

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.

uoguelph.ca/MScCDE

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.

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.



“I was drawn to the MSc in Capacity Development and Extension (CDE) program for its broad focus on key issues in sustainable agriculture, environment and rural development, as well as the scope to engage in impactful and practical research in a wide range of fields, such as agriculture, food security, climate change, health and policy analysis.” – Sultana, CDE MSc student

FACULTY EXPERTISE

- ICT and digital development
- Communication for sustainable development
- Environmental education
- Facilitation and conflict management in rural development
- Leadership in small and remote Communities
- Media & technology for social change
- Multi-stakeholder agricultural innovation systems
- Participatory technology development
- Regional & rural policy Implementation
- Rural youth and gender issues for social inclusion

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Extension, advisory and communication services
- International development agencies
- Public and Not-For-Profit Sectors
- Doctoral Studies

Application Deadlines:

Domestic – July 15, 2025
International – May 31, 2025
Entry: Fall 2025

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:

- Communication technology and digital development
- 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

CONTACT INFORMATION

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