

Centre for International Programs

goabroad@uoguelph.ca



Exchange Partner Information Sheet

Unique aspects of the university:

In 1964, three founding colleges - the Ontario Agricultural College, Ontario Veterinary College and Macdonald Institute - were combined to create the University of Guelph. Situated in southwestern Ontario, our beautiful 330-hectare campus supports a community of over 20,500 undergraduate and 2500 graduate students, including over 1200 international students from around the world. Our students benefit from an innovative curriculum that spans the arts, humanities, commerce, physical and natural sciences, and social sciences. The University has over 800 full-time faculty and students are also supported by more than 2,100 full-time staff. University of Guelph is consistently ranked as one of Canada's top comprehensive universities due to our commitment to student success and innovative research. In recent International Student Barometer surveys, U of G ranked No. 1 for overall learning, living and student support, and had the highest overall average among participating universities in Ontario and Canada. www.uoguelph.ca

Unique aspects of the city:

The City of Guelph is a vibrant community of 131,000 people with a lively downtown, great shopping and a dynamic cultural scene. Surrounded by rolling hills, Guelph is only a one-hour drive or bus ride from Toronto. The city is very student-friendly, with easy public transportation and a welcoming community feeling. Characterized by fine stone architecture, many buildings in Guelph date back to the 19th century. The Speed and Eramosa Rivers which pass through Guelph are surrounded by beautiful parks and are an ideal place for walking, biking, or even canoeing and kayaking. Guelph features a variety of cafés and restaurants with flavours from around the world, as well as a number of well-known music and art festivals throughout the year. A trip to the downtown Farmer's Market with its array of fresh fruit, vegetables, cooking and crafts is a favourite for many visitors. www.guelph.ca

For an up-to-date list of important academic dates each year, please review the [Academic Calendar](#).

Semester Dates (tentative) Fall Semester, 2025

Preferred arrival date	August 26 (tentative date)
International Orientation dates	August 27 – August 28 (tentative dates)
Classes start	September 4
Breaks / holidays	October 13 (Thanksgiving Holiday) October 14 (Fall Study Break Day)
Classes end	Nov 28
Exams start and finish	December 1 – 12

Semester Dates (tentative) Winter Semester, 2026

Preferred arrival date	January 3 (tentative date)
International Orientation date	January 4 (tentative date)
Classes start	January 5
Breaks / holidays	February 16 - 20 (Winter Break)
Classes end	April 6
Exams start and finish	April 9 - 21

Exchange Nomination and Application

Nomination process	<p>Host universities should nominate students via the online nomination link, which will be sent to you prior to the following deadlines.</p> <p><u><i>Nomination deadlines:</i></u></p> <p>Fall semester (September entry) – March 20</p> <p>Winter semester (January entry) – March 20</p>
Application process	<p>After being nominated by their home university, students will receive an email directly from the University of Guelph inviting them to fill in an online application.</p> <p><u><i>Application deadlines:</i></u></p> <p>Fall semester (September to December) – April 15</p> <p>Winter semester (January - April) – April 15</p>
English proficiency	<p>No proof of English proficiency is required for incoming exchange students, but it is expected that the home university will nominate students who have adequate English skills to be successful in university level courses in English. As a guideline, the English proficiency requirements for full-degree students.</p>

Exclusions

Departments & faculties excluded from exchange (not available for exchange students)	Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, MBA program, Masters of Leadership, Masters of Hospitality & Tourism Management, Data Science, Master of Cybersecurity and Threat Intelligence, all courses at Guelph-Humber and Ridgetown campuses, co-op placements, Psychology practicum courses, Human Anatomy courses
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Accommodation

Types of student housing available	Residence Options Off-campus Living Options
Accommodation cost estimate	Residence Costs Off-campus housing Information
Accommodation application & deadline	Exchange students will receive information about how to apply for residence with their U of G acceptance package. Early June deadline for Fall semester Early December deadline for Winter semester

Finances

Tuition fee	Paid to home university
Mandatory student fees /semester (approximate)	University Health Insurance Plan - \$252 / semester Student Health & Dental Plan - \$240 / semester Bus Pass - \$170 / semester
Average cost of living per month	Residence: \$800 - \$1150 per month Off-campus housing: \$700 - \$1000 per month Food: \$300-\$400 per month Books (new): \$500-\$1000 per semester Entertainment: \$100 - \$300 per month

Student Services

Information for exchange students	www.uoguelph.ca/cip/index-page/incoming-exchange
Services for international students	https://www.uoguelph.ca/studentexperience/international
Academic support services	www.uoguelph.ca/uaic/academicsupport
Counselling Services	www.uoguelph.ca/counselling
Student Accessibility Services	https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/accessibility
Library	www.uoguelph.ca/library
Athletics	https://fitandrec.gryphons.ca

Academics

University academic strengths	Historically, the University of Guelph is best known for its veterinary and agricultural research. Programs that are popular with exchange students are Business, Marketing & Consumer Studies, Hospitality & Tourism Management, Engineering, Food Science, and a range of Science, Arts and Social Science courses.
Courses offered	<p>Undergraduate: www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c12/index.shtml</p> <p>Graduate: www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/apdx/index.shtml</p> <p>Courses with "F" at the end are usually held in Fall Courses with "W" at the end are usually held in Winter Courses with "U" at the end are offered occasionally</p>
Credit system	A full-time course load for undergraduate students at University of Guelph is 2.0 to 2.5 credits. Most U of G courses are 0.5 credits each, so students usually take 4 to 5 courses per semester. Graduate students usually take 1 - 3 courses per semester (0.5 - 1.5 credits). It is ultimately up to your home university to decide the credit equivalency for the courses you will be taking.
Credits in ECTS	<p>It is up to your home university to evaluate the credit equivalency for the courses you take while on exchange. However, many universities in Europe use the following conversion:</p> <p>2.5 University of Guelph credits (usually = 5 courses per semester) = 30 ECTS 0.5 credit course = 6 ECTS</p>
Grading system	<p>Undergrad: https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/undergraduate-calendar/undergraduate-degree-regulations-procedures/grades/</p> <p>Graduate: https://calendar.uoguelph.ca/graduate-calendar/general-regulations/academic-standings/</p>

Contacts

Incoming Exchange Advisors

Questions about exchange application, course registration, arrival, orientation program, cultural adjustment or any other issues.

Juan Lagos: Education Abroad Advisor for Students in Arts, Social Science, & Commerce

Centre for International Programs

E: eea-arts@uoguelph.ca

T: 001-519-824-4120 ext. 56383

Jacqueline Veres: Education Abroad Advisor for Students in Sciences & Engineering

Centre for International Programs

E: goabroad@uoguelph.ca

T: 001-519-824-4120 ext. 58387

International Student Advisors

Questions about health insurance, cultural adjustment, other services for international students.

Matt Keefe and Ernest Damalie

International Student Experience, Student Experience

E: international.student.advisor@uoguelph.ca

Study Abroad Manager

Questions about exchange agreement & scholarship applications

Allison Broadbent

Centre for International Programs

E: abroadbe@uoguelph.ca

T: 001-519-824-4120 ext. 58466

Additional Promotional Material

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/cip/partners/u-g-promotional-material>