

2019-2020 Graduate Calendar

The information published in this Graduate Calendar outlines the rules, regulations, curricula, programs and fees for the 2019-2020 academic year, including the Summer Semester 2019, Fall Semester 2019 and the Winter Semester 2020.

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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Disclaimer

The Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral 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, their 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 their 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>.

Learning Outcomes

Graduate Degree Learning Outcomes

On May 27, 2013, the University of Guelph Senate approved the following five University-wide Learning Outcomes as the basis from which to guide the development of graduate degree programs, specializations and courses:

1. Critical and Creative Thinking
2. Literacy
3. Global Understanding
4. Communication
5. Professional and Ethical Behaviour

These learning outcomes are also intended to serve as a framework through which our educational expectations are clear to students and the broader public; and to inform the process of outcomes assessment through the quality assurance process (regular reviews) of programs and departments.

An on-line guide to the learning outcomes, links to the associated skills, and detailed rubrics designed to support the development and assessment of additional program and discipline-specific outcomes, are available for reference on the [Learning Outcomes website](#)

Critical and Creative Thinking

Critical and creative thinking is a concept in which one applies logical principles, after much inquiry and analysis, to solve problems with a high degree of innovation, divergent thinking and risk taking. Those mastering this outcome show evidence of integrating knowledge and applying this knowledge across disciplinary boundaries. Depth and breadth of understanding of disciplines is essential to this outcome. At the graduate level, originality in the application of knowledge (master's) and undertaking of research (doctoral) is expected.

In addition, Critical and Creative Thinking includes, but is not limited to, the following outcomes: Independent Inquiry and Analysis; Problem Solving; Creativity; and Depth and Breadth of Understanding.

Literacy

Literacy is the ability to extract information from a variety of resources, assess the quality and validity of the material, and use it to discover new knowledge. The comfort in using quantitative literacy also exists in this definition, as does using technology effectively and developing visual literacy.

In addition, Literacy includes, but is not limited to, the following outcomes: Information Literacy, Quantitative Literacy, Technological Literacy, and Visual Literacy.

Global Understanding

Global understanding encompasses the knowledge of cultural similarities and differences, the context (historical, geographical, political and environmental) from which these arise, and how they are manifest in modern society. Global understanding is exercised as civic engagement, intercultural competence and the ability to understand an academic discipline outside of the domestic context.

In addition, Global Understanding includes, but is not limited to, the following outcomes: Global Understanding, Sense of Historical Development, Civic Knowledge and Engagement, and Intercultural Competence.

Communication

Communication is the ability to interact effectively with a variety of individuals and groups, and convey information successfully in a variety of formats including oral and written communication. Communication also comprises attentiveness and listening, as well as reading comprehension. It includes the ability to communicate and synthesize information, arguments, and analyses accurately and reliably.

In addition, Communication includes, but is not limited to, the following outcomes: Oral Communication, Written Communication, Reading Comprehension, and Integrative Communication.

Professional and Ethical Behaviour

Professional and ethical behaviour requires the ability to accomplish the tasks at hand with proficient skills in teamwork and leadership, while remembering ethical reasoning behind all decisions. The ability for organizational and time management skills is essential in bringing together all aspects of managing self and others. Academic integrity is central to mastery in this outcome. At the graduate level, intellectual independence is needed for professional and academic development and engagement.

In addition, Professional and Ethical Behaviour includes, but is not limited to, the following outcomes: Teamwork, Ethical Reasoning, Leadership, Personal Organization and Time Management, and Intellectual Independence.

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Geography

The Department of Geography, Environment and Geomatics offers programs of study leading to the degrees of MA, MSc and PhD in Geography in the following fields:

- Environmental Management and Governance
- Biophysical Systems and Processes
- Socio-Economic Spaces and Change

Details regarding faculty, areas of research, current research opportunities are provided on the Department's web site <http://www.uoguelph.ca/geography/>

