

2008-2009 Graduate Calendar

The information published in this Graduate Calendar outlines the rules, regulations, curricula, programs and fees for the 2008-2009 academic years, including the Summer Semester 2008, the Fall Semester 2008 and the Winter Semester 2009.

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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The logo for the University of Guelph, featuring the text "UNIVERSITY of GUELPH" in a stylized font.The tagline "CHANGING LIVES IMPROVING LIFE" in a bold, sans-serif font, set against a yellow background.

Revision Information:	
June 3, 2008	Initial Publication
October 8, 2008	Revision
December 16, 2008	Revision
February 4, 2009	Revision
February 18, 2009	Revision

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.

Introduction

Collection, Use and Disclosure of 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/DBLaws/Statutes/English/90f31_e.htm. 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. Certain personal information is disclosed to external agencies, including the Ontario Universities Application Centre, the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, and Statistics Canada, for statistical and planning purposes, and is disclosed to other individuals or organizations in accordance with the Office of Registrarial Services Departmental Policy on the Release of Student Information. For details on the use and disclosure of this information call the Office of Registrarial Services at the University at (519) 824-4120 or see <http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/registrar/index.cfm?index>.

Statistics Canada - Notification of Disclosure

For further information, please see Statistics Canada's web site at <http://www.statcan.ca> and Section XIV Statistics Canada.

Address for University Communication

Depending on the nature and timing of the communication, the University may use one of these addresses to communicate with students. Students are, therefore, responsible for checking all of the following on a regular basis:

Email Address

The University issued email address is considered an official means of communication with the student and will be used for correspondence from the University. Students are responsible for monitoring their University-issued email account regularly.

Home Address

Students are responsible for maintaining a current mailing address with the University. Address changes can be made, in writing, through Graduate Program Services.

Name Changes

The University of Guelph is committed to the integrity of its student records, therefore, each student is required to provide either on application for admission or on personal data forms required for registration, his/her complete, legal name. Any requests to change a name, by means of alteration, deletion, substitution or addition, must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation.

Student Confidentiality and Release of Student Information Policy Excerpt

The University undertakes to protect the privacy of each student and the confidentiality of his or her record. To this end the University shall refuse to disclose personal information to any person other than the individual to whom the information relates where disclosure would constitute an unjustified invasion of the personal privacy of that person or of any other individual. All members of the University community must respect the confidential nature of the student information which they acquire in the course of their work.

Complete policy at <http://www.uoguelph.ca/policies>.

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Geography

The Department of Geography offers programs of study leading to the degrees of MA, MSc and PhD in Geography, and MA/MSc and PhD in Collaborative International Development Studies. Details regarding faculty, areas of research, current research opportunities and application procedures are provided on the Department's web site <http://www.uoguelph.ca/geography/>

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MA and MSc Programs

The Department of Geography offers MA and MSc degrees in Geography, by thesis and by project. The Master's program offers opportunities for research in the areas of human geography, resource and environmental management, and biophysical process. The program is distinctive in that it emphasizes interrelationships among biophysical and human systems. Scales of inquiry range from the local to the global, and students conduct research in both developed and developing countries.

Admission Requirements

To be considered for admission, applicants should meet the minimum requirements of a four-year honours degree with a 73% ('B') average during the final two years of study. Applicants must submit a statement of their research interests with their application. It is essential that applicants contact potential advisors in the department prior to submission of an application. Students are admitted in September and applications should be submitted by January 10 for consideration in the first round for admission and funding. Applications received after this date shall be considered in the second round.

Degree Requirements

Students may undertake an MA or an MSc program in geography by thesis or by research project (the non-thesis option). Students taking the thesis option are required to complete an acceptable thesis and the Research Methods course. In addition, students must take four courses (2.0 credits), three of which must be from the Department of Geography, and these must include courses from at least two of the biophysical processes, rural studies and resource assessment course groupings (see Courses section below). For the MA degree, students must complete at least two courses from the rural studies and the resource assessment groupings combined. For the MSc degree, students must complete at least two courses in biophysical processes, one of which may be outside the department, as approved by the student's advisory committee.

Students taking the non-thesis option must complete the Research Methods course and the Research Project course. In addition, six other courses (3.0 credits) are required, at least four of which must be from the Department of Geography, and these must include courses from at least two of the biophysical processes, rural studies and resource assessment course groupings. MA students must complete at least two courses from the rural studies and the resource assessment groupings combined. MSc students must complete at least two courses in biophysical processes, one of which may be outside the Department, as approved by the student's advisory committee.

