

2. Training Program

2.1. Program description

Restoration is one of the key principles of sustainable design. As masonry and brick structures age and decay, there is growing demand for people who have the skill to restore and revitalize them. Residential, commercial and industrial structures, such as hotels, underground parking garages, churches, offices, bridges and condominiums, require skilled restoration professionals who understand the building techniques used at the time of construction, whether five years or a century ago. The Building Restoration Technician two-year program at George Brown College is the only program in Ontario that addresses the severe shortage of skilled people in the restoration industry.

You will learn the technical and practical skills required to revitalize existing concrete and masonry structures. Courses cover industry-specific materials, product and material knowledge, compatibility characteristics, new technologies and application principles so that you will be able to resolve the complex problems of ensuring continued use of threatened highways, stadiums and other structures. Training and work simulations take place in the fully equipped modern restoration masonry lab, where you will learn brick, block and stone-laying techniques, construction and restoration of wood frame, veneer, solid and composite walls, concrete installation and repair, stucco and historical building restoration methods. Business skills such as project management, quantity surveying and estimating are also emphasized. Students will prepare for employment by completing a field placement with a restoration contractor.

2.2. What is the diploma or certificate earned through this program?

Ontario College Diploma

2.3. What classes are required?

Semester 1

BLDG1009	Residential Building Renovation and Restoration
DRFT1006	Architectural Plan Interpretation I
COMP1082	Computer Skills and Applications
GHUM1106	History of Architecture
MATH1025	Mathematics for Technology
COMM1007	College English

Semester 2

BLDG2003	ICI Renovation and Restoration (Industrial, Commercial, Institutional)
BLDG2048	Site Management, Construction Safety, and Restoration
DRFT2017	Architectural Plan Interpretation II
GNED	General Education Elective

Semester 3

BLDG2052	Methods of Measurement: Restoration, Renovation, and Redevelopment
BLDG2035	Restoration Methods and Materials I: Applied Theory and Practices
BLDG2037	Materials Testing and Analysis I
BLDG2042	Industry Field Placement I
GSCI1022	Building Science and the Environment

Semester 4

BLDG2050	Estimating
BLDG2039	Restoration Methods and Materials II: Applied Theory and Practices
BLDG2041	Materials Testing and Analysis II
BLDG2044	Industry Field Placement II
BLDG2047	Planning and Scheduling (Renovations and Restoration)
GNED	General Education Elective

2.4. How does the school decide what to teach? (How is curriculum developed?)

Ongoing research in the respective fields of practice, reviews of best practices and policy developments, and consultations with employers and industry, community, and government partners all inform the creation and evolution of program curriculum.

In order to support faculty and staff in these critical tasks, George Brown's Board of Governors ensures the establishment of an active, voluntary program advisory committee for each program of instruction or cluster of programs of instruction offered at the College. The mandate of program advisory committees is to offer advice to the Board and College administration pertaining to existing programs of instruction and the introduction of new programs of instruction on such matters as curriculum, academic program review, technology, employment prospects, cooperative training and field placements, relations with professional and local communities, and student awards. Each committee comprises 12 to 16 members, who may be drawn from College administration, faculty, and staff, students, alumni, employers, industry partners, community agencies, professional and trade associations, regulatory bodies, etc.

2.5. Does the school evaluate course content and instructors?

George Brown College places a strong emphasis on providing students with a learning environment of the highest calibre, and therefore assures that students' concerns about their educational experience are taken seriously and dealt with effectively and in a timely manner.

Students who do have concerns about the quality of their education are encouraged to approach the appropriate faculty member. If they are unable to talk to him or her or the issue remains unaddressed, students may directly contact the Chair of their department. If they disagree with the Chair's decision, they may appeal to the Dean of their faculty.

More generally, academic department Chairs review and approve course outlines each semester. Students have the opportunity at the end of each semester to evaluate, through a student satisfaction survey, their courses and course instructors. Regular program reviews take into account student satisfaction along with such factors as graduation rate, graduate satisfaction, employment rate after six months, and employer satisfaction.