Administrative Staff

Chair

Wanhong Yang (118a Hutt, Ext. 53090)
wayang@uoguelph.ca

Graduate Program Coordinator

Noella Gray (121 Hutt, Ext. 58155)
grayn@uoguelph.ca

Graduate Program Assistant

Nance Grieve (123a Hutt, Ext. 56721)
geograd@uoguelph.ca

Graduate Faculty

Lorne P. Bennett

BA, MSc Guelph, PhD Ottawa - Associate Professor

Aaron Berg

BSc, MSc Lethbridge, MSc Texas -Austin, PhD California -Irvine - Professor

Benjamin E. Bradshaw

BA Trent, PhD Guelph - Associate Professor

Kirby Calvert

BA Queen's, MA Brock, PhD Queen's - Assistant Professor

Jaclyn Cockburn

BSc, MSc, PhD Queen's - Assistant Professor

Evan Fraser

BA, MSc Toronto, PhD UBC - Professor

Ze'ev Gedalof

BA, MSc Victoria, PhD Washington - Associate Professor

Noella Gray

BSc McGill, MA Western, PhD Duke - Assistant Professor

Roberta Hawkins

BSc Queen's, MES, MA York, PhD Clark - Associate Professor

John B. Lindsay

BSc Nipissing, MS, PhD Western Ontario - Associate Professor

Phil Loring

BA Florida, MA, PhD Alaska - Associate Professor

Janet E. Mersey

BA Mount Allison, MSc, PhD Wisconsin - Associate Professor

Faisal Moola

BSc Toronto, MSc Lakehead, PhD Dalhousie - Associate Professor

Eric Nost

BA Grinnell, MA Kentucky, PhD Wisconsin-Madison - Assistant Professor

Kate Parizeau

BA Sc McMaster, MSc, PhD Toronto - Assistant Professor

Robin Roth

BA Victoria, PhD Clark - Associate Professor

Jennifer Silver

BA Mount Allison, MA Western, PhD Simon Fraser - Assistant Professor

John A. Smithers

BA Western Ontario, MA, PhD Guelph - Professor and Chair

Wanhong Yang

BSc Hubei, MSc Chinese Academy of Sciences, PhD Illinois - Professor and Graduate Program Coordinator

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 fields of 1) environmental management and governance; 2) biophysical systems and processes; and 3) socio-economic spaces and change. 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 75% ('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. Program offices should be consulted for admission deadlines.

Program Requirements

Students enrol in one of two study options: 1) thesis, or 2) course work and major research project.

Thesis

Students taking the thesis option are required to complete an acceptable thesis and the Research Methods courses (GEOG*6090 and GEOG*6091). In addition, students must take three courses (1.5 credits), from the Department of Geography.

For the MA degree, students must complete two courses identified as social science courses. For the MSc degree, students must complete two courses identified as natural science courses.

Course Work and Major Research Project (MRP)

Students taking the course work option must complete the Research Methods courses (GEOG*6090 and GEOG*6091) and the Research Project course. In addition, five other courses (2.5 credits) are required, at least four of which must be from the Department of Geography. MA students must complete three courses identified as social science courses. MSc students must complete three courses identified as natural science courses.

PhD Program

The PhD program is offered in three fields 1) environmental management and governance; 2) biophysical systems and processes; and 3) socio-economic spaces and change. 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. Program offices should be consulted for admission deadlines.

Program 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.

Collaborative Specializations

International Development Studies

The Department of Geography participates in the MA, MSc and PhD collaborative specialization in International Development Studies (IDS). Consult the International Development Studies listing for a detailed description of the requirements of the collaborative specialization.

One Health

The Department of Geography participates in the collaborative specialization in One Health. Master's and Doctoral students wishing to undertake thesis research or their major research paper/project with an emphasis on one health are eligible to apply to register concurrently in Geography and the collaborative specialization. Students should consult the One Health listing for more information.

Courses

Environmental Management and Governance

GEOG*6281 Environmental Management and Governance F [0.50]

Analysis and evaluation of environmental management and governance using geographical approaches. Emphasis is on socio-economic theories, concepts and methods which offer a more comprehensive and integrative basis for understanding environmental decisions.

Restriction(s): Signature required for non-geography students.

Department(s): Department of Geography

GEOG*6340 Human-Environment Relations W [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.

Department(s): Department of Geography

Biophysical Systems and 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.

Department(s): Department of Geography

GEOG*6550 Environmental Modelling W [0.50]

This course aims to provide students with an understanding of the processes and techniques involved in environmental modeling practice and will focus on the power and limitations of existing models.

Department(s): Department of Geography

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.

Department(s): Department of Geography

Socio-Economic Spaces and Changes**GEOG*6450 Development Geography 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.

Offering(s): Offered in alternate years.

Department(s): Department of Geography

General**GEOG*6060 Special Topics in Geography S,F,W [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.

Restriction(s): Instructor consent required.

Department(s): Department of Geography

GEOG*6090 Geographical Research Methods I F [0.50]

A review of philosophies and research methods in geography. The development and presentation of a context paper for the thesis or research project.

Department(s): Department of Geography

GEOG*6091 Geographical Research Methods II W [0.50]

A review of philosophies and research methods in geography. The development and presentation of a research proposal for the thesis or research project.

Prerequisite(s): GEOG*6090

Department(s): Department of Geography

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.

Offering(s): The course extends over two semesters (Fall and Winter).

Department(s): Department of Geography

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

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

Restriction(s): Instructor consent required.

Department(s): Department of Geography