

2004-2006 Graduate Calendar

The information published in this Graduate Calendar outlines the rules, regulations, curricula, programs and fees for the 2004-2006 academic years, including the Summer Semester 2005, the Fall Semester 2005 and the Winter Semester 2006.

For your convenience the Graduate Calendar is available in PDF format.

If you wish to link to the Graduate Calendar please refer to the Linking Guidelines.

The University is a full member of:

- The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada

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Revision Information:	
March 25, 2004	Initial Publication
June 18, 2004	Revision I
September 17, 2004	Revision II
December 10, 2004	Revision III
May 10, 2005	Revision IV
June 28, 2005	Revision V
September 2, 2005	Revision VI
December 1, 2005	Revision VII
December 23, 2005	Revision VIII
February 17, 2006	Revision IX



Disclaimer

The Office of Graduate Program Services has attempted to ensure the accuracy of this on-line Graduate Calendar. However, the publication of information in this document does not bind the university to the provision of courses, programs, schedules of studies, fees, or facilities as listed herein.

Limitations

The University of Guelph reserves the right to change without notice any information contained in this calendar, including any rule or regulation pertaining to the standards for admission to, the requirements for the continuation of study in, and the requirements for the granting of degrees or diplomas in any or all of its programs.

The university will not be liable for any interruption in, or cancellation of, any academic activities as set forth in this calendar and related information where such interruption is caused by fire, strike, lock-out, inability to procure materials or trades, restrictive laws or governmental regulations, actions taken by the faculty, staff or students of the university or by others, civil unrest or disobedience, or any other cause of any kind beyond the reasonable control of the university.

The University of Guelph reaffirms section 1 of the Ontario Human Rights Code, 1981, which prohibits discrimination on the grounds of race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, creed, sex, sexual orientation, handicap, age, marital status or family status.

The university encourages applications from women, aboriginal peoples, visible minorities, persons with disabilities, and members of other under-represented groups.

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Business Studies

The University offers an interdepartmental program of study leading to the degree of master of business administration (MBA) in the field of agribusiness management. The participating units are the Departments of Agricultural Economics and Business, Marketing and Consumer Studies, Economics, and the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management.

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Refer to: <http://www.uoguelph.ca/graduatestudies/calendar/gradprog/htm-gradfac.shtml>

MBA Program

Admission Requirements

The minimum requirement for admission to the program is a baccalaureate in an honours undergraduate program or equivalent from a recognized university or college with an

average standing of at least a 'B-' (second-class honours or 70-72%) in the last four semesters or two years, and two letters of recommendation from former professors and/or employers or colleagues. GMAT scores may be requested in certain cases where it is difficult to judge an applicant's suitability. A minimum of two years of relevant industry experience in a managerial capacity is preferred. A resume or CV is also required outlining relevant work experience. Applicants must also submit a statement of interest in agribusiness management. The program has a single entry, in the Fall Semester.

Degree Requirements

The University of Guelph MBA program involves a core group of courses that build and develop key managerial skills, and specialization courses that allow participants to apply concepts and skills to management situations in a particular industry. Case studies are widely used.

Participants normally complete their program by a research project or thesis and may substitute two courses for the research project or thesis. Program prerequisites include supervisory and management experience in Agriculture and Agribusiness.

Course Requirements

The minimum number of semester-long courses (or equivalents) required for the MBA in Agribusiness degree is 15 which may include a major project. Course performance evaluations will be based on examinations, participation, presentations, written reports, and problem sets. Students will be evaluated on an individual basis and as part of group efforts. The program will normally take three semesters over twelve months for completion of the major project paper.

The business core required for all students includes the basic "tools" courses found in most business programs: accounting, marketing, research methods, communication, finance, economics, human resource management, and operations. Where appropriate, case studies will be used extensively to illustrate and demonstrate applications of these tools.

The similarities between agribusiness industries will facilitate using industry-based cases rather than "generic" case studies found in most business programs. Thus, industry issues can be explored concurrently with the teaching of a basic set of business tools.

The specialization core focuses on the unique aspects and issues facing agribusiness industries. Subjects include strategic management and business policy in an ever-changing, global market, environmental issues and their impact on agribusiness, the impact of government policy on agribusiness, the development and implementation of effective strategies for dealing with price risk in financial and agricultural markets. The importance of written and verbal communications and formal presentations is recognized in all courses.

Electives allow students to tailor their studies to fit their individual interests and goals. Students may choose from a number of different courses from across the university to increase their breadth of knowledge and understanding. The selection of electives must be approved by the MBA in Agribusiness Program Committee.

Students may elect to complete a major project paper which will be a capstone project. It will be the equivalent of a two-semester course, taken in the second and third semesters of the program. The subject and content will be jointly determined by students and their advisory committees and must be approved by the MBA in Agribusiness Program Committee. The project paper will focus on an issue or a problem in the industry. The project paper could be a business feasibility study, a marketing plan, an in-depth case study, an industry analysis, or any other topic that the students and their committees deem appropriate and worthwhile. It is an opportunity for students to apply what they have learned in the classroom and to concentrate on an area or issue that interests them.

Advisory Committee

Students who elect to complete a major project will select an advisory committee no later than the end of their second semester. The advisory committee will consist of the advisor (who will serve as committee chair) and at least one other graduate faculty member (who may be from a second department). The committee will be responsible for advice and guidance on curriculum and progress, selection of an appropriate topic for the project paper, work on the paper, and final evaluation of the paper.

The project paper will be presented in an open seminar at the end of the third semester in collaboration with the MBA in Agribusiness Program Committee.

Courses

See Graduate Co-ordinator.