

# Rural Studies: PhD

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.

[uoguelph.ca/programs/phd-in-rural-studies/](http://uoguelph.ca/programs/phd-in-rural-studies/)

## Program

The PhD program requires the successful completion of 2.00 graduate course credits after which, students must write and publicly defend a qualifying examination paper and then write and publicly defend a research-based thesis. The program is designed to be completed in 12 semesters.

## 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 a B average in a recognized master's program.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to communicate with a potential faculty advisor before applying. All applicants are expected to submit a completed background questionnaire.

## Application Deadlines:

Domestic – July 1, 2025  
International – April 15, 2025

## 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-governmental organizations in Canada and internationally

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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