International Development Studies:
Master’s Collaborative Specialization

Since 1991 International Development Studies (IDS) at Guelph has successfully linked with various discipline-based Master’s programs on campus to provide a focal point for graduate teaching and research on international development topics. The Guelph Institute of Development Studies adds a specialization in International Development Studies onto a Master’s program providing students with extra flexibility in the job market.

ids.uoguelph.ca

Collaborating Programs
IDS is a specialization that can be pursued through, but not limited to, the following programs across campus:

- Capacity Development and Extension
- Economics
- Engineering
- English
- Environmental Sciences
- Family Relations & Applied Nutrition
- Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics
- Geography
- History
- Latin American & Caribbean Studies
- Management
- Philosophy
- Plant Agriculture
- Political Science
- Population Medicine
- Public Health
- Public Issues in Anthropology
- Rural Planning and Development
- Sociology

Admission Requirements
Students in the collaborative Master’s in IDS enter through one of the disciplinary/departmental programs listed above. Prospective students must first meet the specific departmental/discipline program admission requirements. Students choosing to enter the IDS specialization must demonstrate familiarity with the social sciences. Prior to being admitted, they must have completed one course in each of: 1) economics, 2) social science (e.g. Political Science, Sociology, Geography, Anthropology), 3) social science research methods course or equivalent.

Degree Requirements
Students in the collaborative Master’s specialization in International Development complete the requirements for the departmental degree (most departments have requirements tailored to IDS) plus the IDS component. The latter comprises two courses: IDEV6200, Development Theory, Issues and Process and IDEV6300, Research and Analysis in a Development Context.

Students in the IDS specialization should focus their thesis/Major Research Paper on a broadly defined development-related issue. There should be at least one IDS-affiliated faculty member on the thesis/MRP Advisory Committee.

Each student is required to present their thesis/MRP research at an Annual Graduate Conference to which faculty and students as well as external development stakeholders would be invited, or an ad hoc graduate seminar as a substitute where participation in the Annual Graduate Conference would be prohibitive.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:
- Social & Economic Change
- Environment & Sustainability
- Social Justice and Human Rights
- Food Security & Health
- Gender & Identities

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:
- NGO Coordinator/Director
- Policy or Program Analyst in the public or private sectors
- Development Officer

Application Deadline:
Please see the application deadline for the collaborating program.

CONTACT INFORMATION
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“It was important for me to enter a program that encouraged collaboration and valued student engagement. Specifically, I selected this program because it was not only well respected and known for creating influential leaders, but was also small enough to ensure I would have frequent interaction with faculty and access to many diverse opportunities.”

The Guelph Institute of Development Studies offers a new PhD Collaborative Specialization in IDS that is a first of its kind in Canada. Based on the successful model of the Collaborative Master’s program, IDS links together discipline-based PhD programs to provide a focal point for advanced research on international development issues. Based on the experience of faculty advisors in key collaborating departments, the program focuses on issues arising in international political economy, food security, environment and development, and other interdisciplinary cutting-edge topics in development.

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Collaborating Programs

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- Food, Agricultural & Resource Economics
- Geography
- History
- Philosophy
- Plant Agriculture
- Political Science
- Population Medicine
- Rural Studies
- Sociology

Admission Requirements

Students enter IDS through a collaborating department with a PhD program such as Sociology; Geography; Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics; Economics; Engineering; etc. In addition to meeting specific departmental admission requirements, IDS applicants are expected to have a strong background in the social sciences, experience in development research and/or development practice, and a stated research interest relating to international development.

Application Deadline:
Please see the application deadline for the collaborating program.

Degree Requirements

Our PhD students complete requirements for the departmental degree as well as the IDS components. The latter include an interdisciplinary course on theories and debates, and a course relating student-selected research topics to the larger context of international development. It is expected that the student’s PhD research will bridge two or more disciplines in a way that relates to the field of international development studies.

Our Students

Students suited to the program will have a demonstrable track record of intellectual or practical engagement with issues arising in some area of international development. The program allows students to pursue development-related doctoral research associated with their discipline and prepares them for academic careers and/or careers in the field of development practice.

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The collaborative IDS PhD specialization provides an opportunity for advanced students to engage with interdisciplinary development theories and to conduct research on international development issues based on the approaches of selected academic disciplines. The joint PhD degree with the added designation “International Development Studies” provides necessary discipline-based qualifications for the academic job market. The degree is also designed to strengthen the theoretical foundation of development practitioners.