

2018-2019 Graduate Calendar

The information published in this Graduate Calendar outlines the rules, regulations, curricula, programs and fees for the 2018-2019 academic year, including the Summer Semester 2018, Fall Semester 2018 and the Winter Semester 2019.

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:

- Universities of Canada

Contact Information:

University of Guelph
Guelph, Ontario, Canada
N1G 2W1
519-824-4120

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UNIVERSITY
of GUELPH

CHANGING LIVES
IMPROVING LIFE

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 Advanced Education and Skills Development, 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 <https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/>

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 Registrarial 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 <https://www.uoguelph.ca/secretariat/office-services/university-secretariat/university-policies>.

Table of Contents

Integrative Biology	110
Administrative Staff	110
Graduate Faculty	110
Associated Graduate Faculty	110
MSc Program	110
PhD Program	111
Interdepartmental Programs	111
Collaborative Specializations	111
Courses	111

Integrative Biology

The Department of Integrative Biology is comprised of faculty members in three overlapping fields and offers MSc and PhD degrees in:

- Ecology
- Evolutionary Biology
- Comparative Physiology

Research is focused on a wide variety of organisms (from microbes to plants to animals) at multiple levels of organization (from molecules and cells through to entire ecosystems). Basic research is being used as a foundation to address some of the most important regional and global issues.

See the [department website](#) for additional information.

Administrative Staff

Chair

Ryan Gregory (2480 Science Complex, Ext. 53598)
ibcchair@uoguelph.ca

Graduate Program Coordinator

Karl Cottenie (2470 Science Complex, Ext. 52554)
cottenie@uoguelph.ca

Graduate Program Coordinator

Cortland Griswold (1474 Science Complx, Ext. 56240)
cgriswol@uguelph.ca

Graduate Program Assistant

Lori Ferguson (2483 Science Complex, Ext. 56097)
cbsibgrad@uoguelph.ca

CBS Graduate Admissions Secretary

Karen White (3479 Science Complex, Ext. 52730)
cbsgrad@uoguelph.ca

Graduate Faculty

Josef D. Ackerman

BSc Toronto, MA SUNY, PhD Cornell - Professor

Sarah J. Adamowicz

BSc Dalhousie, MSc Guelph, PhD Imperial College - Associate Professor

James S. Ballantyne

BSc, MSc Guelph, PhD British Columbia - Professor

Nicholas J. Bernier

BSc McGill, Diploma in Aquaculture Malaspina College, MSc British Columbia, PhD Ottawa - Professor

Elizabeth G. Boulding

BSc British Columbia, MSc Alberta, PhD Washington - Professor

Christina M. Caruso

BA Oberlin College, PhD Illinois - Associate Professor

Karl A. Cottenie

MSc, MS, PhD K.U. Leuven - Associate Professor and Graduate Program Coordinator

Stephen S. Crawford

BSc Guelph, MSc Queen's, PhD Guelph - Associate Professor

Teresa J.D. Crease

BSc, MSc Windsor, PhD Washington - Professor and Associate Dean, Graduate Studies

Roy G. Danzmann

BSc, MSc Guelph, PhD Montana - Professor

Moira M. Ferguson

BSc, MSc Guelph, PhD Montana - Professor

John M. Fryxell

BSc, PhD British Columbia - Professor and Chair of Integrative Biology

Jinzhong Fu

BSc Nankai, MSc Chinese Academy of Sciences, PhD Toronto - Associate Professor

Todd E. Gillis

BSc, MSc Guelph, PhD Simon Fraser - Associate Professor

Ryan Gregory

BSc McMaster, PhD Guelph - Associate Professor

Cortland K. Griswold

BSc Wisconsin, MSc Toronto, PhD British Columbia - Associate Professor

Mehrdad Hajibabaei

BSc Tehran Azad, PhD Ottawa - Associate Professor

Robert Hanner

BSc Eastern Michigan, PhD Oregon - Associate Professor

Paul D.N. Hebert

BSc Queen's, PhD Cambridge, FRSC - Professor

Andreas Heyland

BSc, MSc Zurich, PhD Florida - Associate Professor

Brian C. Husband

BSc, MSc Alberta, PhD Toronto - Professor and Associate Dean Academic, College of Biological Science

