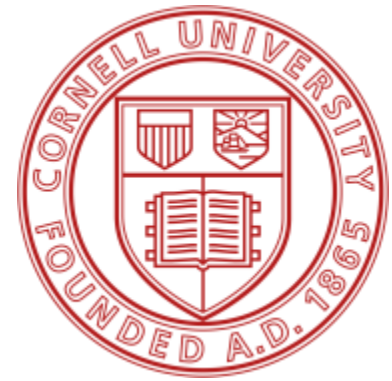


CornellEngineering

Civil and Environmental Engineering



CEE 4540

Sustainable municipal drinking water treatment

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Class #9 09/26/2018 2:55 – 4:10pm

Coaching on Career Development

- Options for your carrier path(s)
- Glass ceiling
- Skills that will help your career development
 - How to find your first job
 - How to accelerate within an organization
- Resume development
- Interview Skills

What Are Your Career Options After You Graduate?

- Think **BIG**



- Think Outside the Box



Option 1: Academia

❑ Pros

- ❖ Reputation, Social Status, Self-Fulfillment
- ❖ Flexible schedule
- ❖ Get to do cool research
- ❖ Very stable job after you get tenure
- ❖ Medium pays (~\$60 - \$100K)
- ❖ Can attend international conferences/meetings

❑ Cons

- ❖ No PTO (paid time off)
- ❖ 9 months salary typically; plus research funding on your own
- ❖ High pressure
- ❖ Tend to work very long hours before tenure
- ❖ What if you don't get tenure?
- ❖ Pay may not be as attractive as a consultant
- ❖ Tend to work as a lone-wolf

Option 2: Consultant (Engineering Firms)

❑ Pros

- ❖ Higher pay (\$65K – 85K to start; >\$200K towards the later part of your career if you are GOOD); plus bonus
- ❖ Team work
- ❖ Get to work on variety types of projects: gaining broader experience and perspectives on engineering
- ❖ Opportunity to travel around (mostly domestic travel)

❑ Cons

- ❖ Very high pressure
- ❖ Tend to work long hours (depending on workload) with unexpected schedule change
- ❖ High Utilization goal (billable work)
- ❖ You could get laid-off with a very short notice

Option 3: Regulator

❑ Pros

- ❖ Very stable job
- ❖ Get to work with utilities at all sizes
- ❖ Gaining experience from variety types of projects
- ❖ Low pressure
- ❖ Flexible schedule
- ❖ Various tiers of organization (Federal; State; County, City)

❑ Cons

- ❖ Lower pay (\$60K - &90K)
- ❖ Limited travel

Professional Organizations

- American Water Works Association (AWWA)
- Water & Environment Federation (WEF)
- Water Reuse Foundation (WRF)
- Research division within these organizations
- Non-profit organizations (e.g., Water for People; Engineering without Boarder, Everglades Foundation)

Technology & Equipment Companies

- Large corporations; e.g., SUEZ; Evoqua;
- Providers for specific technology; e.g., Kabuta, 3M, Dow, Hydraunautics, Tonka; Trojan; Ozonia

Pros:

- There are many choices
- Could offer various career paths
- Higher pay

Cons:

- High sales pressure

Option 4: Utilities as Lab manager, Engineer or Operator

❑Pros

- ❖Get to learn proper design quickly with the help from plant operators/managers and design engineers; even if you are just a new young engineer/operator at the plant
- ❖Gaining experience from variety types of skills needed within a water utility
- ❖Can switch over to other tracks mentioned above
- ❖Low pressure

❑Cons

- ❖Does not offer a “prominent” social status
- ❖Lower salary (\$60K - &90K) compared to engineers

BUT~~~ You will be highly wanted for all the positions stated above once you have gained lots of “insider” experience and a good reputation in the industry (what about retire early with a full pension PLUS a second income if you choose to take on a second carrer?)