

Animal Biosciences: MSc, PhD

Animal Behaviour & Welfare

Animal welfare is a high priority for the food, laboratory, companion, sport, zoo and various entertainment industries. There is growing pressure for science-based welfare standards and assurance schemes to help these industries demonstrate those standards. There is also increasing demand for researchers and academics with advanced skills in conducting animal welfare research. Animal welfare science is a fastgrowing research field that integrates diverse disciplines like genetics, nutrition, and the veterinary and behavioural sciences. We offer PhD, MSc by Thesis and MSc by Coursework & Major Paper degree options.



Master's by Coursework & Major Paper

Our coursework & major paper stream is designed to produce skilled individuals who have an advanced background in animal welfare science and ethics, combined with an integrated understanding of the key societal issues facing various animal industries today. It provides a solid foundation in animal welfare science and ethics, combined with practical training and experience that can be applied immediately upon graduation. This option involves a core of graduate courses in animal welfare science with selected electives complementing students' area of interest. Students also complete a supervised research project and major paper, which builds specialized knowledge and provides hands-on experience. Students are required to complete 4.0 credits made up of eight courses, including six graduate level courses (0.5 credit each), one mandatory Major Paper (1.0 credit) and one mandatory Seminar (0.0 credit). This program can be completed in one calendar year over 3 full-time semesters or over a longer period of time on a part-time basis.

Masters by Thesis and PhD degrees

The MSc by Thesis program is a two-year program designed for students interested in advanced research. Our PhD is a three-year program for advanced academic and specialized research training. For more information on the degree requirements for MSc thesis and PhD please refer to: <http://www.aps.uoguelph.ca/programs>

Admission Requirements

Students will apply to the Animal Biosciences program and specialize in the field of Animal Behaviour and Welfare. Students may apply from a variety of backgrounds, including honours degree programs in animal or agricultural science, environmental biology, psychology, wildlife biology, and zoology. The adequacy of a student's background and experience will be assessed by an admissions committee before a student is offered admission. All applicants must meet the department and university minimum criteria for admission to graduate studies. In addition, the admissions committee will consider relevant work experience or recognized educational training.

Graduate courses

We offer a variety of graduate courses in Animal Behaviour and Welfare including Seminars and Analysis in Animal Behaviour and Welfare (UNIV 6030) – offered through the Campbell Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare, CCSAW. For a complete list of courses go to:

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/apdxa/apdxa-ansc.shtml>

As a graduate student in Animal Behaviour and Welfare specialization you will:

- Develop an understanding of the historical, ethical and cultural roots of animal welfare
- Develop an understanding of the physical and behavioural requirements of animals managed by humans
- Develop skills in objectively evaluating animal welfare in scientific studies and in practical application
- Develop a broad appreciation of animal welfare issues across animal industries (farm, lab, zoo/wildlife, sport, companion)
- Develop in-depth knowledge of animal welfare issues and application in an area of specialization of your choosing

CONTACT INFORMATION

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