

ENVS\*2270 Impacts of Climate Change

Fall 2017

Section: DE

School of Environmental Sciences Credit Weight: 0.50

# Course Details

## Calendar Description

This course will provide students with an overview of recent research into what climate change means for Canada and Canadians. Students will learn about evidence for significant changes to the Boreal forests and about the potential impacts of climate change on human health through increasing heat waves and the heat stress on individuals. The course is intended to bridge the gap between abstract discussion of the climate and understand what these changes mean at both personal and societal levels.

**Pre-Requisite(s):** Minimum of 4.00 credits

#### Co-Requisite(s): None

**Restriction(s):** May not be taken by students in BAS, BBRM, BSC, BSC(Agr) or BSC(Env) programs

**Method of Delivery:** Online

## Final Exam

**Date:** Friday, December 8, 2017 **Time:** 11:30 am ET to 1:30 pm ET **Location:** On campus

# Instructional Support

## Instructor

### Kim Bolton

**Email:** kbolton@uoguelph.ca

**Telephone:** (519) 824-4120 Ext. 52695

**Office:** Summerlee Science Complex (SC1), Room 2446

My name is Dr. Kim Bolton. I grew up in Fort Erie, Ontario but have made Guelph my home since coming here in 1982 to begin my undergraduate degree in Soil Science (yes, I am an Aggie!). I completed my Ph.D. (also at the University of Guelph) in 1993 in Soil Chemistry. From 1994 to 1999 I was on faculty in the Department of Environmental Sciences at the University of Toronto at Scarborough. In 1999 I moved back to Guelph and since then I have shifted my interest from research to teaching. Over the past 17 years I have taught many different environmental sciences courses and I also teach two online courses for the Chemistry Department.

I love teaching! I have over 20 years of experience, both in the class and online, and my students often comment on my enthusiasm. I want you to know that I really care about your learning and I will work very hard to help you successfully complete the course. I will guide you through each step of the course with the same enthusiasm and commitment as I give to my in- class courses. There will be lots of opportunity for you to interact with me and with your classmates. In fact I am obsessive about reading and responding to online messages so I am confident that you will feel connected to me and to each other.

In my spare time, I enjoy cooking, reading, running/cycling, yoga and canoeing/kayaking. On Saturday mornings you can always find me at the Guelph Farmer’s Market. ☺ I love to spend time with my family and my little dog, Niko.

I am really looking forward to getting to know you! Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions/concerns/problems.

* 1. Feel free to call me Kim but if you are uncomfortable with this, Dr. Bolton is fine too!

## Teaching Assistant(s)

**Name:** Inderjot Chahal

**Email:** chahali@uoguelph.ca

**Name:** Kemp Simon

**Email:** ksimon@uoguelph.ca

# Learning Resources

## Course Website

[CourseLink](https://courselink.uoguelph.ca/shared/login/login.html) (powered by D2L’s Brightspace) is the course website and will act as your classroom. It is recommended that you log in to your course website every day to check for

announcements, access course materials, and review the weekly schedule and assignment requirements.

https://courselink.uoguelph.ca/shared/login/login.html

## Ares

For this course, you will be required to access course reserve materials through the University of Guelph McLaughlin Library. To access these items, select **Ares** on the navbar in CourseLink. Note that you will need your Central Login ID and password in order to access items on reserve.

For further instructions on accessing reserve resources, visit [How to Get Course Reserve](http://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/find/find-type-resource/course-reserves-ares/how-get-course-reserve-material)  [Materials.](http://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/find/find-type-resource/course-reserves-ares/how-get-course-reserve-material)

If at any point during the course you have difficulty accessing reserve materials, please contact the e-Learning Operations and Reserve Services staff at:

Tel: 519-824-4120 ext. 53621

Email: libres2@uoguelph.ca

Location: McLaughlin Library, First Floor, University of Guelph

<http://www.lib.uoguelph.ca/find/find-type-resource/course-reserves-ares/how-get-course-> reserve-material

# Learning Outcomes

## Course Learning Outcomes

In this course we begin by examining the difference between weather and climate and learning about some of the important drivers of our climate system. Since this course is focused on the scientific evidence of climate change, there is an entire unit designed to introduce you to the scientific approach. This will help you understand why scientists often use terms like "almost certain" and "very likely", instead of "we know" or it is "100% proven". This will then lead us to a discussion about the evidence of human caused climate change and how this leads to predictions of future climate.

