

2010-2011 Graduate Calendar

The information published in this Graduate Calendar outlines the rules, regulations, curricula, programs and fees for the 2010-2011 academic years, including the Fall Semester 2010, the Winter Semester 2011 and the Summer Semester 2011.

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:	
July 2, 2010	Initial Publication
November 2, 2010	Revision
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Disclaimer

The Office of Graduate Studies 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, Public Health Emergencies, 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.gc.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 the Office of Graduate Studies.

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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Plant Agriculture

The MSc and PhD programs in the Department of Plant Agriculture offer specialization in three broad fields of the Plant Sciences: 1) plant genetics and breeding; 2) plant physiology and biochemistry; and 3) crop production systems.

- **Plant Genetics and Breeding** has long been a key focus of our faculty and students. Through breeding and biotechnology, Guelph researchers have helped society by developing new field-crop, fruit, ornamental and vegetable cultivars that are grown in Canada and worldwide. In addition to developing new plant cultivars, Plant Agriculture faculty and students seek to understand the fundamental mechanisms that enable plant improvements and to discover novel methodologies and technologies that will be the foundation for future advances.
- **Plant Physiology and Biochemistry** is a broad discipline. Faculty and students in this area study the response of plants to environmental change and plant development at the ecosystem, whole plant, and molecular levels. Students in this area investigate ecologically friendly management strategies, studying the underlying molecular and biochemical mechanisms that regulate plant development, and investigate how plant performance can be optimized in the field or enclosed environments.
- **Crop Production Systems** research develops agricultural management strategies. Production systems research includes yield improvements and development of economically and environmentally sound production practices in field and horticultural crops such as ornamentals and turf. Faculty and students in this area assist producers and industry in the control of weeds, insects and plant diseases, and investigate new management protocols for production of high quality crops.

Administrative Staff

Chair

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BA Western Ontario, BSc, MSc, PhD Guelph - Associate Professor

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BSc, MSc Montana State, PhD Guelph - Associate Professor

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March 2, 2011

Alan W. McKeown

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BSc, MSc, PhD Utkal - Professor

Gopi Paliyath

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K. Peter Pauls

BSc, MSc, PhD Waterloo - Professor

Manish Raizada

BSc Western, PhD Stanford - Associate Professor

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BSc Novi Sad, Yugoslavia, PhD Guelph - Professor

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BSc Winnipeg, MSc Manitoba, PhD Guelph - Associate Professor

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BSc Meerut, MSc Lucknow, PhD Delhi - Professor

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BSc, MSc, PhD Guelph - Professor

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BSc, MSc Brock, PhD Queen's - Professor

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BSc, MSc Guelph, PhD Western Ontario - Professor

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BSc, MSc Guelph, PhD Reading - Professor and Associate Dean, OAC

David J. Wolyn

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MSc Program

The Department of Plant Agriculture offers a MSc program in three broad fields of the Plant Sciences: 1) plant genetics and breeding; 2) plant physiology and biochemistry; and 3) crop production systems. Students conduct basic and/or applied research on topics within these fields.

Admission Requirements

Applicants should have a baccalaureate degree in an honours plant science/biology program, or the equivalent, from a recognized university or college with an average academic standing of at least 'B' during the last two years of full-time study (or equivalent). To assist in identifying a suitable thesis advisor(s), applicants should submit a short statement of research interests. Supportive letters of reference are essential and should outline the applicant's strengths and weaknesses. Students may be admitted in the Fall, Winter or Summer semesters. The University of Guelph requires that applicants from some foreign institutions have a MSc (or equivalent) degree before they are considered for admission to the University of Guelph's MSc program.

Degree Requirements

A program of prescribed courses (at least 1.5 credits of 6000 level courses) and additional courses is established with the student's advisory committee. All MSc candidates must complete a thesis and present a seminar in conjunction with the final oral examination. Students are required to participate in the Seminar PLNT*6400 and in a Departmental Colloquium course dealing with current topics. Students are expected to participate in Departmental events, with particular emphasis on the seminar series and poster day.

PhD Program

The Department of Plant Agriculture offers a PhD program in three broad fields of the Plant Sciences: 1) plant genetics and breeding; 2) plant physiology and biochemistry; and 3) crop production systems. Students conduct research on topics within these fields.

Admission Requirements

The usual requirement for admission into the PhD program is a MSc degree by thesis in a field appropriate to their proposed area of specialization with a minimum 'B' average and supportive letters of reference. Direct admission to the PhD program is permitted to applicants holding an honours baccalaureate degree and demonstrating extraordinary academic and research capabilities. It is also possible for a student to transfer from the MSc without completing the requirements for that degree if the student has an excellent academic record and has strong research progress that can be expanded to the doctoral level. The request for transfer must be initiated by the student and must be done no earlier

than the end of the second semester and no later than the end of the fourth semester. Applicants should submit a statement of research interests, background experiences, and career goals to assist in the identification of an appropriate faculty adviser with the resources necessary to support the thesis research. Students may be admitted in the Fall, Winter or Spring semesters. In some instances, applicants who already hold a MSc may be required to initially register in the MSc program.

Degree Requirements

The major emphasis in the PhD program is on research and the preparation and defense of an acceptable thesis. All PhD candidates must complete a thesis and present a seminar -in conjunction with the final oral examination. Students are required to participate in the Seminar PLNT*6400 and in a Departmental Colloquium course dealing with current topics. There are no other specific course requirements. It is usual for most students, in consultation with their advisory committee, to select some appropriate courses in preparation for the qualifying examination and thesis research. The qualifying examination is in two parts (written and oral) and evaluates the student's knowledge of their field of specialization and related topics. The qualifying examination is taken no later than the fifth semester. For students who have transferred from the MSc program or have been admitted directly to the PhD program from a BSc, the qualifying examination is taken no later than the seventh semester. The advisory committee is required to submit a written evaluation of the student's performance in research and the student's potential as a researcher. Upon completion of the qualifying examination, the student becomes a candidate for the PhD degree.

