BOT*3050 Plant Functional Ecology

Fall 2022
Section(s): 01

Department of Integrative Biology
Credit Weight: 0.50
Version 1.00 - September 02, 2022

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1 Course Details

1.1 Calendar Description

This course integrates fundamental and applied aspects of plant ecology, focusing on the roles of functional traits, physiological mechanisms, life history strategies, abiotic constraints, and biotic interactions in influencing plant distribution and abundance. Specific topics include physiological ecology, growth and allocation patterns, influence of biotic and trophic interactions

Pre-Requisites: 7.50 credits including BIOL*1070

1.2 Course Description

This course integrates fundamental and applied aspects of plant ecology, focusing on the roles of functional traits, physiological mechanisms, life history strategies, abiotic constraints, and biotic interactions in influencing plant distribution and abundance. Specific topics include physiological ecology, growth and allocation patterns, influence of biotic and trophic interactions [pollinators, pathogens, herbivores, competitors, mutualists, decomposers] on the structure and function of plant communities, and effects of global environmental change. Labs will include a field component that explores variation in functional aspects of plants. This course is especially valuable for students interested in plant or wildlife biology and environmental management.

PREREQUISITES: 7.50 credits including BIOL*1070

COREQUISITES:

EQUATES:

RESTRICTIONS:

CREDITS: 0.50

1.3 Timetable

The course format, schedule or location for the Fall 2022 semester may change due to personnel, resource, and public health circumstances and if conditions cannot be met to ensure the safety of our students and instructors. Continue to watch the Student Planning website as format information will continue to be updated

Course delivery format (face-to-face vs online) is subject to change depending on requirements placed on the University and its employees by public health bodies, and local, provincial and federal governments. Any changes to course format will be posted on WebAdvisor/Student Planning as they become available.

Lecture: 10:30 - 11:20 AM, MWF, face-to-face instruction in JTP 2266. Lectures involve discussion with me and your peers and problem solving; therefore in person attendance will greatly assist your learning. For those students who are unable to attend in person due to illness, lectures may also be streamed synchronously, depending on the availability of classroom infrastructure and software.

Laboratory: 2:30 - 5:20 PM, Mondays or Tuesdays, face-to-face instruction at various field locations including the Dairy Bush and Brown's woods during the first half of the semester (up to and including October 21). During the last half of the semester, face-to-face labs will take place in the Summerlee Science Complex (SSC) 2306.

Note: There are no laboratories during the week of Thanksgiving due to the Fall Study Break (October 10 and 11, 2022).

1.4 Final Exam

There is no final exam, but there will be a final written assignment on tree phenology due at the end of the semester.

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2 Instructional Support

2.1 Instructional Support Team

Instructor: Hafiz Maherali
Email: maherali@uoguelph.ca

Telephone: +1-519-824-4120 x52767
Office: SSC 1472
Office Hours: By appointment

Lab Co-ordinator: Carole Ann Lacroix
Email: botcal@uoguelph.ca
Telephone: +1-519-824-4120 x56444 or x58581
Office: SSC 2507
Office Hours: By appointment

2.2 Teaching Assistants

Teaching Assistant (GTA): Olivier Herlin
Email: oherlin@uoguelph.ca
Office Hours: By appointment

Teaching Assistant (GTA): Kevin MacColl
Email: kmaccoll@uoguelph.ca
Office Hours: By appointment

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3 Learning Resources

3.1 Required Resources

Plant Functional Ecology Laboratory Manual (Lab Manual)
https://courselink.uoguelph.ca/shared/login/login.html
Available as a PDF from the course website, accessible via courselink

Notes (Notes)
Slides from all lecture presentations, class datasets, and other resources will be posted to the course website.

3.2 Recommended Resources

The Ecology of Plants (Textbook)
Gurevitch, J., Scheiner, S.M., Fox, G.A. 2006. The Ecology of Plants, 2nd Edition. Sinauer Associates, Sunderland, MA.

Gurevitch, J., Scheiner, S.M., Fox, G.A. 2020. The Ecology of Plants, 3rd Edition. Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK.

This book is not required, but provides readings for those students who would like some additional background information for lecture material and labs. Readings that correspond to lecture and lab material are posted on courselink. Readings for both the 2nd and 3rd editions will be posted. Either version is fine for the course.