After covering the evidence that climate change is happening and that it is caused by humans, we will then focus on the impacts of climate change on oceans and terrestrial and human systems. We will focus on how climate change will likely affect us here in Canada, but also worldwide. We will end the course by examining how we can adapt to the changing climate and, most importantly, what we can do to reduce future climate change.

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

* + 1. Explain how interactions among atmosphere, ocean, land, and life lead to climate changes;
		2. Describe the direct observations of climate change in recent decades, and articulate the evidence attributing global warming to human causes;
		3. Evaluate your own contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change;
		4. Assess the utility, and limits, of climate models to predict global and regional climate change;
		5. Analyze the evidence regarding impacts of climate change globally and in Canada;
		6. Engage critically and in a scholarly manner, in public arguments about climate change issues;
		7. Evaluate the opportunities for adaptation globally and more specifically in Canada; and
		8. Discuss proposed mitigation strategies.

# Teaching and Learning Activities

## Method of Learning

During this course you will encounter a variety of different learning tools and approaches to satisfy all learning styles. Some of the learning strategies include readings, unit-based quizzes, discussions, interactive learning activities, and report writing. In most units, you will be assigned required readings (research articles, newsletters, blogs and other electronic information) that are related to the course content. In addition, in most units, you will have access to videos of narrated PowerPoint presentations explaining some of the concepts in more depth and with a more visual approach. You will also find many interactive learning activities associated with unit concepts. These learning activities are designed to engage you directly with the material and should deepen your understanding of the subject and give you a chance to test your understanding without having the pressure of grades.

Please Note: Some of the narrated PowerPoint presentations have been prepared and recorded by Dr. Simone Härri. Dr. Härri helped in the design of this course several years ago. When you hear a swiss accent, that’s Dr. Härri. In these videos you will see Dr. Härri talking in the upper right-hand corner of the video; I chose to record my videos without a talking head because I found it distracting!

## Course Structure

There are seven units in this course:

* Unit 01: Weather and Climate
* Unit 02: Let's talk about Science
* Unit 03: Evidence of Climate Change
* Unit 04: Climate Projections
* Unit 05: Impacts of Climate Change on Oceans
* Unit 06: Impacts of Climate Change
* Unit 07: Adaptation and Mitigation

## What to Expect for Each Unit

Each unit will contain most of the following tools:

* Assigned Unit Readings (available on **Ares**);
* Videos (You Tube, Ted Talks, etc.);
* Instructor Narrated Videos – the first 5 Units contain videos of narrated PowerPoint Presentations. I made these videos in order to explain some of the concepts in more detail; and
* Un-graded interactive learning activities.

## Schedule

### Unit 01: Weather and Climate Weeks 1 & 2 – Thursday, September 7 to Sunday, September 24

#### Readings

* + Website: Unit 01 Content

#### Activities

* + Familiarize yourself with the course website by selecting **Start Here** on the navbar.
	+ Review the **Outline** and **Assessments** sections on the course website to learn about course expectations, assessments, and due dates.
	+ Confirm your access to the course reserve materials by selecting **Ares** on the navbar.

#### Assessments

* **Unit 01 Quiz**

Due: Sunday, September 24 by 11:59 pm ET

### Unit 02: Le t’s T a lk Abo ut Sc ie nc e

**Week 3 – Monday, September 25 to Sunday, October 1**

#### Readings

* Website: Unit 02 Content
* Ares:

o Somerville, R. and Hassol, S. Communicating the science of climate change.

*Physics Today*.

