

2020-2021 Graduate Calendar

The information published in this Graduate Calendar outlines the rules, regulations, curricula, programs and fees for the 2020-2021 academic year, including the Summer Semester 2020, Fall Semester 2020 and the Winter Semester 2021.

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
520-824-4121

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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.

Disclaimer

The information published in this Graduate Calendar outlines the rules, regulations, curricula, programs and fees for the 2020-2021 academic year, including the Summer Semester 2020, the Fall Semester 2020 and the Winter Semester 2021

The University reserves the right to change without notice any information contained in this calendar, including but not limited to that related to tuition and other fees, standards of admission, course delivery or format, continuation of study, and the offering or requirements for the granting of, degrees or diplomas in any or all of its programs. The publication of this calendar does not bind the University to the provision of courses, programs, schedules of study, or facilities as listed herein.

The University will not be liable for any failure or delay in performance arising out of any cause or causes beyond its reasonable control. Such causes may include but are not limited to fire, strike, lock-out, inability to procure materials or trades, war, mass-casualty event, flood, local, regional or global outbreak of disease or other public health emergency, social distancing or quarantine restriction, legislative or regulatory requirements, unusually severe weather, failure of public utility or common carrier, or attacks or other malicious act, including but not limited to attacks on or through the internet, or any internet service, telecommunications provider or hosting facility.

In March 2020 the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic of the virus leading to COVID-19. The Governments of Canada, the Province of Ontario, and local Governments responded to the pandemic with legislative amendments, controls, orders, by-laws, requests and requirements (collectively, the "Governmental Response"). It is uncertain how long the pandemic, and the related Governmental Response, will continue, and it is unknown whether there may be a resurgence of the virus leading to COVID-19 or any mutation thereof (collectively, the "Virus") and resulting or supplementary renewed Government Response. Without limiting the foregoing paragraph, the University shall not be liable for costs associated with any failure or delay in performance arising out of:

- a. the continued spread of the Virus;
- b. the continuation of or renewed Governmental Response to control the spread of the Virus; and
- c. a University decision, made on an organization-wide basis and in good faith, to control the spread of the Virus, even if exceeding the then current specific Government Response.

In particular, the COVID-19 pandemic may necessitate a revision of the format of course offerings such that courses are offered in whole or in part on an alternate delivery model to in-person classes. Tuition and mandatory fees have been set regardless of the method of instruction and will not be refunded in the event instruction occurs remotely for any part of the academic year.

Dates or times of performance including the Schedule of Dates may be extended as appropriate and the University will notify students promptly of the existence and nature of such delay and shall, so far as practicable, use reasonable efforts to minimize and mitigate any such delay or non-performance.

In the event of a discrepancy between a print version (downloaded) and the Web version, the Web version will apply.

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.

Table of Contents

I. Schedule of Dates	1
Reading Weeks and Study Break Days	1
Summer Semester 2020 (12 Week Format)	1
Summer Semester 2020 (6 Week Format)	1
Fall Semester 2020	1
Winter Semester 2021	2

I. Schedule of Dates

Reading Weeks and Study Break Days

Reading Weeks and Study Break Days are designated periods where normal class schedules and academic requirements are suspended for a specified period of time. These breaks are designed to support student wellness and good mental health. The University of Guelph is committed to a learning environment that fosters the whole student and, as such, values these Senate-approved breaks as a period free of academic events and evaluations for the student.

The Fall Study Break begins at the end of classes on the Friday before Thanksgiving Monday and ends with the resumption of classes following the break.

The Winter Study Break (“Reading Week”) begins at the end of classes on the Friday prior to the third Monday in February and ends with the resumption of classes on the Monday following the break.

Specific dates are published in the Schedule of Dates for each semester and differ by campus.

There are to be no compulsory academic events (e.g., classes, lectures, labs, tutorials, seminars, exams) during scheduled breaks. This includes online and in-class courses.

Instructors are not permitted to schedule academic evaluations or have an evaluative component deadline due during a scheduled reading week or study break day. This includes examinations, tests, quizzes, presentations, essays, assignments, lab reports, qualifying examinations, or any other form of academic evaluation.

Some exceptions may exist such as clinical rotations and placements, field work or experiential learning integral to the course, and graduate oral examinations (qualifying exam, thesis defense) upon approval of the relevant Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs, the relevant Program Head for the University of Guelph-Humber campus and the Assistant Vice-President, Graduate Studies.

Scheduled breaks apply to all undergraduate, graduate and associate diploma students. They also apply to all degree-credit and associate diploma-credit courses.

Summer Semester 2020 (12 Week Format)

Thursday, May 7

- Classes commence

Thursday, May 14

- Last day for thesis to be approved in the Atrium by OGPS for Summer 2020 Convocation
- Last day to submit hard copy application (with late fee) for Summer 2020 Convocation

Friday, May 15

- Last day to add Summer 2020 courses - All graduate students
- Last day for clearance to graduate at Summer 2020 Convocation

Monday, May 18

- Holiday--NO CLASSES SCHEDULED--classes rescheduled to Thursday, July 30

Wednesday, May 27

- 14th class day; no new student registrations permitted after this date

Thursday, June 4

- 20th class day; last day to complete UNIV*7100 Academic Integrity course

Monday, June 8

- Summer 2020 Convocation ceremonies begin

Friday, June 12

- Summer 2020 Convocation ceremonies end

Thursday, June 18

- Last day to apply to graduate at Fall 2020 Convocation without late application fee