You may obtain electronic copies of 3rd edition at https://www.redshelf.com/ or at https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/.

For those students on campus, copies are available at the campus bookstore or Co-op.

Writing in the Biological Sciences (Textbook)

Hofmann, A.H. 2021. Writing in the Biological Sciences, 4th edition. Oxford University Press. 368 pp.

Not required (recommended). This is an excellent and relatively inexpensive writing manual for science students, and will be very help you learn write effectively.

Available for purchase at the University Bookstore or Co-op or download from Oxford University Press or other online retailers. You may obtain electronic copies of this book at https://www.redshelf.com/ or at https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/.

Get assistance with writing and searching the primary literature (Other)

https://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/writing-studying/writing-resources-workshops
Get Assistance with fulfilling academic requirements at the University of Guelph Learning Commons

3.3 Campus Resources

If you are concerned about any aspect of your academic program

Make an appointment with a program counsellor in your degree program. https://bsc.uoguelph.ca/advisors/program_counsellors or https://www.uoguelph.ca/uaic/program

If you are struggling to succeed academically

There are numerous academic resources offered by the Learning Commons including, Supported Learning Groups for a variety of courses, workshops related to time management, taking multiple choice exams, and general study skills. You can also set up individualized appointments with a learning specialist. https://learningcommons.lib.uoguelph.ca/

If you are struggling with personal or health issues:

- Counselling services offers individualized appointments to help students work through personal struggles that may be impacting their academic performance. https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/counselling/
- Student Health Services is located on campus and is available to provide medical attention. https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/health/
- The Student Wellness Centre, a student-driven unit where University of Guelph

students access information and support about health and well-being. https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/wec

If you have a documented disability or think you may have a disability:

The Student Accessibility Services (SAS) can provide services and support for students with a documented learning or physical disability. They can also provide information about how to be tested for a learning disability. For more information, including how to register with the centre please see: https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/accessibility/

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4 Learning Outcomes

4.1 Primary Learning Outcomes

Science is a way of understanding how the world works. It allows you, through observation and experiment, to answer the WHY and HOW questions we are confronted with in trying to explain what we see in nature. Answering these questions can help us to understand why life is distributed non-randomly and to make predictions about how the natural world will change. Our goal in this course is to examine plants and plant communities scientifically so that you can:

1. Observe the functions of plants and evaluate how they evolved and why they enable plants to occupy specific habitats.
2. Evaluate the ecological mechanisms that were responsible for generating specific patterns of species composition in plant communities.
3. Identify how land use change, biological invasions and climate change, among other factors, will affect plant communities and predict how changes in plant communities affect the functioning of ecosystems.

4.2 Secondary Learning Outcomes

In addition to using knowledge, a professional biologist must also be able to obtain primary information on the structure and diversity of plant communities and communicate findings to other biologists and to the general public. Therefore, we will also practice:

1. Quantifying the composition and diversity of an unfamiliar plant community with various methodological approaches.
2. Gaining expertise with experimental design and sampling protocols for observational studies.
3. Analyzing and interpretation of primary data as well as communicating the

results of research through writing.

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5 Teaching and Learning Activities

5.1 Learning Methods

Though traditional lectures can be an efficient way of communicating information from instructor to student, actively engaging and talking about the material is the best way to learn. Lectures and Labs will feature elements of 'learning by doing', which means that we will practice applying knowledge as it is introduced. **Therefore, regular attendance and participation are essential to achieving the learning outcomes of this course**.

Lectures – In lectures, I will spend time making presentations on course topics, but expect to engage in discussions with me and with your peers using classroom response tools. Educational research suggests that concepts are easier to understand if you spend time applying them during class. Expect to spend time using the concepts I present to interpret results and make predictions. A variety of tools will be available to facilitate interactions with me and with your classmates.

Laboratories – Each week, we will identify and quantify patterns in nature, and develop explanations for these patterns using the scientific method. For each lab, we will present you with a research question and guide you through the design and a completion of a study to answer that question. Background information and methods for each lab will be posted to the course website. Scheduled laboratory and lecture time will also be used to provide you with advice on how to analyze data and complete your lab reports, as well as carry out the semester long research project, which involves monitoring of the phenology of trees.

5.2 Schedule of topics for Lecture and Lab - tentative and subject to change

Week	Days	Activity	Details
Sept. 09	Friday	Lecture	What is plant functional ecology? How will this course be taught?

