**Syllabus Standard Statements – Graduate Course Outlines**

The following are standard statements for inclusion in all course outlines. Some departments or colleges may also elect to post this information on a common website and link to such sites in the course outline. However, it is strongly recommended that statements on academic misconduct and links to the academic misconduct section of the academic calendars be included in all course outlines.

Graduate Degree Learning Outcomes

1. Critical and Creative Thinking

Critical and creative thinking is a concept in which one applies logical principles, after much inquiry and analysis, to solve problems with a high degree of innovation, divergent thinking and risk taking. Those mastering this outcome show evidence of integrating knowledge and applying this knowledge across disciplinary boundaries. Depth and breadth of understanding of disciplines is essential to this outcome. At the graduate level, originality in the application of knowledge (master’s) and undertaking of research (doctoral) is expected.

In addition, Critical and Creative Thinking includes, but is not limited to, the following outcomes: Independent Inquiry and Analysis; Problem Solving; Creativity; and Depth and Breadth of Understanding.

2. Literacy

Literacy is the ability to extract information from a variety of resources, assess the quality and validity of the material, and use it to discover new knowledge. The comfort in using quantitative literacy also exists in this definition, as does using technology effectively and developing visual literacy.

In addition, Literacy includes, but is not limited to, the following outcomes: Information Literacy, Quantitative Literacy, Technological Literacy, and Visual Literacy.

3. Global Understanding

Global understanding encompasses the knowledge of cultural similarities and differences, the context (historical, geographical, political and environmental) from which these arise, and how they are manifest in modern society. Global understanding is exercised as civic engagement, intercultural competence and the ability to understand an academic discipline outside of the domestic context.

In addition, Global Understanding includes, but is not limited to, the following outcomes: Global Understanding, Sense of Historical Development, Civic Knowledge and Engagement, and Intercultural Competence.

4. Communication

Communication is the ability to interact effectively with a variety of individuals and groups, and convey information successfully in a variety of formats including oral and written communication. Communication also comprises attentiveness and listening, as well as reading comprehension. It includes the ability to communicate and synthesize information, arguments, and analyses accurately and reliably.

In addition, Communication includes, but is not limited to, the following outcomes: Oral Communication, Written Communication, Reading Comprehension, and Integrative Communication.

5. Professional and Ethical Behaviour

Professional and ethical behaviour requires the ability to accomplish the tasks at hand with proficient skills in teamwork and leadership, while remembering ethical reasoning behind all decisions. The ability for organizational and time management skills is essential in bringing together all aspects of managing self and others. Academic integrity is central to mastery in this outcome. At the graduate level, intellectual independence is needed for professional and academic development and engagement.

In addition, Professional and Ethical Behaviour includes, but is not limited to, the following outcomes: Teamwork, Ethical Reasoning, Leadership, Personal Organization and Time Management, and Intellectual Independence.

E-mail Communication

All students are required to check their University of Guelph e-mail account regularly. E-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the Graduate Calendar for information on [Grounds for Academic Consideration](https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/sec_d0e2234.shtml).

(https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/sec\_d0e2234.shtml)

Drop Date

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is **<INSERT DATE>**. Two-semester courses must be dropped by the last day of the add period in the second semester. Refer to the Graduate Calendar for the Schedule of Dates.

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. The [Academic Misconduct Policy](https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/sec_d0e2711.shtml) is detailed in the Graduate Calendar.

(https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/sec\_d0e2711.shtml)

Recording of Materials

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded in any electronic media without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer.

Resources

The [Graduate Calendar](https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/sec_d0e2711.shtml) is the source of information about the University of Guelph’s procedures, policies and regulations that apply to graduate programs:

(https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/)