



FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES

BIOSCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND PUBLIC POLICY (MSc)

The Master of Science (MSc) in Bioscience, Technology and Public Policy is a research-intensive degree that provides advanced training in the life sciences while also helping students place life sciences research into the broader context of a modern society.

This program provides students with theoretical background and technical skills in their field of biology. It also helps them understand the implications of bioscience research for public policy and develop their ability to communicate their research to a wide range of audiences. Our students are trained in science and ethics, science and public policy, and science in the context of national and international issues.

Students in the program spend the bulk of their time working under the guidance of a faculty supervisor on a major research project in a range of fields such as genetics and genomics, bioinformatics, cell biology, physiology, behavioral ecology, natural resource management, and environmental science. This project culminates in a Master of Science thesis.

In addition to the thesis, students also complete at least 12 credit hours of coursework which provide training in policy application and development, communication to scientific and non-scientific audiences and technical skill in Biology. The expected time to graduate is 2 to 3 years; the maximum is 5 years.

SAMPLE CAREERS

This graduate program is designed to provide an excellent basis for a PhD in Biology and related fields. In addition, our graduates are well-qualified for employment in industry, the public-sector, and academia. Here are a few examples of careers and PhD positions obtained by our students following graduation:

- Fish and Habitat Protection Biologist, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada
- Laboratory Technician, National Microbiology Laboratory
- Biologist, Wood Environment and Infrastructure Solutions, Inc.
- NSERC Canada Graduate Scholar PhD Candidate, Department of Organismal and Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University
- Vanier Canada Graduate Scholar PhD Candidate, Natural Resource Sciences, McGill University

SAMPLE COURSES

Bioscience and Policy This course focuses on the relationship between government, industry and the academic sciences and the processes that shape science policy. Students gain a better understanding of the role of science policy in government and industry and where policy issues "fit" with respect to legislation and regulations, management planning and implementation, procedures and guidelines.

