

Capacity Development and Extension: MSc

The Master of Science in Capacity Development and Extension focuses on social and environmental change processes involving communication, education, community engagement, leadership, technology and innovation. Our “students without borders” are applied researchers who tackle real-world challenges, demonstrate self-initiative and are motivated by their enthusiasm for interdisciplinary graduate-level studies.

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Program

We offer an MSc program that is completed between four to six semesters. The MSc degree is based on either coursework or the option of reduced coursework with the design and defense of a research-based thesis.

Engaged Learning

As interns, graduate research assistants or leaders of their own class-based learning projects, CDE students are engaged in professional work contexts. Faculty work with interested graduate students to connect them with community service and research initiatives. Projects and internships vary from semester-long postings with international agencies to short-term collaboration with local organizations.

Admission Requirements

The minimum requirement for admission is a four year honours degree or equivalent, with an average standing of at least second class honours (B-) in the last four semesters or two years of study. Relevant professional experience may be required

Application Deadlines:

Domestic - July 1, 2025

International - April 15, 2025

Entry: Fall 2025



“When I came across the Capacity Development and Extension program it embodied the values and fields I was looking to explore. In my case, this included the topics of foodways, diasporic communities, immigration, inclusivity, and knowledge mobilization.”

– Serena Viola, CDE MSc student

Principles of Our Teaching and Learning

CDE is a learner-centered community which is grounded in practice-based theories. We value social inclusion through shared decision-making, open communication, respect for difference, and commitment to conflict management. We pursue creative and independent thought in our intellectual pursuits. We mentor students to realize their own academic potential while reaching out to communities, at home and around the world.

Faculty Expertise

- Communication for Sustainable Development
- Environmental Education
- Facilitation in Rural Development
- Leadership in Small and Remote Communities
- Media for Social Change
- Multi-Stakeholder Agricultural Innovation Systems
- Participatory Technology Development
- Regional and Rural Policy Implementation
- Rural Youth and Gender Issues for Social Inclusion

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:

- Social and Environmental Change and Advocacy
- Rural/Remote Areas and Small Communities
- Communication Process and Citizen Media
- Non-Formal Education
- Leadership and Community Development
- Responsible Innovation and Inclusive Development

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Community Development, Policymaking and Academia
- Public and Not-For-Profit Sectors
- Doctoral Studies

CONTACT INFORMATION

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