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

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Revision Information:

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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.
**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/DLB_laws/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.
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Plant Agriculture

The MSc and PhD programs in the Department of Plant Agriculture offer specialization in four broad fields of the Plant Sciences: 1) plant breeding and genetics; 2) plant biochemistry and physiology; 3) crop production systems and 4) bioproducts.

- **Plant Breeding and Genetics** has long been a key focus of our faculty and students. Through breeding and biotechnology, Guelph researchers help society by developing new field-crop, fruit, ornamental and vegetable cultivars that are grown in Canada and worldwide. Also, Plant Agriculture faculty and students seek both 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 Biochemistry and Physiology** 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 investigate ecologically friendly management strategies, study underlying molecular and biochemical mechanisms that regulate plant development, investigate how plant performance can be optimized in the field or closed environments, and contribute to cultivar development.

- **Crop Production Systems** research seeks to develop or test agricultural management strategies for yield improvement and economically and environmentally sound production practices in field and horticultural crops such as ornamentals and turf. Students assist producers and industry in the control of weeds, insects and plant diseases, and investigate new management protocols for production of high quality crops.

- **Bioproducts** is a multi-disciplinary field and will deal with background sciences ranging from chemical engineering to plant science. Students deal with products and materials made from cellulose, oil, protein, starch and other compounds derived from various plant parts such as seeds, stalks/stovers, hulls and cobs of crop plants. Students will develop their expertise in analytical methods, factors affecting quality of plant-derived raw materials, engineering (including bioengineering of bioproducts) biomaterials and biocomposites.

Administrative Staff

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BSc Guelph, MSc Michigan State, PhD London UK - Associate Professor

William Deen
BSc, MSc, PhD Guelph - Associate Professor

Hugh J. Earl
BSc, MSc Guelph, PhD Western Ontario - Associate Professor and Chair

Mehrzad Eskandari
BSc, Arsenjan Azad Univ., MSc, Karaj Azad Univ., PhD Guelph - Assistant Professor

Christopher L. Gillard
BSc, MSc, Guelph - Associate Professor

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BSc Minnesota, MSc Iowa State, PhD Missouri - Professor

Lewis N. Lukens
BSc Carleton College, PhD Minnesota - Associate Professor

Eric M. Lyons

Ting Zhou
BSc Senan, PhD McGill - Research Scientist, Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada

The Department of Plant Agriculture offers an MSc program in four broad fields of the Plant Sciences: 1) plant breeding and genetics; 2) plant biochemistry and physiology; 3) crop production systems and 4) bioproducts. 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 at the University of Guelph's MSc program.

Degree Requirements
A program of prescribed courses (at least 1.50 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 seminar series.

PhD Program
The Department of Plant Agriculture offers a PhD program in four broad fields of the Plant Sciences: 1) plant breeding and genetics; 2) plant biochemistry and physiology; 3) crop production systems and 4) bioproducts. 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 advisor 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 Bachelor’s degree, 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 seminar series.

Interdepartmental Programs
Bioinformatics MBNF
The Department of Plant Agriculture participates in the Master of Bioinformatics Program. Please consult the Bioinformatics listing for a detailed description of the Master of Bioinformatics.

Collaborative Specializations
International Development Studies
The Department of Plant Agriculture participates in the PhD collaborative specialization in International Development Studies (IDS). Please consult the International Development Studies listing for a detailed description of the PhD collaborative specialization.

Toxicology
The Department of Plant Agriculture participates in the MSc/PhD collaborative specialization in toxicology. Please consult the Toxicology listing for a detailed description of the MSc/PhD collaborative specialization.
PLNT*6140 Biological and Cultural Control of Plant Diseases W [0.50]
This course explores current concepts and approaches to managing pathogens and diseases in detail but other methods (e.g. genetic resistance) will be presented as well. Offered in conjunction with BIO*4070. Extra work is required of graduate students.
Offering(s): Offered Annually
Restriction(s): Credit may be obtained for only one of PBIO*4070 or PLNT*6140
Department(s): Department of Plant Agriculture

PLNT*6170 Statistics in Plant Agriculture W [0.50]
The application of statistical techniques to research in plant agriculture. SAS is the software used to perform data analysis. Emphasis is placed on statistical principles, the design of experiments, the testing of hypotheses, and communication of findings to other scientists.
Department(s): Department of Plant Agriculture

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.
Department(s): Department of Plant Agriculture

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.
Department(s): Department of Plant Agriculture

Crop Production Systems

PLNT*6140 Biological and Cultural Control of Plant Diseases W [0.50]
This course explores current concepts and approaches to managing pathogens and diseases in detail but other methods (e.g. genetic resistance) will be presented as well. Offered in conjunction with PBIO*4070. Extra work is required of graduate students.
Offering(s): Offered Annually
Restriction(s): Credit may be obtained for only one of PBIO*4070 or PLNT*6140
Department(s): Department of Plant Agriculture

PLNT*6210 Herbicide Activity, Modes-of-Action, Selectivity and Resistance F [0.50]
This course provides a comprehensive study of the major herbicide groups. The various herbicide groups will be discussed under the following topics: herbicide uptake and translocation, herbicide mode of action, herbicide selectivity, weeds controlled and crop injury.
Offering(s): Offered in odd-numbered years.
Department(s): Department of Plant Agriculture

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.
Department(s): Department of Plant Agriculture

PLNT*6270 Agroecosystem Design and Function F [0.50]
This lecture-based course critically analyzes the agroecosystem in field crop, horticulture, turfgrass and greenhouse industries. Agroecosystem design is considered in relation to key components such as crop rotation and management of soil, nutrient and water supply. The significance of plant function, soil properties, and nutrient and water cycles to agroecosystem design are examined. Metrics of productivity and environmental sustainability serve to focus discussion on agroecosystem optimization.
Department(s): Department of Plant Agriculture

PLNT*6280 Invasive Plant Ecology in Natural and Agricultural Systems W [0.50]
This course focuses on the ecological principles that are important in understanding the potential for a plant species to become invasive. Students are able to use this knowledge to facilitate management of these species under field conditions.
Offering(s): Offered in odd-numbered years.
Prerequisite(s): CROP*4240 or BOT*2100 or BOT*3120
Department(s): Department of Plant Agriculture

General

PLNT*6080 Plant Disease Epidemiology and Management F [0.50]
Epidemiology and management of plant diseases caused by fungi, viruses, and bacteria.
Offering(s): Offered in even-numbered years.
Department(s): Department of Plant Agriculture