Frederic Labege

BSc, MSc Laval, PhD Manitoba - Associate Professor

Andrew MacDougall

BA Dalhousie, MSc York, PhD British Columbia - Associate Professor

Hafiz Maherali

BSc McGill, MSc, PhD Illinois - Associate Professor

Andrew G. McAdam

BSc McGill, MSc Western, PhD Alberta - Associate Professor

Kevin S. McCann

BA Dartmouth, MSc, PhD Guelph - Professor

Robert L. McLaughlin

BSc Windsor, MSc Queen's, PhD McGill - Associate Professor

Amy Newman

BSc Queen's; PhD British Columbia - Assistant Professor

Jonathan A. Newman

BA, PhD State Univ. of New York - Professor and Dean, College of Biological Sciences

Steven G. Newmaster

BSc Guelph, PhD Alberta - Professor

Ryan Norris

BES Waterloo, MSc York, PhD Queen's - Associate Professor

Beren W. Robinson

BSc, MSc Dalhousie, PhD Binghamton - Associate Professor

M. Alexander Smith

BSc Trent, MSc Trent, PhD McGill - Associate Professor

Merritt R. Turetsky

BSc Villanova, PhD Alberta - Associate Professor

Glen J. Van Der Kraak

BSc, MSc Manitoba, PhD British Columbia - Professor and Associate Dean of Research, College of Biological Science

Patricia A. Wright

BSc McMaster, PhD British Columbia - Professor

Associated Graduate Faculty

James Bogart

BSc Toronto, MSc PhD Texas - Professor Emeritus, University of Guelph

Eldon Eveleigh

BSc, MSc Newfoundland, PhD Toronto - Entomologist, Natural Resources Canada, Fredericton

Douglas S. Fudge

BA, MAT Cornell, MSc Guelph, PhD British Columbia - Associate Professor

Shoshannah Jacobs

BSc MSc New Brunswick, PhD Ottawa - Contractually Limited Faculty, Integrative Biology, University of Guelph

Tom Nudds

BSc MSc Windsor; PhD Western Ontario - Professor Emeritus, Integrative Biology, University of Guelph

Astrid Schwalb

BSc Konstanz, MSc Potsdam, PhD Guelph - Assistant Professor. Texas State University

Dirk Steinke

BSc MSC University of Konstanz, PhD Goethe University Frankfurt - Associate Director Centre for Biodiversity and Adjunct Professor, University of Guelph

MSc Program

The Integrative Biology Graduate Program offers MSc degrees in each of three major fields of emphasis: 1) ecology; 2) evolutionary biology; and 3) comparative physiology. The three areas of interest focus on (but are not restricted to) experimental approaches in field and laboratory settings and a strong linkage between theoretical and applied investigations. The department encourages students to pursue interdisciplinary research and, where appropriate, utilize faculty expertise from across campus on their advisory committees.

Admissions Requirements

To be considered, applicants must meet the requirements of a four-year honours science degree with a minimum 'B' (75%) average during the final two years (4 semesters) of undergraduate study. Each applicant must obtain the support of a faculty member willing to serve as his/her thesis advisor.

Admission may be granted in September, January or May. Completed applications should be uploaded at least one full semester (four months) before the expected date of admission. Applications from international students should be uploaded at least eight months prior to the expected date of admission.

All components of the application, including transcript(s), graduate certificate(s), grading scale(s), language test results, assessment forms, a statement of interest and the name of the faculty advisor must be uploaded no later than two months after an application is submitted through the OUAC portal. Applications that are incomplete after this time period will be closed.