PhD Program

The objective of the PhD program is to offer opportunities for advanced research in the broad field of rural resource evaluation and environmental analysis. This field is part of a broader domain which encompasses theoretical and empirical investigations of interrelationships within and between biophysical processes and social systems. Doctoral students conduct research relating to these areas at various geographic scales, from the local to the global.

Admission Requirements

Applicants for the PhD program should have a recognized master's degree with an 80% ('A-') average in their postgraduate studies. Applicants must submit a statement of their research interests including some evidence of experience in their chosen research area. It is essential that applicants contact potential advisors in the department prior to submission of an application. Students are admitted in September and applications should be submitted by January 10 for consideration in the first round for admission and funding. Applications received after this date shall be considered in the second round.

Degree Requirements

All students in the PhD program are required to complete the Geographic Scholarship and Research course during the first two semesters of study. The advisory committee may prescribe additional courses to help the student prepare for the qualifying examination and thesis research. All students in the PhD program must complete a qualifying examination and submit a satisfactory research proposal by the end of the fourth semester of study.

The qualifying examination has written and oral components and evaluates the student's knowledge of the broader scholarly field as well as the specific theoretical and empirical content of the intended research area. Submission and defence of an acceptable thesis on an approved topic completes the requirements of the PhD.

Interdepartmental Program

Collaborative International Development Studies MA/MSc and PhD Programs

The Department of Geography participates in the MA and MSc programs in Collaborative International Development Studies (CIDS). Consult the International Development Studies listing for a detailed description of the requirements of the collaborative program.

Courses

Biophysical Processes

GEOG*6330 Biotic Processes and Biophysical Systems U [0.50]

Investigation of biotic processes influencing the composition, structure and distribution of plant and animal communities and of approaches to biophysical systems analysis, focusing on environmental system interaction at the landscape scale.

GEOG*6500 Sedimentary Processes in Geomorphology W [0.50]

An integrated study of fluid flow and sedimentary processes in water and air, setting key elements of sediment erosion, transport and deposition within a global context.

GEOG*6610 Global Hydrology F [0.50]

An examination of global environmental hydrology including precipitation, evaporation, subsurface water and runoff. Physical processes, measurement, analytical techniques and modelling strategies will be considered in the context of global change.

Rural Studies

GEOG*6200 Land Use and Agricultural Systems F,W [0.50]

Rural land uses and processes, particularly agricultural systems, their dynamics and interactions with the resource base and competing activities. Theoretical models and analytical methods related to applied questions in agricultural decision making and land use planning.

GEOG*6270 Rural Community Systems W [0.50]

Characterization and delineation of rural community systems in Canada with attention to the impact of processes of centralization and diffusion on rural economy, society and settlement. Credit may not be obtained for both GEOG*6270 and RPD*6020 .

Resource Assessment

GEOG*6281 Environmental Resource Evaluation F [0.50]

Analysis, evaluation and management of environmental resources. Emphasis is on biophysical and socio-economic concepts and methods which offer a more comprehensive and integrative basis for environmental decisions.

GEOG*6340 Human-Environment Systems Analysis F [0.50]

A critical review of philosophies, concepts and analytical methods for analysis and management of systems involving the interaction of environmental processes and human spatial activity.

International Development Studies

GEOG*6400 Urbanization and Development (alternate years) U [0.50]

Analysis of the evolution of urban form and pattern in the developing world within the context of the global urban system. Examines national urban systems and implications for dispersed development and rural change.

GEOG*6450 Political Identities, Territory and Territoriality(alternate years) U [0.50]

Group identities at various scales in relation to concepts of territory and territoriality, and their changing impact on the world's political map.

General

GEOG*6060 Special Topics in Geography F [0.50]

A course on some specific topic not covered by the regular graduate courses for which there are both available faculty and sufficient interest among students.

GEOG*6090 Research Methods F-W [0.50]

A review of philosophies and research methods in geography. The development and presentation of a context paper and proposal for the thesis or research project. This course extends over two semesters (fall and winter)

GEOG*6100 Geographic Scholarship and Research F-W [0.50]

A review of geographic scholarship including conceptual, theoretical and methodological issues in resource assessment, biophysical resources and rural socio-economic resources. The course extends over two semesters (fall and winter).

GEOG*6180 Research Project in Geography F,W,S [1.00]

The preparation and presentation of a report on the research project approved in GEOG*6090.