Zero-Tuition Graduate Degree with a Chance of Making Some Pennies

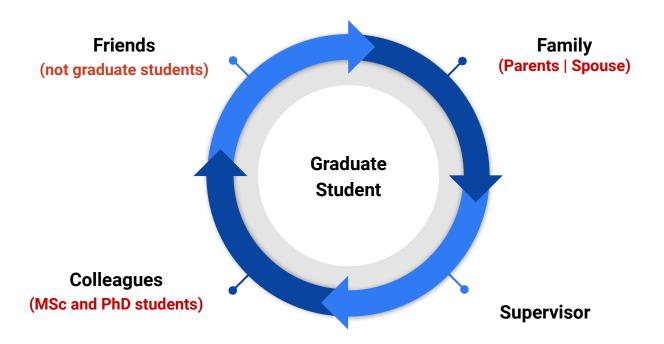
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Nothing in this talk represent the views or the opinions of any entity whatsoever with which I have been, am now, or will be affiliated with.

What is the goal of this talk?

Agenda

- Becoming a Graduate Student
- The value of a Master's Degree in CS
- Planning for Graduate School.
- Selecting your MSc Area, Supervisor, and University.
- Q&A



 Someone who postpones his unemployment, by staying in College to further his degree. Can be from between 2-to-8 years. [Your Parents]

 A grad student is either a hopeless who fear to leave College, or an overachieving dork. [Your Friends]

 Graduate students perform all the parts of research, that professors don't want to do [MSc students]

 Graduate students perform all the parts of research, that professors don't know how to do [PhD students]

The smart, talented, unique person who will help me in my plans to change the world to a better place. [Your Professor|Supervisor]

What Do We Expect From You?

Masterpiece



What You Expect From Us?

Cheap Replica



What Will Happen?

Middleground



What is graduate school?

Graduate School in Nutshell

- Advanced academic degree in a specialized field of study are pursued after one has already obtained a bachelor's degree.
- Advanced program of study focused on a particular academic discipline or profession
- Most of the time will help you to secure a path to a high-paying career.
- Types of Graduate Degrees: Master's degrees and Doctorate degrees

Graduate Degree in CS is Not Just a Degree

- It is more like an internship, if not a full-time position
- You will be working within a research group.
- You will be working individually on specific tasks/problems.
- You will prepare progress reports and present your work to a group.
- You will most likely have direct interaction with clients.
- You will develop communication skills, self-esteem, and a critical thinking mindset.

Why getting a Master's degree in computer science?

The Value of a Masters Degree

- Many employers are now preferring candidates with a master's degree over those with a bachelor's.
- The median annual pay for a graduate with a Master's in Computer Science is \$114,000.
- When compared to other graduate programs, those with a Master's in Computer Science see their pay increase the most by as much as \$30,000.
- In 2017, Forbes ranked a Master's in Computer Science as the second best master's degree to get, due to the degree's high ROI.

Do Employers Value Masters Degrees?

Types of Employers:

- The Do Not Care: Do not seek to hire someone with postgraduate degree
- Good to Have: Your postgraduate degree might make you more likely to be shortlisted, or to earn a higher starting salary.
- Should Have: Express a preference for postgraduate degree holders, when advertising positions. A postgraduate degree might also help offset a lack of experience when applying for this kind of role.
- MUST: A postgraduate degree is a hard requirement for the position.

What does a Masters Degree Says About You?

- 1. Effective communication.
- 2. Critical thinking and problem solving
- 3. Ability to deliver with quality
- 4. Working independently and as part of a team
- Project and time management.
- 6. Ability to manage ambiguity.
- 7. Ability to work with minimum supervision.

Planning for Graduate School

Set Your Goal

I am doing a masters degree, because I want to learn more and

- 1. Secure a better career/position (e.g. high paying positions)
- 2. Do a career shift
- 3. Apply for PhD
- 4. Move to R&D career path.

Time is the only Cost

- If you are paying for your graduate degree then you are doing something wrong.
- It is OK if you are making enough money to cover your tuition and basic needs.
- Only in very rare cases it is OK to pay for a graduate degree.

Where is the money come from?

- 1. Research Assistantship and Teaching Assistantship.
- 2. University/Graduate School Scholarship.
- 3. Government Scholarship.
- 4. Private and Public Scholarship.
- 5. (Research) Project Contracts and Grants

Graduate School Scholarship

Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship

- PhD Students in Engineering, Natural Sciences, Health, Social Sciences or Humanities.
- 150,000 CAD over 3 years.

Ontario Graduate Scholarship

- MSc (2 years) and PhD students (4 years)
- 15,000 CAD per year.
- Must be enrolled in Ontario University

Ontario Trillium Scholarship

- International PhD Students
- 160,000 CAD over four years.
- Must be enrolled in Ontario University.

Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation Scholar

- PhD Students
- 240,000 CAD over four years.
- Only 15 scholarship per year.

NSERC Graduate Scholarship

- Canadian Citizen MSc and PhD Students
- PhD is 21,000 CAD or 35,000 per year for 3 years
- MSc is 15,500 CAD for one year

Industry Scholarships | Fellowship

- IBM
- Microsoft
- Amazon
- Google

Vector Institute Scholarship

- MSc students doing research in Applied Al
- 17,500 CAD for one year
- Registered in a recognized Ontario University.

Your Degree Ingredients (Research Area, Supervisor, University)

Selecting Research Area (MSc)

- 1. Evaluate the Job Market.
- 2. Ideally select an area that you like.
- 3. Ask around and take feedback.
- 4. Keep your options open.

Select a Supervisor

- Select a good supervisor.
- Make contact.
- Interview your potential supervisor.
- 4. Negotiate funding and responsibilities.
- 5. Talk to other students and researchers who are currently supervised by your potential supervisor and ex-students.
- 6. Check your potential supervisor's academic activities (teaching, research, projects, publications).

Select Your University

- The rank and the name of the university are important but way less important than you might think.
- You should find a supervisor and university that will match your expectation and goals from the degree.
- The name of the university on your MSc degree worth nothing without a string of publications and demonstrations for your new skills.

Thanks

Questions??

Should I work for 2 or 3 years and then go to graduate school?

I will find work first and then go to graduate school; because my company will cover my graduate school cost

Obtaining a graduate degree will not affect my career development, my company will not pay me extra if I get an MSc or PhD degree

Could I work full-time while doing graduate school?

MSc or MEng or MAC, or Maybe PhD?

To get your graduate degree, you must invent something new

Graduate school is only for A+ students

What is the next step?

Any other ???