#### Assessments

* **Unit 02 Quiz**

Due: Sunday, October 1 by 11:59 pm ET

* Participate in **Graded Discussion 2.1: Science and Climate Change**

Opens: Monday, September 25 at 7:00 am ET Closes: Sunday, October 1 at 11:59 pm ET

### Unit 03: Evidence of Climate Changes Weeks 4 & 5 – Monday, October 2 to Sunday, October 15

#### Readings

* Website: Unit 03 Content
* Ares:
	+ Duffy, P. (2010). Taking the Earth's Temperature. *Central Climate*.
	+ Cook, J. (2010). 10 Indicators of a Human Fingerprint on Climate Change,

*Skeptical Science*.

* + Fitzpatrick, M. (2006). Human Fingerprints. *Union of Concerned Scientists*.

#### Assessments

* **Unit 03 Quiz**

Due: Sunday, October 15 by 11:59 pm ET

#### Participate in Graded Discussion 3.5: Why People Don’t Believe in Climate Science

Opens: Monday, October 2 at 7 am ET Closes: Sunday, October 15 at 11:59 pm ET

* Begin working on **Climate Change Report: Data Manipulation**

Due: Sunday, October 29 by 11:59 pm ET

### Unit 04: Climate Projections Weeks 6 & 7 – Monday, October 16 to Sunday, October 29

#### Readings

* + Website: Unit 04 Content
	+ Ares:
		- Climate Modelling. *Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory*.
		- Data Distribution Centre. *SRES emissions scenarios*.

#### Assessments

* **Unit 04 Quiz**

Due: Sunday, October 29 by 11:59 pm ET

* Participate in **Graded Discussion 4.3: Impacts of Climate Change**

Opens: Monday, October 16 at 7 am ET Closes: Sunday, October 29 at 11:59 pm ET

#### Submit Climate Change Report: Data Manipulation

Due: Sunday, October 29 by 11:59 pm ET

* Begin working on **Final Climate Change Report**

Due: Sunday November 19 by 11:59 pm ET

### Unit 05: Impacts of Climate Change on Oceans

**Week 8 – Monday, October 30 to Sunday, November 5 *(40th Class Day: Friday, November 3)***

#### Readings

* Website: Unit 05 Content
* Ares

o Five Effects of Climate Change on the Ocean. *Conservation Internatinal*.

o Sea Level Rise. *Ocean portal*.

#### Assessments

* **Unit 05 Quiz**

Due: Sunday, November 5 by 11:59 pm ET

* Continue working on **Final Climate Change Report**

Due: Sunday November 19 by 11:59 pm ET

### Unit 06: Impacts of Climate Change Weeks 9 & 10 – Monday, November 6 to Sunday, November 19

#### Readings

* Website: Unit 06 Content
* Ares:
	+ Natural Resources Canada, Government of Canada. Impacts of changing climate are already evident in every region of Canada
	+ Natural Resources Canada, Government of Canada. Chapter 6 - Ontario: Key findings. A summary of impacts to Ontario

#### Assessments

* **Unit 06 Quiz**

Due: Sunday, November 19 by 11:59 pm ET

* Participate in **Graded Discussion 6.4: Impacts in Your Community**

Opens: Monday, November 6 at 7:00 am ET Closes: Sunday, November 19 at 11:59 pm ET

* Submit **Final Climate Change Report**

Due: Sunday, November 19 by 11:59 pm ET

* + Begin working on **Carbon Footprint Assignment**

Due: Friday, December 1 by 11:59 pm ET

### Unit 07: Adaptation and Mitigation Weeks 11 & 12 – Monday, November 20 to Friday, December 1

#### Readings

* Website: Unit 07 Content
* Ares:
	+ Feltmate, B. and Thistlewaite, J. Climate Change Adaptation: A priority plan for Canada. *Climate Change Adaptation Project.*
		- Section B: Executive overview
		- Section F: Chapter summaries (1. City infrastructure, 2. Biodiversity, 3. Freshwater resources, 4. Aboriginal communities, 5. Agriculture)

#### Assessments

* **Unit 07 Quiz**

Due: Friday, December 1 by 11:59 pm ET

* Participate in **Graded Discussion 7.1: What Do You Do?**

Opens: Monday, November 20 at 7:00 am ET Closes: Friday, December 1 at 11:59 pm ET

* Submit **Carbon Footprint Assignment**

Due: Friday, December 1 by 11:59 pm ET

# Assessment

The grade determination for this course is indicated in the following table. A brief description of each assessment is provided below. Select **Content** on the navbar to locate **Assessments** in the table of contents panel to review further details of each assessment. Due dates can be found under the Schedule heading of this outline.