2.6. What qualifications or certifications do instructors have?

George Brown faculty are fully certified in their respective professions and trades and bring a wealth of field experience to the classroom and, generally, two or more years of practice in curriculum development, teaching, and adult learning. Many instructors also possess at least a Master's-level degree in their discipline.

2.7. What instructional methods are used in the program?

Instructional methods include: lectures, demonstrations, labs, studios, seminars, computer-based instruction (WebCT) and learning activities, problem-based learning, self-directed learning, and independent and small group work

2.8. Are there assignments other than regular class work?

Yes, frequent assignments challenge students and supplement classroom learning.

2.9. Does the program involve guest speakers from the relevant industry/sector or field trips to industry/sector sites?

Yes, we invite industry guests into our classrooms and provide opportunities for visits to live work sites.

2.10. Is a cooperative placement part of the program? If so, how long is the placement?

Yes, there is a one-week field placement in Semester 3 and Semester 4.

2.11. Describe any other hands-on experiences included in the program.

In addition to the field placement, hands-on opportunities include: design and building projects, computer labs, and annual technological skills competitions.

2.12. Is the program curriculum fixed, or is it possible to develop an individual plan?

Fixed.

2.13. If a student has some prior knowledge of course materials, are exemptions from courses possible?

If students meet the admission requirements of a program, they can apply for an assessment of their work-related experience to see if it is eligible for credit recognition. This process is called Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR). To receive credit for work experience, students write an examination or essay for a particular course and/or prepare a portfolio of achievements that document their skills for assessment by faculty. PLAR costs \$96 per course.

To discuss PLAR options, contact the academic program office to meet with a program coordinator. For general information, call the PLAR office at 416.415.5000, ext. 7527.

2.14. What is the average class size or student:teacher ratio in the program?

Class sizes at George Brown average 30–40 students.

2.15. How are grades/marks calculated?

Evaluation schemes vary by course and are based on classroom participation, projects and assignments, labs, presentations, tests, exams, etc.

2.16. What grades/marks are required to graduate from the program?

George Brown records grades using letter values, as shown in the table on the following page. In order to graduate from diploma and certificate programs, students must normally have a grade point average (GPA) of 1.7/4.0 and a passing grade in required courses.

%	Letter	Grade Points	Designation
90–100	A+	4.0	Honours
86–89	A	4.0	Diploma and certificate programs: 3.5 or higher GPA / Degree programs: 3.7 or higher
80–85	A-	3.7	
77–79	B+	3.3	
73–76	B	3.0	In good standing
70–72	B-	2.7	Diploma and certificate programs: 1.7 or higher GPA and a passing grade in required courses / Degree programs: 2.3 or higher GPA
67–69	C+	2.3	
63–66	C	2.0	
60–62	C-	1.7	On condition
57–59	D+	1.3	Diploma and certificate programs: less than 1.7 GPA or one or more failed courses /
50–56	D	1.0	
0–49	F	0.0	Degree programs: less than 2.3 GPA

2.17. Are make-up exams allowed if necessary?

Yes. George Brown's goal is to promote academic success of students and to ensure that their academic records reflect their academic abilities and accomplishments. It is expected that faculty will make academic judgments that are objective, consistent, and fair. In situations where students experience personal difficulties or unforeseen events that disrupt or impact their academic performance, it is expected that faculty will provide alternate arrangements to enable the students to meet course/program requirements.

2.18. Is there an appeal process for students who disagree with their marks?

Yes. All students are entitled to:

- ∞ feedback on their academic standing during and at the end of every course they take;
- ∞ a review of any grade within a course;
- ∞ a review of final grades in a course, or a review of any decision by a Promotion Committee with respect to their academic standing, continuation, or status in a program, faculty, or the College; and
- ∞ an appeal of any final grade in a course or any decision of a Promotion Committee with respect to their academic standing, continuation, or status in a program, faculty, or the College.

