

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.

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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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Environmental Biology

The Department of Environmental Biology offers programs of study leading to MSc and PhD degrees. Graduate studies in this department are designed to train people to work independently and imaginatively with a high level of technical skill and scientific acumen in various areas of environmental biology.

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BScF New Brunswick, PhD Alaska - Professor

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BSc McGill, PhD Alberta - Professor

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BSc British Columbia, PhD McGill - Professor

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BSc (Agr) Guelph, MSc Carleton, PhD Guelph - Professor

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BSc, MSc Rhodes, PhD Illinois - Professor

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BSc, MSc Acadia, PhD Waterloo - Professor

MSc Program

The MSc program has five areas of specialization: entomology, environmental microbiology and biotechnology, environmental toxicology, plant and forest systems and plant pathology.

- Entomology emphasizes applied aspects of insect pest management plus systematics, ecology, physiology, and toxicology.
- Environmental microbiology and biotechnology emphasizes the physiology, ecology, biochemistry and genetics of microorganisms with potential for environmental or biotechnological applications. It also includes studies on microbial pathogen detection and monitoring in the environment.

- Environmental toxicology examines how terrestrial and aquatic organisms interact with toxic compounds in the environment, describes the methods and tools needed to assess environmental impacts, and emphasizes practical management solutions to address environmental problems.
- Plant and forest systems examines the ecological interactions in forest ecosystems and controlled environments such as greenhouses, growth chambers and life support systems for humans in space. Emphasis is placed on carbon dynamics, nutrient cycling, ecological modeling, environment sensor technology, atmosphere management (eg. "sick building syndrome") and environmental remediation.
- Plant pathology emphasizes the ecology and genetics of plant pathogens, plant disease resistance and epidemiology, the genomics and molecular biology of plant-pathogen interactions, and the development of new plant disease management strategies, such as the use of chemical, cultural and biological control agents.

Admission Requirements

Normally, applicants must hold a bachelor's degree with high second-class honours standing or better in a field appropriate to their proposed area of study. Interested students from other disciplines may also be acceptable, subject to the decision of the department graduate admissions committee.

Degree Requirements

A candidate for the MSc degree is expected to have a general knowledge of fundamental aspects of biology and detailed knowledge of the specialty area. The specialty area will normally be one of the areas in which the Department of Environmental Biology is prepared to offer a graduate degree. In addition, students are encouraged to obtain a knowledge of both theoretical and applied aspects of their specialty area.

Before the end of the student's first semester, the advisory committee will meet informally with the student to discuss the student's background, interests and knowledge in the proposed research area. The advisory committee will then establish a program of prescribed courses (at least 1.5 credits of graduate level courses) and, if required, additional courses. All MSc candidates must complete a thesis. A statement of the objectives of the thesis research program should be prepared as early as possible.

A normal MSc program requires six semesters. Programs involving field work may require seven or eight semesters. The number of courses per semester should not normally exceed four. Among these would be courses that are core requirements of the undergraduate specialty and represent the candidate's deficiencies.

Graduate students must take both the Introductory Seminar, ENVB*6710, and the Advanced Seminar, ENVB*6720, unless exempted from taking the Introductory Seminar by the advisory committee.

PhD Program

The PhD program emphasizes the same major areas of specialization as the MSc program.

Admission Requirements

Normally applicants should have attained a master's degree with high second-class honours standing or better in a field appropriate to their proposed area of study. Under exceptional circumstances, as noted in the Graduate Calendar, students may be permitted to transfer from an MSc to a PhD program without completing the master's degree. Interested students from other disciplines may also be acceptable subject to the decision of the department graduate admissions committee.

Degree Requirements

A candidate for the PhD degree is expected to have a general knowledge of fundamental aspects of biology and detailed knowledge of the specialty area. The specialty area will normally be one of the areas in which the Department of Environmental Biology is prepared to offer a graduate degree. In addition, students are encouraged to obtain a knowledge of both the theoretical and applied aspects of their specialty area.

Before the end of the student's first semester the advisory committee will meet informally with the student to discuss the student's background, interests and knowledge in the proposed research area. The advisory committee will then establish a program of prescribed courses and, if necessary, additional courses.

All PhD candidates must complete a thesis. A statement of the objectives of the thesis research program should be prepared as early as possible. A PhD program normally requires 9 to 11 semesters. The number of courses per semester should not normally exceed four. Graduate students must take the Advanced Seminar, ENVB*6720, and may be required by their advisory committee to take the Introductory Seminar, ENVB*6710.

