

TIPS FOR GRADUATE SCHOOL PREPARATION

- Maintain a Grade Point Average of 3.2 or better.
- Plan your curriculum early so that you can make certain that you have all the prerequisite courses for the program you choose.
- Attend Graduate School Night, hosted by the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering each October.
- If you are thinking about applying to UC Berkeley, research the different programs' curriculums and discuss your options with a trusted faculty member. Each faculty member is associated with at least one program. When you decide on one or two options, then meet with a faculty member from those programs.
- If you are not sure about whether you want to attend graduate school and you think you might work for a few years before applying, it would be a good idea to get two faculty members to write letters of recommendation for you while you are still at Berkeley. You can put the letters on file at the UC Berkeley Career Center. These letters will be written while you and your performance are still fresh in the faculty member's mind, and as such, will be better than letters written a year or more later.
- Take the GRE early so you will have time to retake it if you wish.
- You will need 2-3 letters of recommendation from faculty. Think about which faculty members you would like to ask to write a letter for you and attend their office hours so that they can get to know you.
- When you ask for a letter of recommendation from a faculty member, be sure to request a "strong" letter. If the faculty member cannot agree to that, you need to seek another faculty recommendation.
- When you are assembling your application materials, do not open the official transcript that you intend on submitting with your application.