry
- Many former UWO/CSD students end up working at IBM and Microsoft. But depending on whether they have a MSc (or PhD) their career perspectives are very different.

## So, why not going to graduate school?

- A Master is only **4 terms**. Generally less course-intensive than a bachelor: this gives you the time to think!
- A MSc or PhD diploma leads to **faster career progression** in the industry
- Many former UWO/CSD students end up working at IBM and Microsoft. But depending on whether they have a MSc (or PhD) their career perspectives are very different.
- For the thesis and project flavors, MSc-thesis students receive a **stipend covering tuition fees** and (basic) **living expenses**.



## So, why not going to graduate school?

- A Master is only **4 terms**. Generally less course-intensive than a bachelor: this gives you the time to think!
- A MSc or PhD diploma leads to **faster career progression** in the industry
- Many former UWO/CSD students end up working at IBM and Microsoft. But depending on whether they have a MSc (or PhD) their career perspectives are very different.
- For the thesis and project flavors, MSc-thesis students receive a **stipend covering tuition fees** and (basic) **living expenses**.
- Research: an opportunity to **contribute to knowledge**

## So, why not going to graduate school?

- A Master is only **4 terms**. Generally less course-intensive than a bachelor: this gives you the time to think!
- A MSc or PhD diploma leads to **faster career progression** in the industry
- Many former UWO/CSD students end up working at IBM and Microsoft. But depending on whether they have a MSc (or PhD) their career perspectives are very different.
- For the thesis and project flavors, MSc-thesis students receive a **stipend covering tuition fees** and (basic) **living expenses**.
- Research: an opportunity to **contribute to knowledge**
- CS is a young field with new topics emerging every year.

# Scholarships

- Canada Graduate Scholarships-Masters Program  
[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/CGSM-BESCM\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/CGSM-BESCM_eng.asp)

# Scholarships

- Canada Graduate Scholarships-Masters Program  
[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/CGSM-BESCM\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/CGSM-BESCM_eng.asp)
- Ontario Graduate Scholarships (OGS) and QEII Graduate Scholarships in Science and Technology (QEII-GSST)  
[https://grad.uwo.ca/current\\_students/student\\_finances/ogs.html](https://grad.uwo.ca/current_students/student_finances/ogs.html)

# Scholarships

- Canada Graduate Scholarships-Masters Program  
[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/CGSM-BESCM\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/CGSM-BESCM_eng.asp)
- Ontario Graduate Scholarships (OGS) and QEII Graduate Scholarships in Science and Technology (QEII-GSST)  
[https://grad.uwo.ca/current\\_students/student\\_finances/ogs.html](https://grad.uwo.ca/current_students/student_finances/ogs.html)
- If you apply for a scholarship to be held at UWO, you can contact potential supervisors; she/he may help you to write the application.

# Scholarships

- Canada Graduate Scholarships-Masters Program  
[http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/CGSM-BESCM\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/CGSM-BESCM_eng.asp)
- Ontario Graduate Scholarships (OGS) and QEII Graduate Scholarships in Science and Technology (QEII-GSST)  
[https://grad.uwo.ca/current\\_students/student\\_finances/ogs.html](https://grad.uwo.ca/current_students/student_finances/ogs.html)
- If you apply for a scholarship to be held at UWO, you can contact potential supervisors; she/he may help you to write the application.
- Start the process early and apply to the selected UWO graduate school before submitting the scholarship application.