Week	Days	Activity	Details
Sept. 12	M,W	Lecture	Introduction to Lab 1, methods for quantitative sampling, data analysis workshop, historical perspectives on the causes of plant communities
	M	Online video	A video introduction to the basics of tree identification will be available on courselink - the video and accompanying quiz must be completed prior to attending Lab 1.
	M,Tu	Laboratory	Lab 1: Quantitative sampling of forest vegetation - Dairy Bush.
	F	Lecture	Help session for Lab 1 data analysis
Sept. 19	M,W	Lecture	Introduction to Lab 2, nested plot sampling methods, data analysis workshop, historical perspectives on the causes of plant communities
	M	Online video	A video introduction to the basics of wildflower and grass identification will be available on courselink - the video and accompanying quiz must be completed prior to attending Lab 2.
	M,Tu	Laboratory	Lab 2: Species area curves - Old field adjacent to Dairy Bush
	F	Lecture	Help session for Lab 2 data analysis
Sept. 26	M,W	Lecture	Defining species, their evolution, and their habitat tolerances.
	M,Tu	Laboratory	Lab 3: Species abundance across a resource gradient - Dairy Bush
	F	Lecture	Help session for Lab 3 data analysis

Week	Days	Activity	Details
Oct. 03	M,W	Lecture	Defining species, their evolution, and their habitat tolerances.
	M,Tu	Laboratory	Lab 4: Spatial patterns in plant communities: evidence for competition? Old field adjacent to Dairy Bush
	F	Lecture	No Lecture today - Happy Thanksgiving
Oct. 10	M	Lecture	NO LECTURE – THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY and FALL STUDY BREAK
	M,Tu	Laboratory	NO LABS – THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY and FALL STUDY BREAK
	W, F	Lecture	Water relations and the distribution of species.
Oct. 17	M,W	Lecture	Water relations and the distribution of species.
	M,Tu	Laboratory	Lab 5: Predicting the future species composition of a restored woodlot. Brown's Wood.
	F	Lecture	Developing a research hypothesis to study tree phenology - group proposal assignment discussion
Oct. 24	M,W,F	Lecture	Water relations and the distribution of species.

Week	Days	Activity	Details
	M,Tu	Laboratory	Group meetings to discuss phenology project hypotheses (SSC 2306)
Oct. 31	M,W,F	Lecture	Photosynthesis and the distribution of species.
	M,Tu	Laboratory	Tree phenology project data management and analysis; staff available for individual and small group meetings (SSC 2306)
Nov. 07	M,W,F	Lecture	Photosynthesis and the distribution of species.
	M,Tu	Laboratory	Tree phenology project data management and analysis; staff available for individual and small group meetings (SSC 2306)
Nov. 14	M,W,F	Lecture	Nutrient acquisition strategies and the distribution of species.
	M,Tu	Laboratory	Tree phenology project data management and analysis; staff available for individual and small group meetings (SSC 2306)
Nov. 21	M,W,F	Lecture	Linking plant function with competition and coexistence.
	M,Tu	Laboratory	Tree phenology project data management and analysis; staff available for individual and small group meetings (SSC 2306)

Week	Days	Activity	Details
Nov. 28	M,W	Lecture	Linking plant function with competition and coexistence.
	M,Tu	Laboratory	Tree phenology project data management and analysis; staff available for individual and small group meetings (SSC 2306)

6 Assessments

6.1 Assessment Details

Online tests - lecture material (33%)

Mastery of lecture material will be assessed using 3 online multiple choice tests administered via courselink. Tests will take place at 2-3 week intervals during the last 8 weeks of the course.

Test dates shown below are approximate, and may change depending on the rate at which material is covered. Test 1 and 2 windows will be open for 7 days once released. The Test 3 window will be open for 14 days. Tests are designed such that they can be completed in 50 minutes. However, 3 hours will be provided to complete each test once started.

Quiz dates:

1. October 12-19 (11%)

2. November 7-14 (11%)

3. November 28 - December 12 (11%)

Plant taxonomy (2%)

There are two plant taxonomy modules; they are part of labs 1 and 2 and will be offered via online video through courselink.

The first module will introduce you to the morphological characteristics used to identify tree species in the Dairy Bush and in Brown's Wood. You will also practice how to use a dichotomous taxonomic key. This module must be completed prior to the start of Lab 1. The online module will help you practice identification of tree leaves in class. Completing this module will help you identify the trees you will monitor for the Phenology project.