An Appeals Committee comprising two faculty members, two students, and a chair from outside the student's faculty provides the final, neutral forum in which students can present an appeal. The Committee can uphold the student appeal and amend the disputed grade or amend or reverse the disputed Promotions Committee decision.

Grounds for an appeal may include: merit of work, medical and compassionate considerations, departures from course management, personal bias or unfair treatment, and misapplication of academic regulations or procedural error.

2.19. How long has the school been offering this program?

The Centre for Construction & Engineering Technology has been helping to launch careers in the building industry for more than 35 years.

2.20. Are equipment and books current?

George Brown aims to use and make available to students the latest teaching and learning technology, and has a reputation as one of the best-equipped colleges in the province. Across our three campuses, we have more than 130 SMART classrooms, which many of our instructors innovatively employ in their teaching.

Required or recommended texts and other learning materials are reviewed annually and updated as necessary.

2.21. Are special accommodations available?

George Brown is committed to providing equal access to education for students with disabilities. Disabilities may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- ∞ acquired brain injury;
- ∞ attention-deficit/ hyperactivity disorder (ADD/ADHD);
- ∞ medical conditions, e.g. epilepsy, HIV, diabetes, kidney disease;
- ∞ deafness or being deafened or hard-of-hearing;
- ∞ learning disabilities;
- ∞ low vision/blindness;
- ∞ mobility/functional limitations, whether physical or neurological;
- ∞ mental illness, e.g., depression, anxiety disorders, schizophrenia, mood disorders, post-traumatic stress syndrome.

We provide assistance and consultation through a wide array of services, including:

- ∞ accommodations for pre-admission and placement testing;
- ∞ tutors;
- ∞ learning strategies;
- ∞ peer notetakers;
- ∞ reduced course loads;
- ∞ sign language interpreters;
- ∞ sign language interpreters;
- ∞ adaptive technology;
- ∞ recording devices;
- ∞ large-print, taped or Braille materials;
- ∞ financial assistance (bursaries).

2.22. If students utilize computers are they required to share? If extra time is required on computers for class work, are there computers available for use?

Yes and yes. George Brown's Campus Libraries/Learning Commons (LLCs) afford students access to open access computing and a wide variety of electronic and print resources for purposes of research, course assignments and projects, and independent study.

At Casa Loma, students have access to 188 PCs in the LLC and another 24 PCs in the ESL Library. At St. James, there are 120 PCs and 64 Macs in the LLC and another 99 PCs and 31 research computers in the Learning Commons Annex. At Ryerson, there are 28 PCs in the Academic Resources Centre. All computers are loaded with the major software applications used in classes, computer-based tutorials, CD-ROMs, and of course word processing, email, and browsing capabilities. Printers and scanners are also available.

3. Employment Outlook

3.1. National Occupational Classification (NOC) occupational group

Residential Home Builders and Renovators

3.2. NOC code

0712

3.3. NOC skill level

Management occupations (NOC codes beginning with a "0") are not assigned to a skill level category. These occupations span the entire classification structure and are found in all sectors or areas of the labour market.

3.4. For what occupation does this program prepare its graduates?

Graduates find employment in many areas of the renovation and construction field. Opportunities include renovation, general contracting, custom home building, carpentry, site supervision, project management, estimating, technical sales, and home inspections. Graduates may also start their own businesses offering these services.

3.5. Are other licences or certifications required for this occupation?

No.

3.6. Within the last three years, what percentage of students completed this program?

Program completion rates at George Brown exceed 80 percent.

3.7. Is job search assistance provided?

You will find connecting with employers easy with the help of the Centre for Construction & Engineering Technologies' Industry Liaison Office (ILO). The ILO is dedicated to moving you from the classroom to the workplace. Working with the George Brown Career Centre, the ILO organizes work placements, career fairs, on-campus hiring, job postings, guest speakers and other valuable industry-focused events to get you in front of employers. For more information, please visit www.georgebrown.ca/ilo.