Admission Process

Graduate student applications to programs in the College of Biological Science are handled by the Office of the Associate Dean, Research (ADR). Before submitting an application, applicants are strongly encouraged to view the "[Before you Apply](#)" and "[Admission Process](#)" webpage on the ADR Future Student's site.

Complete application submission instructions may also be found on the [Office of Graduate Studies](#) webpage or in the Graduate Calendar.

Degree Requirements

Students must complete and defend an acceptable thesis. In addition, they must successfully complete courses totaling not fewer than 1.5 credits. These credits must include the mandatory course IBIO*6630, Scientific Communication (0.50 credit)

An acceptable MSc thesis comprises a scientifically defensible account of the student's research on a particular, well-defined research problem or hypothesis. Such research should begin with the practical expectation that it could be completed and the thesis defended in not more than six semesters. Paramount to the notion of acceptability of the thesis is its quality with respect to the underlying rationale (problem identification), the approach used to address the problem, and the evaluation of the results. Final acceptance of the MSc thesis need not imply that the work is sufficiently meritorious to warrant publication in scholarly media, though the majority of MSc research in the department is published.

The Department endorses the idea that graduate students in the Integrative Biology program should benefit from exposure to recent developments both within and between the major areas of emphasis. To that end, students may enrol in any of the regularly offered courses entitled "Special Topics in ..." Details of course content, format and evaluation will be available in the Office of the Chair of the Department one semester prior to the semester in which the course is offered.

In addition, the Department offers two "Advances in Integrative Biology" courses to provide students with the opportunity to study with individual faculty on specific topics in the faculty member's area of expertise. These courses may be taken by groups as either reading/seminar courses, or on an individual research-project basis. Students should approach individual faculty members to request supervision on individual research project courses. In addition, a student can register in an "Advances in Integrative Biology" course to combine a senior-level undergraduate course in ecology, evolutionary biology, or comparative physiology with an additional component – typically a major paper or research project. Students should approach individual faculty members that teach the senior-level undergraduate course, and in consultation with their thesis advisor.

PhD Program

The Integrative Biology Graduate Program offers PhD degrees for studies in each of the three major fields of emphasis: 1) ecology; 2) evolutionary biology; and 3) comparative physiology. The 3 three areas of emphasis focus on (but are not restricted to), experimental approaches in field and laboratory settings and a strong linkage between theoretical and applied investigations. The Department encourages students to pursue interdisciplinary research and, where appropriate, utilize faculty expertise from across campus on their advisory committees.

Admissions Requirements

The admission and degree requirements of the PhD program are essentially those of the university. Most applicants will have a recognized Master's degree in a related field obtained with minimum academic standing of 'A-' (80%) in their postgraduate studies, and the endorsement of a potential thesis advisor. Under exceptional circumstances admission directly to a PhD program with an appropriate honours degree alone, or transfer from MSc to PhD program without completing the MSc thesis requirements, is also possible. Applications should be uploaded at least one full semester (four months) prior to the expected date of admission. Applications from international students should be uploaded at least eight months prior to the expected date of admission.

Each applicant must obtain the support of a faculty member willing to serve as his/her thesis advisor.

All components of the application, including transcript(s), graduate certificate(s), grading scale(s), language test results, assessment forms, a statement of interest and the name of the faculty advisor must be uploaded no later than two months after an application is submitted through the OUAC portal. Applications that are incomplete after this time period will be closed.

Admissions Process

Graduate student applications to programs in the College of Biological Science are handled by the Office of the Associate Dean, Research (ADR). Before submitting an application, applicants are strongly encouraged to view the "[Before you Apply](#)" "[Admission Process](#)" webpage on the ADR Future Student's site.

