Animal Biosciences: MSc, PhD

Animal Biosciences (ABSC) is a research oriented department with dynamic hands on educational programs for both undergraduates and graduate students. Research and teaching programs in ABSC revolve around the basic sciences relevant to animal development and wellbeing. Our department receives $6-7 million in research funding each year which is used in part to support approximately 130 graduate students at any one time enrolled in MSc and PhD programs. Our graduate student population represents over 20 different countries which reflects our many international connections and collaborations.

Program

Students interested in an MSc can take either a Course Work and Major Research Paper option, or obtain their MSc by writing a thesis. We also offer a PhD program. Our MSc by Coursework and Major Paper program is a one-year program for specialized training in different aspects of the animal sciences. The MSc by Thesis program is a two-year program designed for students interested in advanced research. Our PhD program is a three-year program for more advanced academic and specialized research training.

Research Fields
- Animal Breeding and Genetics
- Animal Nutrition
- Animal Physiology
- Animal Behaviour and Welfare

Admission Requirements

MSc Requirements:
- An honours bachelor’s degree in the sciences (or equivalent)
- A minimum 73% (“B”) average during the last two years, or equivalent, of undergraduate study

PhD Requirements:
- An honours bachelor’s degree in the sciences (or equivalent)
- A minimum 73% (“B”) average in a Masters of Science program
- Eligible students may also transfer directly from an MSc degree

Experiential Learning and Faculty

All of our graduate programs offer “hands on” experiential learning opportunities for research with animals to complement our wide range of graduate courses. With our faculty, you can work with agricultural species (especially dairy and beef cattle, and laying hens), pets (especially dogs and cats), zoo animals, horses, or laboratory animals such as mice and rats.

Our faculty have access to high quality animal research facilities, a modern and federally inspected meats laboratory, and a range of laboratory facilities in genomics, nutrient analyses, physiology, and microbiology. Our department also has unique on-campus large farm animal study rooms and recovery surgical facilities for experimental animal research.

Application Deadline:
Ongoing

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:
- Sustainable and ethical animal production, care and use
- High quality and value-added animal products
- Animal models for human metabolism, nutrition and health

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:
- Over 95% of our graduates go on to relevant positions that rely on the skills they acquired with us
- Working for companies that produce diets for pet and agricultural animals
- Working on welfare policy for governmental agencies, NGOs or producers
- Working for animal breeding companies to enhance farm animal productivity and health
- Entering academia and becoming a professor of animal biosciences

CONTACT INFORMATION

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“Graduate studies at the University of Guelph is unique because of the vibrant and friendly community environment, the access to outstanding resources and training, and the many opportunities on campus to develop important career and life skills.”

- Kristen Alves, PhD Animal Breeding and Genetics