#### Table 1: Course Assessment

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Assessment Item** | **Weight** |
| Unit Quizzes | 10% |
| Graded Group Discussions | 5% |
| Climate Change Report: Data Manipulation | 15% |
| Final Climate Change Report | 20% |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Assessment Item** | **Weight** |
| Carbon Footprint Assignment | 10% |
| Final Exam | 40% |
| **Total** | **100%** |

**Assessment Descriptions**

**Unit Quizzes**

To keep you on track with the course content, there are regular online unit quizzes based on unit content and readings. The quizzes are designed to help build your knowledge and develop your higher-level thinking ability and will be a good tool to help you prepare for the final exam.

**Graded Group Discussions**

The graded group discussions will provide you with an opportunity to analyze the assumptions and evaluate the worth of evidence used by the popular media, as well as engage critically and in a scholarly manner, in public discussions about climate change.

For these discussions, you will be divided into small groups. There are FIVE discussion forums—one for each of Units 02, 03, 04, 06 and 07. In each forum, you will be provided with a topic/question and you will be responsible for getting involved in the online discussion.

### Climate Change Report: Data Manipulation & Final Climate Change Report

The Climate Change Report: Data Manipulation and the Final Climate Change Report are related assignments. You will analyze the projected climate changes for a Canadian National Park and examine the possible impacts of these changes. Part 1 is the Climate Change Report: Data Manipulation assignment and involves downloading, manipulating and presenting projected temperature and precipitation data for a Canadian National Park.

Part 2 is the Final Climate Change Report assignment. For this report, you will add to the information gathered for the first part of the assignment (Data Manupulation) by examining what the projected temperature and precipitation changes might mean for your park of interest.

### Carbon Footprint Assignment

The goal of this assignment is to critically examine carbon footprint calculators and to reflect on your personal carbon footprint. You will also be asked to think about ways in which you could decrease your footprint.

### Final Exam

This course requires you to write a traditional sit-down final exam. Final exams are written on campus at the University of Guelph or at alternate locations for students at a distance. The exam will cover all the material from the course and contain a variety of questions, including multiple choice, definitions, and short and long answer.

It is assumed that all DE students will be writing their final examination on campus at the University of Guelph. University of Guelph degree and associate diploma students must check

[WebAdvisor](https://webadvisor.uoguelph.ca/WebAdvisor/WebAdvisor?TYPE=M&amp;PID=CORE-WBMAIN&amp;TOKENIDX=2188266810) for their examination schedule. Open Learning program students must check the  [Open Learning Program Final Examination Schedule](http://opened.uoguelph.ca/student-resources/Open-Learning-Program-Final-Exam-Schedule.aspx) for their examination schedule.

If you are studying at a distance, you can request to write your final exam at an alternate location. It is recommended that you make arrangements as early as possible in the semester since changes cannot be guaranteed after the deadline. Exam schedules for off-campus exams will be emailed by Week 9 of the course. For more information, please visit [Final Exams](http://opened.uoguelph.ca/student-resources/final-exams).

https://webadvisor.uoguelph.ca/

<http://opened.uoguelph.ca/student-resources/Open-Learning-Program-Final-Exam-Schedule> <http://opened.uoguelph.ca/student-resources/final-exams>

# Course Technologies and Technical Support

## CourseLink System Requirements

You are responsible for ensuring that your computer system meets the necessary [system](http://spaces.uoguelph.ca/ed/system-requirements/)  [requirements](http://spaces.uoguelph.ca/ed/system-requirements/). Use the [browser check](http://courselink.uoguelph.ca/d2l/tools/system_check/systemcheck.asp?ou=6605) tool to ensure your browser settings are compatible and up to date. (Results will be displayed in a new browser window).

