The Rural Studies PhD Program offers advanced studies on the socio-cultural and biophysical sustainability of rural communities and regions. Faculty engage in research and applied work in Canada and internationally and represent a range of disciplines including: planning, landscape architecture, political science, public administration, geography, adult education, and communications.

Successful students are awarded a PhD. The degree is normally completed in 12 semesters. Students must complete 2.75 graduate course credits, they must write and publicly defend a qualifying examination paper and then write and publicly defend a dissertation.

Research Fields
- Sustainable Rural Communities
- Sustainable Landscape Systems

Admission Requirements
Applicants must have a master’s degree (or the equivalent) from a recognized university in the humanities, social-science, or applied-science disciplines. Admission to the doctoral program requires a satisfactory baccalaureate and at least high second-class honours (‘B’ standing) in a recognized master’s program.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to communicate with a potential faculty advisor before applying. The PhD in Rural Studies Graduate Program admits graduate students once a year, in the fall semester. All applicants are expected to submit a completed background questionnaire.

Application Deadline:
March 1, 2020

Recent Dissertations
- Linking Precaution to Adaptive Co-Management to Adapt Rural Water Resources to Climate Change in Ghana
- Career and Community Possible Selves: How do Small-town Youth Envision their Futures
- Innovation Systems in Agriculture: Managing Stakeholder Interaction for Learning and Innovation in the 21st Century
- Exploring The Sustainability of Place: A Case Study of Community-Based Nature Tourism
- A Unique Rurality: Exploring the Role of the Horse Farm in the Post-Productivist Rural Landscape
- Social Enterprises as Agents of Technological Change: Case Studies from Tanzania
- Re-Imagining Food Systems in Mexico: A Case Study of the Mexican Network of Local Organic Markets
- Lament for the Land: On the Impacts of Climate Change on Mental and Emotional Health and Well-Being in Rigolet, Nunatsiavut, Canada
- Planning for Change in the Ontario Countryside: Using Visual Q-methodology to Explore Landscape Preference

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:
- Community Development
- Sustainable Landscapes
- Social Enterprises
- Food Systems
- Rural Policy

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:
- Academic positions
- Public sector industry
- Non-govermental organizations in Canada and internationally

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