Complete application instructions may also be found on the [Office of Graduate Studies](#) webpage or in the Graduate Calendar

Degree Requirements

The Integrative Biology program expects that the major part of the student's time will be devoted to research in fulfillment of the thesis requirement. For that reason, the Department does not require that PhD students with an MSc degree take any courses. Students entering directly into the PhD program are required to take 1.0 course credits, which must include IBIO*6630, Scientific Communication (0.50 credit) in their first or second semester. Furthermore, advisory committees may, from time to time, require that a student take some prescribed or additional courses. Regardless, PhD students are expected to contribute and participate actively in the full academic life of the department, including regular attendance at departmental and inter-departmental seminars, and to provide leadership and counseling to undergraduate and MSc students.

PhD students will become candidates for the PhD degree upon successful completion of a qualifying examination with oral and written components, which should be conducted not later than the third semester of the PhD program. The exam evaluates students' knowledge in the general area of the intended research.

Submission and defence of an acceptable thesis complete the requirements for a PhD. An acceptable thesis comprises a report of the candidate's research on a particular and well-defined research problem or hypothesis. It should represent a significant contribution to knowledge in that field. Emphasis is placed on the quality of the work as judged by the expression of mature scholarship, critical judgment, and satisfactory literary style in the thesis. Thesis approval implies that the research is judged sufficiently meritorious to warrant publication in reputable, refereed journals in its field.

Interdepartmental Programs

Faculty in Integrative Biology also participate in the interdepartmental programs in Bioinformatics or Biophysics

Collaborative Specializations

Faculty in Integrative Biology also participate in the collaborative specializations in Neuroscience or Toxicology

Courses

Ecology

IBIO*6000 Special Topics in Ecology and Behaviour U [0.50]

This is a course in which several faculty lecture and/or lead discussion groups in tutorials about advances in their broad areas, or related areas, of ecology and behaviour. Topics may include animal communication, optimal foraging, life-history evolution, mating systems, population dynamics, niche theory and food-web dynamics, and will depend on who is co-ordinating the course for that particular offering. The course includes lectures and seminars in which the students actively participate.

Department(s): Department of Integrative Biology

Evolutionary Biology

IBIO*6020 Special Topics in Evolutionary Biology U [0.50]

This modular course reviews books and/or other publications in the field of evolutionary biology, providing knowledge of progress in this area of biology. Topics may include epigenetics, phylogenetics, developmental basis of evolutionary change, and molecular evolution. The course includes lectures and seminars in which the students participate. Offered annually.

Department(s): Department of Integrative Biology

Comparative Physiology

IBIO*6010 Special Topics in Physiology U [0.50]

This is a course in which several faculty lecture and/or lead discussion groups in tutorials about advances in their broad areas, or related areas, of physiology. Topics may include metabolic adaptation to extreme environments, behavioural and molecular endocrinology, and exercise and muscle physiology, and will depend on who is co-ordinating the course for that particular offering. The course includes lectures and seminars in which the students actively participate.

Department(s): Department of Integrative Biology

General

IBIO*6070 Advances in Integrative Biology I U [0.50]

This course provides graduate students, either individually or in groups, with the opportunity to pursue topics in specialized fields of integrative biology under the guidance of graduate faculty. Courses may be offered in any of lecture, reading/seminar, or individual project formats. A minimum enrolment may be required for some course offerings.

Restriction(s): Instructor consent required.

Department(s): Department of Integrative Biology

IBIO*6080 Advances in Integrative Biology II U [0.50]

This course provides graduate students, either individually or in groups, with the opportunity to pursue topics in specialized fields of integrative biology under the guidance of graduate faculty. Courses may be offered in any of lecture, reading/seminar, or individual project formats. A minimum enrolment may be required for some course offerings.

Restriction(s): Instructor consent required.

Department(s): Department of Integrative Biology

IBIO*6630 Scientific Communication U [0.50]

This course involves development and refinement of the skills of scientific communication, with emphasis on writing skills, in the context of developing a thesis proposal. This course is mandatory for MSc AND DIRECT ENTRY PhD students in the Department of Integrative Biology.

Department(s): Department of Integrative Biology