<http://spaces.uoguelph.ca/ed/system-requirements/> https://courselink.uoguelph.ca/d2l/systemCheck

## Technical Skills

As part of your online experience, you are expected to use a variety of technology as part of your learning:

* Manage files and folders on your computer (e.g., save, name, copy, backup, rename, delete, and check properties);
* Install software, security, and virus protection;
* Use office applications (e.g., Word, PowerPoint, Excel, or similar) to create documents;
* Be comfortable uploading and downloading saved files;
* Communicate using email (e.g., create, receive, reply, print, send, and download attachments);
* Navigate the CourseLink learning environment (the instructions for this are given in your course);
* Communicate using a discussion board (e.g., read, search, post, reply, follow threads) in the CourseLink website;
* Upload assignments using the **Dropbox** tool in the CourseLink website;
* Complete quizzes using the **Quizzes** tool in the CourseLink website;
* Access, navigate, and search the Internet using a web browser (e.g., Firefox, Internet Explorer); and
* Perform online research using various search engines (e.g., Google) and library databases.

## Course Technologies

### CourseLink

Distance Education courses are offered entirely online using CourseLink (powered by D2L's Brightspace), the University of Guelph's online learning management system (LMS). By using this service, you agree to comply with the [University of Guelph's Access and Privacy Guidelines](http://www.uoguelph.ca/web/privacy/). Please visit the D2L website to review the [Brightspace privacy statement](http://www.d2l.com/legal/privacy/) and [Brightspace](http://www.d2l.com/accessibility/standards/)  [Learning Environment web accessibility standards.](http://www.d2l.com/accessibility/standards/)

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/web/privacy/> https://[www.d2l.com/legal/privacy/](http://www.d2l.com/legal/privacy/) https://[www.d2l.com/accessibility/standards/](http://www.d2l.com/accessibility/standards/)

## Technical Support

If you need any assistance with the software tools or the CourseLink website, contact CourseLink Support.

**CourseLink Support** University of Guelph Day Hall, Room 211

Email: courselink@uoguelph.ca Tel: 519-824-4120 ext. 56939

Toll-Free (CAN/USA): 1-866-275-1478

#### Walk-In Hours (Eastern Time):

Monday thru Friday: 8:30 am–4:30 pm

**Phone/Email Hours (Eastern Time):** Monday thru Friday: 8:30 am–8:30 pm Saturday: 10:00 am–4:00 pm

Sunday: 12:00 pm–6:00 pm

# Course Specific Standard Statements

## Acceptable Use

The University of Guelph has an [Acceptable Use Policy](http://www.uoguelph.ca/cio/content/aup-acceptable-use-policy), which you are expected to adhere to. https://[www.uoguelph.ca/ccs/infosec/aup](http://www.uoguelph.ca/ccs/infosec/aup)

## Communicating with Your Instructor

During the course, your instructor will interact with you on various course matters on the course website using the following ways of communication:

* **Announcements:** The instructor will use **Announcements** on the Course Home page to provide you with course reminders and updates. Please check this section frequently for course updates from your instructor.
* **Ask Your Instructor Discussion:** Use this discussion forum to ask questions of your instructor about content or course-related issues with which you are unfamiliar. If you encounter difficulties, the instructor is here to help you. Please post general course- related questions to the discussion forum so that all students have an opportunity to review the response. To access this discussion forum, select **Discussions** from the **Tools** dropdown menu.
* **Email:** If you have a conflict that prevents you from completing course requirements, or have a question concerning a personal matter, you can send your instructor a private message by email. The instructor will respond to your email within 48 to 72 hours.
* **Skype:** If you have a complex question you would like to discuss with your instructor, you may book a Skype meeting. Skype meetings depend on the availability of you and the instructor, and are booked on a first come first served basis.