The second module will introduce you to the morphological characteristics used to identify herb and grass species in old fields in Guelph. This module must be completed prior to the start of Lab 2. The online module will help you practice identification of common herbs and grasses, which will be necessary for Labs 2 and 4.

Online quizzing via courselink will be used to assess your knowledge for each module (1% each). You will get to practice your identification skills in the field.

Module	**Quiz Due Date**
Tree identification	Asynchronous tree identification video module and quiz must be completed by the start of lab on September 13 or 14 (depending on your section), 2:00 pm.
Herb and grass identification	Asynchronous herb and grass identification video module and quiz must be completed by the start of lab on September 20 or 21 (depending on your section), 2:00 pm.

Written Laboratory Reports (23%)

Lab reports:

1. Graphical results and species diversity calculations for Lab 1 (2%)
2. Graphical results and statistical tests for Lab 2 (3%)
3. Graphical results and statistical tests for Lab 3 (3%)
4. Graphical results and statistical tests for Lab 4 (3%)
5. Graphical results statistics, and results text and discussion text for lab 5 (12%)

Instructions for completing laboratory reports are in the lab manual, which is posted to the course website.

We aim to provide you with feedback on your labs so that you can use these comments to

improve future lab reports. Thus, each lab is not due until comments from the previous lab have been returned to you.

Laboratory	**Due Date**
Lab 1: Sampling forest vegetation	Monday Section: September 19, 11:59 pm. Tuesday Section: September 20, 11:59 pm.
Lab 2: Species area curves	Monday Section: September 26, 11:59 pm. Tuesday Section: September 27, 11:59 pm.
Lab 3: Species abundance across a resource gradient.	Monday Section: October 3, 11:59 pm. Tuesday Section: October 4, 11:59 pm.
Lab 4: Spatial patterns within populations: evidence for competition?	Monday Section: October 17, 11:59 pm. Tuesday Section: October 18, 11:59 pm.
Lab 5: Predicting the future species composition of a restored forest.	Monday Section: November 06, 11:59 pm. Tuesday Section: November 06, 11:59 pm.

Semester long phenology project (42%)

Instructions for this assignment will be posted on the course website. This project involves independent data collection on the timing of phenological events for deciduous tree species. Data will be pooled for use by the class.

The preliminary spreadsheet (a list of individual trees you will observe, identified to species) is due Saturday, Sept. 17, 2022 at 6:00 pm (1%). This is an individual submission.

A group proposal that develops the rationale for your research hypotheses is due Friday, October 28, 2022 at 11:59 pm (5%). This is a group submission. Feedback on your hypotheses will be provided during labs on November 1st and 2nd.

The final spreadsheet (with the data that has been recorded from your observations) is due Saturday, October 29, 2022 at 11:59 pm (3%). This is an individual assignment. **A spreadsheet must be submitted by each student in order to participate in the final project. If no spreadsheet is submitted, the mark for the final project is zero.**

The final paper describing your project is due on Monday, December 05, 2022 at 11:59 pm (33%). This is an individual assignment. **Though you will develop hypotheses with a small group of peers, the final paper will be written individually.**

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7 Course Statements

7.1 Policy on Late Submissions

All items are due on the dates shown by the specified time. Late submissions will be accepted, but will be penalized 10% per 24 hour period late, or portion thereof, after the due date/time, including weekends.

7.2 Policy on Field Safety

We will be in at field sites around the University of Guelph campus (Dairy Bush, Brown's Wood, Arboretum) for a majority of laboratory periods. You are required to review the field safety protocols listed at the end of this course outline, and then sign the accompanying waiver which acknowledges that you have read the safety information, understand the risks, and agree to participate in the field laboratories.

7.3 Policy on the use of technology in the classroom

You are welcome to bring a laptop, tablet or smartphone to lectures, but use it in a manner that will not disturb those around you. Please do not use your electronic devices for anything other than activities related to the course. Set smartphones to silent mode.

