



June 2025

Common questions From Applicants

Do I need an advisor before applying?

Yes, you need an advisor to apply for the MSc thesis program and the PhD program. You can find our faculty and their contact information here: <https://animalbiosciences.uoguelph.ca/abscfaculty>

- You do not need to find an advisor in order to apply for the course-based masters with practicum option.
- You will need an advisor to apply for the course-based masters with research option.

Is there guaranteed funding?

Funding is guaranteed for full time PhD and MSc (thesis) students. We do not provide funding for course-based MSc students. You can look at scholarship opportunities here:

<https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/studentfinance/scholarships/index> and here:
<https://www.uoguelph.ca/oac/scholarships/>

All graduate students are eligible to apply for GTA positions.

What is the application deadline?

There are no official deadlines, however we recommend that domestic applicants apply at least 3 months before the start of the semester and that international applicants apply at least 6 months before the start of the semester.

Can I start in any semester?

PhD and MSc Thesis students can start in the fall, winter, or summer semesters. Course based MSc students who do not have advisors and are doing the practicum option, can only apply for a fall semester start.

Course based MSc students doing the research option with an advisor may start in any semester.

Common questions from Current Graduate Students

Are advisory committees necessary?

All PhD and MSc (thesis) students require an advisory committee which includes at least 2 (PhD) or 1 (MSc –thesis) advisory committee members in addition to their primary advisor.

Advisory committees are not required for course-based MSc students doing practicum.

Course based MSc students doing the research option must have an advisor and at least one additional advisory committee member.

You can set up your advisory committee on GryphForms:

<https://graduatestudies.uoguelph.ca/current/gryphformsstudentguide>

Can I add a non UoG person to my advisory committee?

Yes, however there is an extensive process that can take up to 1-2 months for completion of a Graduate Faculty nomination. Please reach out to Chantelle (abscgradthesis@uoguelph.ca) and she will provide you with the required paperwork. Your advisor should get the required information from the external advisory member and should fill out the Graduate Faculty Nomination form and return it to Chantelle with the external's CV. The nomination will then be signed off by the department, Dean's office and then will be reviewed by the GPFC Committee at OGPS for final approval.

If a course is full, how do I register? If I don't meet the prerequisites can I take a course?

It is up to the instructor whether they will sign you into a course that is full or that requires a prerequisite. If the instructor agrees, you will need to ask the instructor to sign off on a course waiver; once the waiver has been filled in and signed by the instructor, please return it to Chantelle at abscgradthesis@uoguelph.ca

Here is the link for the course waiver:

https://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/undergraduate/sites/undergraduate/files/docs/graduate_course_waiver_request.pdf

Can I have a graduate desk?

Graduate desks are reserved for MSc Thesis and PhD students only. Students start in the basement and can move to upper floor desks based on seniority.

Please contact Chantelle Prigione at: abscgradthesis@uoguelph.ca to have a desk assigned when you arrive.

Where can I find the defence request forms?

Defence request forms and most other graduate forms can be found here:

<https://graduatestudies.uoguelph.ca/current/forms>