As well, Career Services at the Casa Loma and St. James campuses offer job search assistance to students through workshops and individual consultations, and opportunities for online job postings, on-campus recruiting, and participation in industry-specific career fairs—e.g., technology, fitness and lifestyles—to employers.

Throughout the year, students can take advantage of Career Services workshops on such topics as:

- ∞ portfolio development;
- ∞ interview preparation and interview questions;
- ∞ networking skills;
- ∞ career planning;
- ∞ résumé basics and résumé polish;
- ∞ professional image;
- ∞ dressing for success;
- ∞ career fair preparation.

Full-time students also have access to JobSpyder, an online service that lists 400,000 job opportunities compiled from 15,000 websites, including corporate, educational, government, not-for-profit, and job boards.

3.8. What percentage of students who completed this program are employed in jobs related to the program? Are the jobs full-time, part-time, or contract?

One hundred percent of graduates who entered the labour market are employed; 55 percent of employed graduates are employed in a related field, 91 percent in full-time positions (Graduate Employment Report, 2006–07).

3.9. Who hires graduates of this program? Who are the employers? (Provide examples.)

Employers of graduates include industry partners such as:

5nine	Canderel Stoneridge
Absolut Construction	Chant Construction
Admar Contracting	City of Brampton
Aecon Construction Group	Compass Construction Resources
Alan Elwes Electrical	Dekay Construction
Asco Construction	Department of National Defense
Aviance Forming	Diamond Building Developers
Avid Construction	DJ Campbell Construction
B Fayer & Son Construction	Eastern Construction
Bernel Masonry	EllisDon Corporation
Bird Construction	Empire Communities
Black & Veatch	Fireblade Construction
Blackthorn Construction Management	Flynn Canada
Bondfield Construction	Foam Comfort
BQ Siders	Forecast Group
Buttcon	Frank and Peter Greico Contracting
Canadian Network Installations	Govan Brown

Halsall Associates	R. Galati Contracting
Henry's Excavating	Rand General Contractors
IRC Group	Res 2000 Structures
Jackson Tkach	Rochon Building
Jasper Construction	Ross Clair Contractors
Kenaidan Contracting	Roto Mil Services
Kiewit	Shaw
LaFarge Paving and Construction	Shower Deluxe
Laurentian University	Steelcase Construction
Legend Creek Homes	Stellar Homes
Liberty Interiors	T.Harris Environmental Management
Maple Reinders	T. T. Construction
Maria Di Fiore	Terraprobe
Mattamy Homes	The Atlas Corporation
Mayfair Construction	Timbel Limited
Mega Carpentry	Toronto Transit Commission (TTC)
Minto Urban Communities	Trancels
Modern Niagara Toronto	Tridel/Deltera
Monarch Corporation	Tucker Hirise
Mottomar Construction	Unistrut Canada
Niacon	Urbacon
On Centre Developments	Valleywood Contracting
Orlando Corporation	Vanbots Construction
Ortus Welding	York Maple Homes
PCL Constructors Canada	

3.10. What is the program's/institution's reputation with employers in the industry/sector?

In a word, excellent, among employers and industry, community, and government partners.

In a 2006 Environics poll on post-secondary institutions in Ontario, Greater Toronto Area residents (who themselves or whose family members are in college or are college-bound) name George Brown the province's "best college." Most respondents, when asked which college they would attend, make George Brown their top pick. (The next most popular college trails George Brown by almost 10 points.)

Respondents believe George Brown best equips its graduates to get a job they want.

- ∞ George Brown is seen as having the strongest relationships with industry.
- ∞ George Brown has the best reputation for offering students the best balance between theoretical and practical learning, and is considered a leader in delivering practical learning opportunities.
- ∞ George Brown's graduates are thought most likely to become "leaders of tomorrow."

Survey respondents also believe that George Brown is "the college with graduates that are most sought by employers."