## Netiquette Expectations

For distance education courses, the course website is considered the classroom and the same protections, expectations, guidelines, and regulations used in face-to-face settings apply, plus other policies and considerations that come into play specifically because these courses are online.

Inappropriate online behaviour will not be tolerated. Examples of inappropriate online behaviour include:

* Posting inflammatory messages about your instructor or fellow students;
* Using obscene or offensive language online;
* Copying or presenting someone else's work as your own;
* Adapting information from the Internet without using proper citations or references;
* Buying or selling term papers or assignments;
* Posting or selling course materials to course notes websites;
* Having someone else complete your quiz or completing a quiz for/with another student;
* Stating false claims about lost quiz answers or other assignment submissions;
* Threatening or harassing a student or instructor online;
* Discriminating against fellow students, instructors, and/or TAs;
* Using the course website to promote profit-driven products or services;
* Attempting to compromise the security or functionality of the learning management system; and
* Sharing your username and password.

## Submission of Assignments to Dropbox

The Climate Change Report (Data Manipulation and Final Climate Change Report) and the Carbon Footprint Assignment should be submitted electronically via the online **Dropbox** tool. When submitting your assignments using the **Dropbox** tool, do not leave the page until your assignment has successfully uploaded. To verify that your submission was complete, you can view the submission history immediately after the upload to see which files uploaded

successfully. The system will also email you a receipt. Save this email receipt as poof of submission.

Be sure to keep a back-up copy of all of your assignments in the event that they are lost in transition. In order to avoid any last-minute computer problems, your instructor strongly recommend you save your assignments to a cloud-based file storage (e.g., Google Docs), or send to your email account, so that should something happen to your computer, the assignment could still be submitted on time or re-submitted.

It is your responsibility to submit your assignments on time as specified in the schedule section of this outline. Be sure to check the technical requirements and make sure you have the proper computer, that you have a supported browser, and that you have reliable Internet access.

Remember that **technical difficulty is not an excuse not to turn in your assignment on time.** Don’t wait until the last minute as you may get behind in your work.

If, for some reason, you have a technical difficulty when submitting your assignment electronically, please contact your instructor or [CourseLink Support.](http://spaces.uoguelph.ca/ed/contact-us/)

<http://spaces.uoguelph.ca/ed/contact-us/>

## Late Policy

If you choose to submit your assignments to the **Dropbox** folder late, the full allocated mark will be reduced by 5% per day after the deadline for the submission of the assignment to a limit of six days at which time access to the **Dropbox** folder will be closed.

Extensions will be considered for medical reasons or other extenuating circumstances. If you require an extension, discuss this with the instructor as soon as possible and well before the due date. Barring exceptional circumstances, extensions will not be granted once the due date has passed. These rules are not designed to be arbitrary, nor are they inflexible. They are designed to keep you organized, to ensure that all students have the same amount of time to work on assignments, and to help to return marked materials to you in the shortest possible time.

## Obtaining Grades and Feedback

Unofficial assessment marks will be available in the **Grades** tool of the course website.

Your instructor will attempt to have grades posted online within 2 weeks of the submission deadline, if the assignment was submitted on time. Once your assignments are marked you can view your grades on the course website by selecting **Grades** from the **Tools** dropdown menu on the navbar. Your course will remain open to you for seven days following the last day of the final exam period.

University of Guelph degree students can access their final grade by logging into [WebAdvisor](https://webadvisor.uoguelph.ca/WebAdvisor/WebAdvisor?TYPE=M&amp;PID=CORE-WBMAIN&amp;TOKENIDX=2526105680) (using your U of G central ID). Open Learning program students should log in to the [OpenEd](https://courses.opened.uoguelph.ca/portal/logon.do?method=load)  [Student Portal](https://courses.opened.uoguelph.ca/portal/logon.do?method=load) to view their final grade (using the same username and password you have been using for your courses).

https://webadvisor.uoguelph.ca/ https://courses.opened.uoguelph.ca/portal/logon.do?method=load

## Rights and Responsibilities When Learning Online

For distance education (DE) courses, the course website is considered the classroom and the same protections, expectations, guidelines, and regulations used in face-to-face settings apply, plus other policies and considerations that come into play specifically because these courses are online.

