

Rural Planning and Development: MPLAN

The Master of Planning program is designed for individuals with 2–3 years of experience seeking to add key skills and capacities in rural planning and development. The program provides the core competencies required for planning and development and facilitates flexibility to ensure students select options that build on their current skills and knowledge. Courses can be taken on campus or online.

uoguelph.ca/programs/master-of-planning/

PROGRAM

The Master of Planning program consists of 4.0 credits and takes approximately 2–3 semesters to complete. The program can be completed in either full-time or part time studies.

The Master of Planning degree may be used as part of the Prior Learning Assessment route to accreditation with the Professional Standards Board.

RESEARCH FIELDS

The Master of Planning program offers students the ability to specialize in either Canadian or international context. Further, students are able to complete research in:

- (i) community and social development, (ii) land use planning, (iii) resource and environment planning, (iv) rural policy, and (v) Indigenous planning.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Qualified graduates from relevant disciplines (minimum B– average) is required with at least two years of experience in planning or an appropriate professional Undergraduate degree.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FUNDING

Scholarship and research assistantships are available annually to incoming students. The program also provides travel and research support.



FACULTY

For 40 years, U of G has developed leaders in rural planning and development that build the resilience of small towns, Indigenous, and remote communities. Our programs focus on agri–food systems, climate changes, economic development, international planning, and natural resources management. Our faculty are nationally and internationally recognized for their scholarship, leadership, and contributions to rural planning and development.

Application Deadlines

[See website for deadlines](#)

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:

- Agriculture and agri–food systems
- Evaluation and program design
- Economic and social development
- Environmental planning and impact assessment
- Indigenous community planning and development
- International planning and development
- Policy and land use planning
- Project management and development

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Planners with all levels of government
- Policy and program analysts
- Consultants with Canadian and international companies
- International development agencies
- Community and economic development
- Community advocates
- Environmental/conservation planning

CONTACT INFORMATION

Graduate Program Coordinator:

Nicolas Brunet
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Graduate Program Assistant:

Lorena Barker
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CORE RURAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT FACULTY

Nicolas 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.

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).

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.



Photo: Wayne Caldwell

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