

MSc Studentship Opportunity – Geochemistry of mining-impacted coastal environments

The Department of Geological Sciences at the **University of Saskatchewan** invites applications for a **funded, research-based MSc studentship**. The start date would be May 2027.

About the Position:

The project applies geochemical and mineralogical approaches to investigate Canadian coastal environments affected by mining activities. The student will conduct fieldwork to collect sediment and water samples (summer 2027), analyze the sample composition of the samples in laboratories, and potentially conduct experiments to examine the changes in environmental chemistry over time in marine settings. Based on the results, the student will interpret and report the findings to characterize the environmental conditions at the contaminated sites. This research will contribute to our understanding of the long-term environmental impact of the critical mineral supply chain in Canada.

The student will be based full-time on the Saskatoon campus of the University of Saskatchewan. The MSc student will be supervised by Dr. Man-Yin Tsang (<https://artsandscience.usask.ca/profile/MTsang>) in the Department of Geological Sciences at the University of Saskatchewan.

Required qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in a Geoscience or a related discipline, such as Chemistry.
- Strong academic performance (GPA $\geq$ 80%).
- Ability to conduct wet-chemistry lab work involving concentrated acids and to follow operating procedures and safety protocols.
- Proficient in written and verbal communication in English.
- An international student would need to secure a student visa prior to the start date.

Preferred qualifications:

- Hands-on experience in analytical (geo)chemistry and/or fieldwork collecting porewater samples.

How to Apply:

Please email with the subject '**MSc Coastal Mining**' to Dr. Man-Yin Tsang at my.tsang"at"usask.ca

Your email should include:

1. Curriculum vitae
2. Transcripts (online screen captures are okay at this stage)
3. The intake questionnaire at the end of this document

Suitable candidates will be contacted in Nov/Dec 2026 for further information. The MSc student will receive a stipend but will be responsible for tuition and student fees. More information about the Geological Sciences MSc program can be found here: <https://grad.usask.ca/programs/geological-sciences.php>

The [University of Saskatchewan](#) is one of Canada's 15 leading research-intensive universities, USask provides a highly collaborative research environment with some of the best facilities and analytical tools in Canada, including a synchrotron facility (the Canadian Light Source). The [Department of Geological Sciences](#) is recognized internationally for excellence in research and training. Our faculty, students, and staff explore physical, chemical, and biological processes that have shaped our planet over the last 4.6 billion years.

[Tsang Lab Research Interest Form]

Thank you for your interest in joining our research team!

Please take about 20 mins to answer the following questions. You are not expected to spend too much time on this application and we only expect short answers – and there are no “wrong answers”. This is not a test, but an opportunity for us to learn more about you and your interest in our group. This helps both you and us understand if we are a good mutual fit, and what type of work would be most suitable for you on the team. If we are a good fit, we will set up meetings to discuss further.

1. Please introduce yourself. What specifically interests you in joining our team?

2. If you are aiming for specific opportunities that have been advertised, or if you have a research idea that you would like to pursue, please specify.
Additional:
 - *Potential graduate students:* when would you be able to start?

3. Do you have any specific background that may be helpful for studying the area(s) of interest you mentioned above? (These can be courses, background, experiences, skills, talks attended, reflection from papers read, etc.)

4. What skills or knowledge would you like to gain before you graduate from this Usask program?
What is your current career goal?

5. Anything else you would like to tell me? (Optional)

Thank you for your responses!