Interdepartmental Programs

Toxicology MSc/PhD Collaborative Program

The Department of Environmental Biology participates in the MSc/PhD program in toxicology. Professors Hall, Kevan, Lee, Ritter, Scott-Dupree, Sibley, Solomon, and Trevors are members of the Toxicology Interdepartmental Group. The faculty members' research and teaching expertise includes aspects of toxicology; they may serve as advisers for MSc and PhD students.

Please consult the Toxicology listing for a detailed description of the MSc/PhD collaborative program.

Courses**ENVB*6040 Molecular Basis of Plant-Microbe Interactions F [0.50]**

A lecture and seminar course on recent advances in the study of plant-microbe interactions. Topics included are the biochemical, physiological and genetic aspects of plant defenses and the interaction of plants with pathogenic and mutualistic bacteria, fungi and viruses.

ENVB*6060 Topics in Phytopathology W [0.50]

Current topics and emerging issues in phytopathology and plant health will be examined through presentations, discussions and group projects. Emphasis will be placed on ecology, population biology and genetics of plant pathogens and other microorganisms, and their application to current practices in plant health.

ENVB*6080 Plant Disease Epidemiology and Management W [0.50]

Epidemiology and management of plant diseases caused by fungi, viruses, and bacteria. (Offered in alternate years.)

ENVB*6180 Physiology and Biochemistry of Herbicides W [0.50]

Chemical and biological fate of herbicides in soil. Physical, morphological and physiological factors influencing herbicidal selectivity and modes of action. (Offered in alternate years.) Department of Environmental Biology

ENVB*6190 Environmental Microbial Technology W [0.50]

Current topics in selected areas of environmental microbial technology. An emphasis will be placed on the physiology and genetics of microorganisms useful in environmental biotechnology. The course involves extensive use of current journal articles.

Restriction(s): Undergraduate degree in microbiology or related discipline.

ENVB*6340 Colloquium in Insect Systematics W [0.25]

Weekly discussions and seminars dealing with current topics in systematic entomology.

ENVB*6370 Physiology of Insects F [0.50]

Students will be assigned a library exercise and will select a laboratory project in their own area of interest. Emphasis will be placed on techniques and familiarity with current literature.

ENVB*6451 Topics in Environmental Biology F,W,S [0.25]

This course provides graduate students, either individually or in groups, with the opportunity to pursue topics in the major areas of departmental specialization: plant protection and environmental management. This course may be offered in any of lecture, reading/seminar, or individual project formats.

ENVB*6452 Topics in Environmental Biology F,W,S [0.50]

See ENVB*6451 above.

ENVB*6520 Pollination Biology F [0.50]

Pollination biology is discussed from both entomological and botanical viewpoints, stressing fundamental and applied aspects. (Offered in the fall semester or by arrangement with the professor.)

ENVB*6530 Ecotoxicological Risk Characterization W [0.50]

A biologically based advanced course that will give students working knowledge of current procedures and techniques for ecotoxicological risk characterization. The course material will cover the topics: problem definition, dose response characterization, exposure characterization, and risk assessment and risk-management decision making. (Credit may be obtained for only one of TOX6530, ENVB6530 and TOX4550.) Department of Environmental Biology

ENVB*6540 Integrated Pest Management - Insects W [0.50]

Concepts associated with integrated pest management of insect pests of various plant hosts will be introduced to students in an interactive lecture and laboratory format. Experiential learning and skill development, associated with economic entomology, will also be emphasized.

ENVB*6550 Bioactivity and Metabolism of Pesticides W [0.50]

The basis of pesticide bioactivity will be examined, with emphasis on mode of action, structure-activity relationships and analytical methods. Students will participate in seminars and prepare a research paper and/or conduct a laboratory research project in consultation with the instructor(s).

ENVB*6560 Forest Ecosystem Dynamics F [0.50]

An exploration of energy flow and distribution in forest ecosystems. Both components will be examined in the context of biomass and productivity, perturbations and resilience. Some aspects of modelling will be covered.

ENVB*6620 Management and Biology of the Honey Bee F [0.50]

An in-depth treatment of advanced topics related to honey bees, including management techniques such as wintering bees, queen rearing and instrumental insemination, comb-honey production, genetics and breeding of honey bees, caste determination, and social behaviour of honey bees. Discussion sections will focus on recent research.

ENVB*6710 Introductory Seminar F [0.25]

This course provides information and training in various scientific presentation styles - written, computer generated, oral, and poster formats. Students will prepare a scientific essay based on research they have conducted and subsequently transform the essay into an oral and a poster format.

ENVB*6720 Advanced Seminar W [0.25]

Graduate students will prepare either an oral or a poster presentation on their thesis research. They will also be responsible for participating in the organization of a departmental graduate student symposium during which their presentations will be given and evaluated. Students must also attend weekly departmental seminars and prepare 5 precis for evaluation.