Rural Planning and Development: MSc (Planning)

Planning and Development are processes that permeate most human activities. Practitioners may be found working in a wide range of contexts – public and private sectors as well as not-for-profit organizations. Our program emphasizes planning for rural, regional and remote areas.

Our graduates are highly successful in securing employment in the field.

uoguelph.ca/sedrd

Program

This MSc program is available as a thesis option, major paper option, or course work option. The intensive (6 semester) program is accredited by the Canadian Institute of Planners.

Research Fields

The program combines research, experiential learning and active involvement with faculty in order to create a stimulating learning environment in Canadian and International Rural Planning and Development Fields.

Admission Requirements

The minimum requirement for admission is a four-year Honours degree (or equivalent) with an average of at least second class honours (B-) in the last four semesters (or two years) of study.

Application Deadline:

Departmental review of applications is completed by March 31, 2020. After that date, admission will be based on availability of space.

Faculty

Our faculty are widely recognized for both their leadership in the profession and their contributions to the communities they serve. They practice planning and development both in Canada and internationally.

The School of Environmental Design and Rural Development is unique in Canada in that it houses three closely related programs; Rural Planning and Development, Landscape Architecture and Capacity Development and Extension. Students in the School have access to faculty in all three programs as instructors, advisory committee members and for consultation. As such, students are able to both focus on areas of specialization across all three programs and have access to learning skills and substantive knowledge from each program.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:

- Land use planning
- Environmental and Resource Management
- Aboriginal Community Planning and Development
- Program and Project Planning
- Municipal Planning in Rural Towns

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Community Development Officer
- Planner with Provincial Agencies
- Planner with local boards of education, regional police forces, social and welfare services
- Policy Analyst
- Consulting Specialist for both International & Canadian agencies
- Program and Project Planning

CONTACT INFORMATION

Graduate Coordinator:
Dr. Wayne Caldwell
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Graduate Program Assistant:
Lorena Barker
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rpd@uoguelph.ca
Core Rural Planning and Development Faculty

Nick Brunet
Natural resource governance; role of community and local expertise in environmental science; environmental decision-making; remote, northern, Indigenous communities; wildlife and plants of cultural and economic significance.

Wayne Caldwell
Agriculture and land use planning; rural communities; community development; community based approaches to economic and environmental issues; facilitation; healthy communities.

Leith Deacon
Sustainable development; resiliency; rural governance; resource-based communities; innovation and innovation policy; qualitative methodologies; environmental impact assessment; environmental justice.

Sara Epp
Agriculture and food system planning; local food; community engaged research; migration; social planning; land use planning; northern Ontario; resilience.

Ryan Gibson
Rural economic development; governance and multi-community collaboration; comparative rural policy, immigration, and wealth.

Dave Guyadeen
Program evaluation; plan evaluation (plans, implementation, and outcomes); plan making and plan quality theory; and rural climate change planning (as it relates to plan quality).

Sheri Longboat
Water resources security, planning and management; Indigenous community planning and development; Indigenous engagement and community-based research; Indigenous food sovereignty; Indigenous rights and governance; Collaboration, governance and collaborative institutions.

Silvia Sarapura
Agri-food systems and rural planning; gender transformative change planning, innovation systems and community development; youth in rural development; community engaged and farmer led research; intersectionality in land use planning; applied research – research in development.

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