3.11. Have you contacted current students or graduates of the program?

- Yes
 No

3.12. If so, what are their opinions about the program/school?



4. Time Commitment

4.1. How often does the program run?

There is one intake per year: Fall.

4.2. When does the program start?

September.

Note: for program availability and status, please refer to the online full-time programs guide: www.georgebrown.ca:80/globalnav/programs.aspx.

4.3. What are the registration dates?

You can register online and select your courses through STU VIEW. Please note that you are not guaranteed a seat in your program unless and until you pay your fees by the due date and register in your courses or section.

For programs starting in September, web registration is normally open between early- to mid-July (of the same year) and early- to mid-September.

4.4. What is the length of the program?

Two years (four semesters).

4.5. How many credit hours are required?

George Brown operates on a semester rather than a credit hour system.

4.6. How many hours are spent in class each week? Full-time, weekdays, weekends?

An average of 25 hours per week are spent in class, all on weekdays.

4.7. Are there any scheduled breaks in the training?

There is a summer break (May–August inclusive) between the second and third semesters.

5. Admission/Entrance Requirements

5.1. What are the admission/entrance requirements for the program?

- ∞ Ontario Secondary School Diploma (or equivalent) or Mature Student Status
- ∞ Grade 12 English (C or U)
- ∞ Grade 11 Math (M or U) or Grade 12 (C or U)

5.2. Is there an admissions test? If so, when and where may it be taken?

Yes, pre-admissions testing is mandatory for all Second Career applicants to George Brown. Program-specific tests are designed to assess whether you have the skills in English, math and, depending on your program of choice, science, required to succeed in your training, and to place you in your program's English and math courses at the appropriate level.

During our QuickAdmit process for Second Career clients, an Admissions Officer will direct you to the appropriate Assessment Centre. Tests can be written on a drop-in basis but may take up to three hours. Please plan on arriving, therefore, between 10am and 2pm: Tuesday – Saturday at the Casa Loma Assessment Centre, Monday – Friday at the St. James Assessment Centre. Although most of the assessment tests are completed using computer-based testing systems, no previous computer experience is necessary.

5.3. Will I be required to take any remedial, prerequisite, or non-credit classes before starting the program?

Recommendations for academic upgrading, if required, will be based on the above-mentioned pre-admissions testing.

5.4. Will I be required to obtain a medical exam, criminal check, or driver's abstract before starting the course? Or before a placement or certification?

No.

6. Costs

6.1. Is the school approved to issue income tax receipts (T2202A forms)?

Yes.

6.2. What is the tuition cost?

Base tuition:	\$4,604.68 /4 semesters (2010-11)
Ancillary fees:	\$1,312.32 /4 semesters (2010-11)
Materials:	\$450.00 /4 semesters (2010-11)
Total:	\$6,367.00 /4 semesters (2010-11)

6.3. Is there an application fee or registration fee? If so how much?

Ontario College Application Service (OCAS):	\$95.00 (2010-11)
International document assessment (if necessary):	\$60.00 plus \$10.00 for document return
George Brown fee deferral:	\$145.00

6.4. Must additional supplies be purchased through the training institution?

Yes.

6.5. What is the cost of books?

TBD

6.6. Are all certification exams included in cost? If not, outline extra fees.

Not applicable.

6.7. What are the costs for any required medical exams, criminal checks, or driver's abstract?

Not applicable.

6.8. When is the deadline to pay for this program?

Fees are due prior to registration. Please refer to your invoice for details and payment options.

For programs starting in September, the first installment of fees is normally due in early July (of the same year).

6.9. What is the school's refund policy?

Potential refunds and academic penalties are based on the date you submit a completed and signed program withdrawal form to the Registrar's Office. Some programs do not refund material fees. A minimum of four weeks is required to process a refund.

Before withdrawing from your program, please get advice from a counsellor or faculty member to explore your options. George Brown is committed to your success, and we really, really don't want to see you leave.