Tuesday, June 30

- Government Reporting Date

July

- Course selection period for Fall Semester 2020 begins—All graduate students

Wednesday, July 1

- Holiday--NO CLASSES SCHEDULED--classes rescheduled to Friday, July 31

Friday, July 3

- Last day to apply online to graduate at Fall 2020 Convocation (late application fee still in effect)

Wednesday, July 29

- Last day for regularly scheduled classes

Thursday, July 30

- Classes rescheduled from Monday, May 18 Monday schedule in effect

Friday, July 31

- Classes rescheduled from Wednesday, July 1, Wednesday schedule in effect
- Classes conclude

- Last day to drop Summer 2020 one-semester courses and W20/S20 two-semester courses

Monday, August 3

- Holiday

Thursday, August 6

- Examinations Commence

Saturday, August 8

- Examinations Scheduled

Friday, August 14

- Examinations Conclude

Thursday, September 17

- Last day for thesis to be approved in the Atrium by OGPS for Fall 2020 Convocation
- Last day to submit hard copy application (with late fee) for Fall 2020 Convocation

Summer Semester 2020 (6 Week Format)

Thursday, May 7

- Classes commence

Monday, May 11

- Last day to add Summer Session courses - All graduate students

Monday, May 18

- Holiday--NO CLASSES SCHEDULED--classes rescheduled to Thursday, June 18

Wednesday, June 17

- Last day for regularly scheduled classes

Thursday, June 18

- Classes rescheduled from Monday, May 18, Monday schedule in effect
- Classes conclude
- Last day to drop S20 Summer Session (6-week) courses

Monday, June 22

- Summer Session I examinations commence

Friday, June 26

- Summer Session I examinations conclude

Thursday, September 17

- Last day for thesis to be approved in the Atrium by OGPS for Fall 2020 Convocation
- Last day to submit hard copy application (with late fee) for Fall 2020 Convocation

Fall Semester 2020

Monday, September 7

- Holiday

Thursday, September 10

- Classes commence

Thursday, September 17

- Last day for thesis to be approved in the Atrium by OGPS for Fall 2020 Convocation
- Last day to submit hard copy application (with late fee) for Fall 2020 Convocation

Friday, September 18

- Last day to add Fall 2020 courses - All graduate students
- Last day for clearance to graduate at Fall 2020 Convocation

Tuesday, September 29

- 14th class day; no new student registrations permitted after this date.

Wednesday, October 7

- 20th class day; last day to complete UNIV*7100 Academic Integrity course

Monday, October 12

- Holiday--NO CLASSES SCHEDULED -- classes rescheduled to Friday, December 4

Tuesday, October 13

- Fall Study Break Day - NO CLASSES SCHEDULED -- classes rescheduled to Thursday, December 3
- Fall 2020 Convocation ceremonies

Friday, October 23

- Last day to apply to graduate at Winter 2021 Convocation - no ceremony - without late application fee

Sunday, November 1

- Government reporting date

Friday, November 6

- Last day to apply online to graduate at Winter 2021 Convocation - no ceremony - (late application fee still in effect)

Mid-November TBD

- Course selection period for Winter Semester 2021 begins—All graduate students. Check Office of Registrarial Services - [Course Selection Windows](#) for updates,

Wednesday, December 2

- Last day for regularly scheduled classes

Thursday, December 3

- Classes rescheduled from Tuesday, October 13, Tuesday schedule in effect

Friday, December 4

- Classes rescheduled from Monday, October 12, Monday schedule in effect
- Classes conclude
- Last day to drop F20 one-semester courses and S20/F20 two-semester courses

Monday, December 7

- Examinations commence

Saturday, December 12

- Examinations scheduled

Friday, December 18

- Examinations conclude

Thursday, January 14

- Last day for thesis to be approved in the Atrium by OGPS for Winter 2021 Convocation
- Last day to submit hard copy application (with late fee) for Winter 2021 Convocation

Winter Semester 2021**Monday, January 11**

- Classes commence

Thursday, January 14

- Last day for thesis to be approved in the Atrium by OGPS for Winter 2021 Convocation
- Last day to submit hard copy application (with late fee) for Winter 2021 Convocation

Friday, January 15

- Last day to add Winter 2021 - All graduate students

Friday, January 22

- Last day for clearance to graduate at Winter 2021 Convocation

Thursday, January 28

- 14th class day; no new student registrations permitted after this date

Monday, February 1

- Government Reporting Date

Friday, February 5

- 20th class day; last day to complete UNIV*7100 Academic Integrity course

Monday, February 15

- Winter Break begins--NO CLASSES SCHEDULED THIS WEEK
- Holiday

Tuesday, February 16

- Winter 2021 Convocation - no ceremony

Friday, February 19

- Winter Break ends

Monday, February 22

- Classes resume

Friday, February 26

- Last day to apply to graduate at Summer 2021 Convocation without late application fee

Monday, March 8

- Course selection period for Summer 2021 begins - All graduate students

Friday, March 12

- Last day to apply online to graduate at Summer 2021 Convocation (late application fee still in effect)

Friday, April 2

- Holiday - NO CLASSES SCHEDULED - classes rescheduled to Monday, April 12

Monday, April 12

- Classes rescheduled from Friday, April 2, Friday schedule in effect
- Classes conclude
- Last day to drop W21 one semester courses and F20/W21 two-semester courses

Thursday, April 15

- Examinations commence

Saturday, April 17

- Examinations scheduled

Tuesday, April 27

- Examinations Conclude

Thursday, May 20

- Last day for thesis to be approved in the Atrium by OGPS for Summer 2021 Convocation
- Last day to submit hard copy application (with late fee) for Summer 2021 Convocation