7.4 Policy on Plagiarism

The University policy on academic integrity, http://www.academicintegrity.uoguelph.ca/ defines plagiarism as "…stealing and lying about it afterwards. It means using others' work and misrepresenting that work as your own without giving the author credit". Field work and some data analysis will be done in groups and we therefore expect that many of you will use the same resources, share ideas and discuss how to interpret results. Doing shared work will help you learn, but you must not engage in plagiarism or any other form of academic misconduct, as described by the University academic integrity policy, when submitting assignments. All written assignments must be the product of your own independent work. If we detect plagiarism or any other violation of the academic integrity policy, we are obliged to report it to the College of Biological Science Academic Dean, who will take disciplinary action under university guidelines.

Plagiarism detection software

In this course, we will use **Turnitin**, integrated with the CourseLink Dropbox tool, to detect possible plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration or copying as part of the ongoing efforts to maintain academic integrity at the University of Guelph.

All submitted assignments will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism or other forms of academic misconduct. Use of the Turnitin.com service is subject to the Usage Policy posted on the Turnitin.com site.

7.5 SAFETY IN ECOLOGY FIELD COURSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH

Many of the courses at this University involve field work in natural or semi-natural settings. Students must understand the distribution of responsibilities when this work is carried out. The University seeks to provide opportunities for an optimum training and educational experience, but it is the student's responsibility to effectively and safely exploit this opportunity. To this end, here we list the kinds of field settings to be encountered, and the attendant risks involved with these settings. We also list a series of mandatory behaviours that will ensure that the field exercises are conducted safely. Lastly, we include a requirement to sign and return the last page to us, as a written agreement on your part to follow the mandatory behaviours and accept the responsibility for any deviations from them.

Location	Risks and measures to avoid them

Forest and Grassland	-Meeting cars while walking on road. Stay to side.
	-Poison ivy. Learn what it looks like and avoid. If contact is made, wash skin and clothing as soon as possible.
	-Bees. If you are stung, contact one of the course staff immediately. This is especially important if you have disturbed a colony! If you are allergic to bee stings, contact the staff at the beginning of the course.
	-Tree branches, twigs, logs, dead snags. All of these can either fall on you, cause you to trip and fall, or otherwise injure you. Do not pull on dead trees, or dead snags. Do not disturb coarse woody debris. Do not climb trees.
	-Glass on ground or in soil can cut you badly. Do not dig through soil with your hands. If you get cut, contact the staff immediately and seek appropriate medical attention.
	-Lightning. Do not conduct field work if there is lightning.

-Other people. Assaults have been reported in the Dairy Bush, Arboretum, and other University Properties. Always travel with another person. Never conduct field work alone.

-Animal bites. Do not encourage any vertebrate to approach you. This includes both wild and domestic animals.

-Sunstroke. Wear a hat and sunblock if long periods of time are to be spent in the open. Bring water to drink.

River

-Any body of water can cause drowning. Always wear hip waders if so instructed.

Never enter water alone. Respect powerful currents and slippery surfaces.

-Cold. Even in the absence of a drowning risk, falling into cold water in the fall or winter can result in hypothermia. Do not fall into cold water. Do not enter cold water alone. If you do get wet, exit the water immediately and seek assistance from the staff.

-Infections. The rivers of the Grand River

	watershed are not as clean as they used to be. Who knows what lurks in the water? Do not allow the water to get in your mouth. Do not allow open wounds to contact the water. Any illness associated with contact with the water should be reported to medical personnel.
	-Slippery rocks. Avoid stepping on uneven rocks. Walk slowly and carefully. If you have a fall that causes an injury, let the staff know immediately.
Agricultural Fields	-Farm equipment. Do not sample close to the ground in active or abandoned agricultural fields without making your presence known to people using farm machinery. Be alert to approaching machinery.

8 Department of Integrative Biology Statements

8.1 Academic Advisors

If you are concerned about any aspect of your academic program:

- Make an appointment with a program counsellor in your degree program. B.Sc. Academic Advising or Program Counsellors

8.2 Academic Support

If you are struggling to succeed academically:

- Learning Commons: There are numerous academic resources offered by the Learning Commons including, Supported Learning Groups for a variety of courses, workshops related to time management, taking multiple choice exams, and general study skills. You can also set up individualized appointments with a learning specialist. http://www.learningcommons.uoguelph.ca/
- Science Commons: Located in the library, the Science Commons provides

support for physics, mathematic/statistics, and chemistry. Details on their hours of operations can be found at: http://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/get-assistance/studying/chemistry-physics-help and http://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/get-assistance/studying/math-stats-help