For more information on your rights and responsibilities when learning in the online environment, visit [Rights and Responsibilities](http://opened.uoguelph.ca/student-resources/rights-and-responsibilities).

<http://opened.uoguelph.ca/student-resources/rights-and-responsibilities>

# University Standard Statements

## University of Guelph: Undergraduate Policies

As a student of the University of Guelph, it is important for you to understand your rights and responsibilities and the academic rules and regulations that you must abide by.

If you are a registered **University of Guelph Degree Student**, consult the [Undergraduate](http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/)  [Calendar](http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/) for the rules, regulations, curricula, programs and fees for current and previous academic years.

If you are an **Open Learning Program Student**, consult the [Open Learning Program Calendar](http://opened.uoguelph.ca/en/students/open-learning-program-calendar.asp) for information about University of Guelph administrative policies, procedures and services.

https://[www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/](http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/) <http://opened.uoguelph.ca/student-resources/open-learning-program-calendar>

## Email Communication

### University of Guelph Degree Students

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their uoguelph.ca e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

### Open Learning Program Students

Check your email account (the account you provided upon registration) regularly for important communications, as this is the primary conduit by which the Open Learning and Educational Support will notify you of events, deadlines, announcements or any other official information.

## When You Cannot Meet Course Requirements

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement due to illness or compassionate reasons, please advise your course instructor **in writing**, with your name, ID number and email contact.

### University of Guelph Degree Students

Consult the [Undergraduate Calendar](http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml) for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration.

https://[www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml](http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-ac.shtml)

### Open Learning Program Students

Please refer to the [Open Learning Program Calendar](http://opened.uoguelph.ca/en/students/open-learning-program-calendar.asp) for information on regulations and procedures for requesting Academic Consideration.

<http://opened.uoguelph.ca/student-resources/open-learning-program-calendar>

## Drop Date

### University of Guelph Degree Students

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is indicated on the Schedule section of this course outline. [Review the Undergraduate Calendar for regulations and](http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml)  [procedures for Dropping Courses](http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml).

https://[www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml](http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-drop.shtml)

### Open Learning Program Students

Please refer to the [Open Learning Program Calendar](http://opened.uoguelph.ca/en/students/open-learning-program-calendar.asp).

<http://opened.uoguelph.ca/student-resources/open-learning-program-calendar>

## Copies of Assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

## Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment.

### University of Guelph Degree Students

Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible.

For more information, contact Accessibility Services at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208, email  Accessibility Services or visit the [Accessibility Services website](https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/accessibility/).

accessibility@uoguelph.ca

https://wellness.uoguelph.ca/accessibility/

### Open Learning Program Students

If you are an Open Learning program student who requires academic accommodation, please contact the Academic Assistant to the Director. Please ensure that you contact us before the end of the first week of your course (every semester) in order to avoid any delays in support. Documentation from a health professional is required for all academic accommodations. Please note that all information provided will be held in confidence.

If you require textbooks produced in an alternate format (e.g., DAISY, Braille, large print or eText), please contact the Academic Assistant to the Director at least two months prior to the course start date. If contact is not made within the suggested time frame, support may be delayed. It is recommended that you refer to the course outline before beginning your course in order to determine the required readings.

The provision of academic accommodation is a shared responsibility between OpenEd and the student requesting accommodation. It is recognized that academic accommodations are intended to “level the playing field” for students with disabilities.

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## Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The [Academic Misconduct Policy](http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml) is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar.

https://[www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml](http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/undergraduate/current/c08/c08-amisconduct.shtml)

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## Plagiarism Detection Software

Students should be aware that faculty have the right to use software to aid in the detection of plagiarism or copying and to examine students orally on submitted work. For students found guilty of academic misconduct, serious penalties, up to and including suspension or expulsion from the University can be imposed.

## Recording of Materials

Presentations which are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate or guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.