

## faq: what is the geomechanics specialization?

Mining engineers are an important part of major construction projects, especially underground projects like subways and highway tunnels. In the geomechanics track you take the equivalent of a specialized semester in rock and soil mechanics, underground construction geomechanics, and technical electives in civil engineering, hydrology, or geo-



## Geomechanics - "To stay on top - go underground"

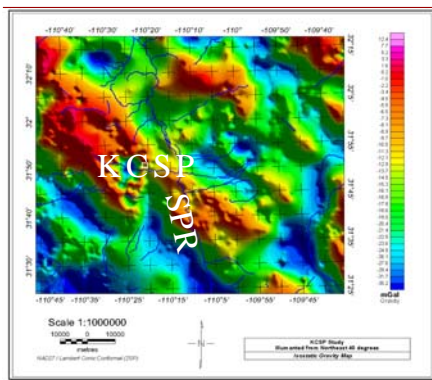
Urban infrastructure is increasingly being placed underground to limit the impact on surface structures, neighborhoods, and to reduce the cost of buying property for right of way. The "Big Dig" in Boston is the largest and most sophisticated urban infrastructure project completed in the US so far. It is just the first of many. In New York City there are \$22 billion worth of underground projects under construction today. Nearly every major city in the US and around the world has some major underground infrastructure project being planned, executed, or soon finished. These projects range from major water and sewer tunnels, to subways, light rail, and highway tunnels to shopping centers. Mining engineers work closely with civil engineers on both underground and surface construction projects from the design through the construction of the projects. Students who pursue an option in geomechanics can work for major construction companies like Kiewit, Bechtel, Frontier-Kemperer, etc., consulting firms such as URS, AMEC, or Golder, or pursue graduate studies in mining engineering, geological engineering, or civil engineering.



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