8.3 Wellness

If you are struggling with personal or health issues:

- Counselling services offers individualized appointments to help students work through personal struggles that may be impacting their academic performance. https://www.uoguelph.ca/counselling/
- Student Health Services is located on campus and is available to provide medical attention. https://www.uoguelph.ca/studenthealthservices/clinic
- For support related to stress and anxiety, besides Health Services and Counselling Services, Kathy Somers runs training workshops and one-on-one sessions related to stress management and high performance situations. http://www.selfregulationskills.ca/

8.4 Personal information

Personal information is collected under the authority of the University of Guelph Act (1964), and in accordance with Ontario's Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/index.html. This information is used by University officials in order to carry out their authorized academic and administrative responsibilities and also to establish a relationship for alumni and development purposes.

For more information regarding the Collection, Use and Disclosure of Personal Information policies please see the Undergraduate Calendar. (https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/intro/index.shtml)

8.5 Course Offering Information Disclaimer

Please note that course delivery format (face-to-face vs online) is subject to change up to the first-class day depending on requirements placed on the University and its employees by public health bodies, and local, provincial and federal governments. Any changes to course format prior to the first class will be posted on WebAdvisor/Student Planning as they become available.

9 University Statements

9.1 Email Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their e-mail account regularly:

e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

9.2 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 instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. The grounds for Academic Consideration are detailed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Consideration and Appeals
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml

Graduate Calendar - Grounds for Academic Consideration
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml

Associate Diploma Calendar - Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/index.shtml

9.3 Drop Date

Students will have until the last day of classes to drop courses without academic penalty. The deadline to drop two-semester courses will be the last day of classes in the second semester. This applies to all students (undergraduate, graduate and diploma) except for Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Associate Diploma in Veterinary Technology (conventional and alternative delivery) students. The regulations and procedures for course registration are available in their respective Academic Calendars.

Undergraduate Calendar - Dropping Courses
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml

Graduate Calendar - Registration Changes
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/genreg-reg-regchg.shtml

Associate Diploma Calendar - Dropping Courses
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/diploma/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml

9.4 Copies of Out-of-class Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

9.5 Accessibility

The University promotes the full participation of students who experience disabilities in their academic programs. To that end, the provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between the University and the student.

When accommodations are needed, the student is required to first register with Student

Accessibility Services (SAS). Documentation to substantiate the existence of a disability is required; however, interim accommodations may be possible while that process is underway.

Accommodations are available for both permanent and temporary disabilities. It should be noted that common illnesses such as a cold or the flu do not constitute a disability.

Use of the SAS Exam Centre requires students to make a booking at least 14 days in advance, and no later than November 1 (fall), March 1 (winter) or July 1 (summer). Similarly, new or changed accommodations for online quizzes, tests and exams must be approved at least a week ahead of time.

For Guelph students, information can be found on the SAS website
https://www.uoguelph.ca/sas

For Ridgetown students, information can be found on the Ridgetown SAS website
https://www.ridgetownc.com/services/accessibilityservices.cfm

9.6 Academic Integrity

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 encourages academic integrity. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

Undergraduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml

Graduate Calendar - Academic Misconduct
https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/graduate/current/genreg/index.shtml

9.7 Recording of Materials

Presentations that are made in relation to course work - including lectures - cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a student, or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

9.8 Resources

The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph's procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs.

Academic Calendars
https://www.uoguelph.ca/academics/calendars

9.9 Disclaimer

Please note that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings, changes in classroom protocols, and academic schedules. Any such changes will be announced via CourseLink and/or class email.

This includes on-campus scheduling during the semester, mid-terms and final examination schedules. All University-wide decisions will be posted on the COVID-19 website (https://news.uoguelph.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus-information/) and circulated by email.

9.10 Illness

Medical notes will not normally be required for singular instances of academic consideration, although students may be required to provide supporting documentation for multiple missed assessments or when involving a large part of a course (e.g.. final exam or major assignment).

9.11 Covid-19 Safety Protocols

For information on current safety protocols, follow these links:

- https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/how-u-of-g-is-preparing-for-your-safe-return/
- https://news.uoguelph.ca/return-to-campuses/spaces/#ClassroomSpaces

Please note, these guidelines may be updated as required in response to evolving University, Public Health or government directives.