All students are expected to participate in Departmental events, with particular emphasis on the seminar series and poster day.

Collaborative Programs

Toxicology MSc/PhD

The Department of Plant Agriculture participates in the MSc/PhD program in toxicology. Please consult the Toxicology listing for a detailed description of the MSc/PhD collaborative program.

Courses

Plant Genetics and Breeding

PLNT*6100 Advanced Crop Breeding F [0.50]

The practical consideration of genetic theory and biological limitations to improving plant populations and developing cultivars will be discussed. Current and emerging breeding methodologies and sources of variation used to achieve plant breeding goals will be examined through lectures, paper discussion, site visits and invited talks.

PLNT*6130 Corn Breeding W [0.25]

Principles of corn breeding with emphasis on germplasm enhancement and methods of improving breeding populations as sources of inbred lines for hybrid programs and for direct use as improved varieties. (Offered in even years)

PLNT*6150 Plant Breeding -The Profession W [0.25]

The course will address professional aspects of plant breeding including: legal/regulatory issues, ethical issues related to germplasm, and rights and responsibilities related to intellectual property under UPOV and World Patent Organization conventions. (Offered in odd years)

PLNT*6160 Quantitative Genetic Variation in Crop Populations W [0.25]

Fundamentals of quantitative genetics. Topics will include gene and genotype frequencies, forces affecting equilibrium, small population size, inbreeding, means, variances, covariances and resemblance among relatives. Lecture topics will be expanded through discussion of classic and current papers. (Offered in even years)

PLNT*6250 Colloquium in Plant Genetics and Breeding U [0.25]

An open discussion course designed to review and critically analyse contemporary issues in plant genetics and breeding.

PLNT*6260 Advanced Crop Genetics W [0.50]

A lecture and discussion course on some of the recent advances in genetics as they pertain to crop improvement. Topics will include: the molecular basis of selected agronomic traits, molecular marker assisted selection, isolation of plant genes and plant transformation systems.

PLNT*6500 Applied Bioinformatics W [0.50]

The goal of this course is to provide an introductory understanding of the databases and methods used in computational molecular biology research. Topics covered will include: reviewing major molecular databases and their structures, constructing sequence alignments, constructing phylogenies, and finding motifs and genes in biological sequences. Lab sessions will include an introduction to Unix and Perl for the biologist and hands-on use of several molecular data analysis programs.

Prerequisite(s): Undergraduate level statistics class (such as STAT*2040 or STAT*2100) and undergraduate level molecular biology class (such as MBG*2020).

Plant Physiology and Biochemistry

PLNT*6010 Physiology of Crop Yield W [0.50]

This course covers factors affecting biomass production and yield, with primary focus on phenomena measured at the whole canopy scale. Yield-limiting abiotic stresses (temperature, water deficit, nutrient deficiency) are considered in detail, as are technical aspects of instrumentation used in crop physiology research. (Offered annually)

Prerequisite(s): PBIO*3110 or permission of instructor

PLNT*6110 Postharvest Physiology W [0.50]

Discussion of the physiological effects of controlled and supplemental environments or treatments on horticultural crops. Emphasis is on current problems and research. (Offered in odd years)

PLNT*6220 Advanced Studies in Pomology W [0.50]

Discussion of current problems and research on fruit crop production and physiology. (Offered in even years)

PLNT*6230 Colloquium in Plant Physiology and Biochemistry U [0.25]

An open discussion course designed to review and critically analyze contemporary issues in plant physiology and biochemistry.

PLNT*6290 Physiological Genetics of Higher Plants F [0.50]

A lecture and discussion course examining classical and molecular genetic investigations for understanding the genetic basis and regulation of physiological processes in plants. (Offered in odd years)

PLNT*6320 Metabolic Processes in Crop Plants F [0.50]

A comprehensive examination of the metabolic mechanisms and versatility whereby autotrophic organisms sustain themselves. Emphasis will be placed on our current understanding of the regulation and integration of metabolic processes in plants and their physiological and agricultural significance including available research methodologies.

Prerequisite(s): one undergraduate course in biochemistry

Restriction(s): no auditing without permission of Instructor

Crop Production Systems

PLNT*6240 Colloquium in Crop Production and Management U [0.25]

An open discussion course designed to review and critically analyze contemporary issues in crop production and management.

General

PLNT*6050 Principles and Application of Plant Tissue Culture F [0.50]

The course involves lecture and discussions of fundamental and applied aspects of plant tissue culture. Topics will include the role of tissue culture in understanding plant development, physiology and genetics, and its commercial applications in horticulture and forestry. (Offered in odd years)

PLNT*6080 Plant Disease Epidemiology and Management F [0.50]

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

PLNT*6170 Statistics in Plant Agriculture W [0.50]

The application of statistical techniques to research in plant agriculture. SAS will be the software used to perform data analysis. Emphasis will be placed on statistical principles, the design of experiments, the testing of hypotheses, and communication of findings to other scientists.

PLNT*6400 Seminar F,W [0.25]

All graduate students present a departmental seminar on their research proposal no later than the second semester. Each student is expected to participate in the seminars of colleagues and faculty.

PLNT*6450 Plant Agriculture International Field Tour U [0.25]

A field course designed to increase student's knowledge of primary field and animal agricultural production systems. To explore the environmental and political issues related to international agriculture and to understand the role of agri-business in the rural economy.

Restriction(s): CROP*4260 if PLNT*6450 is field tour to mid-west USA