So you’ll soon have a Bachelor’s degree...
What’s next for you?

Master of Arts or Science in Geography

For More Info Contact:

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WHY a Master’s Degree?

It’s university life at its best

- Small classes (commonly 5-15 students)
- Seminar style courses with discussion and independent research
  - Courses rarely have exams!
- 1-1.5 year research project
  - Allows the time to explore your given topic in depth
- Work closely with a supervisor and advisory committee
- Field work opportunities in Canada and internationally
- Get to know fellow students well – common office rooms, social activities, field camp, etc.
WHY a Master’s Degree?

A Master’s degree gives you:

- Advanced expertise in a given field
- Experience in project management, qualitative/quantitative data analysis and other technical skills
- Teaching experience and collaborative work
- Critical thinking, writing and presentation skills

A Master’s degree can lead to:

- More / better job opportunities and advancement with regional, provincial, federal or international government agencies, NGOs, and in the private sector
- See slides 15-17 for our grads’ recent jobs
WHY Geography?

because it’s fun! 🎉

Grad field weekend 2018
WHY Geography?

because it’s super interesting!

MA (Human Geography)

- **Environmental sustainability**: human security and environmental change; political ecology; Indigenous knowledge and approaches to resource use and conservation; local food systems and sustainable communities; changing natural resource economies; environmental politics.

- **Cities and urban transformations**: global urbanisms; housing markets; shantytowns and informal settlements; migration and immigration; governance and citizenship issues.

- **Social and political change**: social justice; empire and anti-colonialism; critical labour, legal and northern geographies; post-traumatic bodies, places and things; emotion, affect, identity and change.

- **Innovative research methodologies**: arts-based and narrative-based research; cross-cultural, collaborative research and education; community-university partnerships; participatory mapping

An MA can also be taken with a Specialization in African Studies or Data Science
WHY Geography?

because it's super interesting!

**MSc (Physical Geography)**
Climate change, including impacts on permafrost and northern environments
- Water, energy and carbon cycling
- Vegetation and carbon dynamics
- Ice island and sea ice processes and dynamics
- Earth surface processes and watershed management
- Environmental change and management
- An MSc can also be taken with a Specialization in Data Science
WHY Geography?

because it’s super interesting!

MA or MSc (Geomatics - GIS, Remote Sensing, Cartography)

- Vegetation mapping and monitoring for habitat and land cover change analysis
- Environmental modelling of ecological, hydrologic, sea ice, and climate change impacts
- Cybercartography; multi-media data representation; visualization
What does a Master’s include?

Geography MA and MSc degrees require 1.5 – 2 years and include:

5 courses

- 1 course on fundamental aspects
  - GEOG 5000 for MA, GEOG 5001 for MSc
    - Both discuss philosophy / discipline history / approaches / theory

- 1 course on thesis proposal development

- 3 courses are your choice in consultation with your supervisor

Research

- on a topic you develop with your supervisor

A thesis on your research

- typically 80-150 pages
What do I need to be Admitted?

GPA

- Minimum of B+ (GPA = 9) average in last two years

4 year Honours BA or BSc

- In Geography, Environmental Studies, or Geomatics
- Or a related field: Sociology, Political Science, Env. Science, Earth Science, etc.
- Undergrad thesis is not required

A DGES prof

- Who is available to supervise you
How do I find a supervisor?

Check this website and click on a Prof that has similar interests to yours
https://carleton.ca/geography/staff-faculty/

- Or, look at our poster in the corridor outside the main office: B section, 3rd floor Loeb
- Or, zoom in on that same poster in the next two slides

Send the Prof(s) an email asking to meet or go by their office

- You don’t have to have an exact idea of what your research topic will be – they will be happy to discuss ideas with you.
DGES Faculty. Many supervise Master’s students
DGES Faculty. Many supervise Master’s students
Do I get paid as a grad student?

Teaching Assistantship (TA)
- ~$11,000/yr for one course each term. Most students get a TA

Entrance scholarships
- E.g. $2000-10,000 1-2 years. Depends on GPA

External scholarships
- If you have a GPA > 10.7 or so, apply for an Ontario Grad Scholarship (OGS) before November 15
- If your GPA is ≥ 11.0, apply for an NSERC or SSHRC this fall

Carleton and DGES Internal scholarships and bursaries

Professors’ research funding
- Some may have grants or contracts and can give you funding as a Research Assistant (e.g. $1000-10,000/yr)
When and how do I apply?

For September 2019 admission

- Apply on-line before Feb. 1, 2019
  https://graduate.carleton.ca/apply-online/

- We accept applications up until mid-August 2019
  - Funding may still be available from the Dean of Grad Studies for applications after Feb. 1.

Remember – If you have questions, contact:

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What kinds of jobs do Masters Grads get?

- A Masters degree will help you get an interesting job.
- Ottawa is a great city for jobs that need the knowledge and skills MA or MSc Geography graduates.
- You can make many connections during you program that can turn into a job later on.
- Our grads generally find work in Ottawa or elsewhere very quickly – sometimes during their degree.
- And some go on to a PhD and take research jobs or become profs.
- See next slides for types of positions that our recent Masters grads have obtained.
Recent MA Grad positions

**Federal government**
- Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Citizenship and Immigration, Dept. Fisheries and Oceans: **Policy Analyst / Researcher**
- Environment and Climate Change Canada: **Manager, Communications and Open Science**
- National Research Council: **Program Advisor, Security and Disruptive Technologies**

**City government**
- Ottawa
  - OC Transpo Capital Railway: **Contract Supervisor**
  - Social Worker
  - Transportation: **Policy Analyst and Special Projects**
- Peel Region: **Cultural Safety Officer for Indigenous programs**

**Private Sector**
- Intelliresponse Systems Inc., Toronto: **Team Leader**

**NGOs**
- BC Coastal First Nations Stewardship Network, Coastal Guardian Watchmen: **Training Coordinator**
- Canada Organic Trade Association: **Government Relations and Regulatory Affairs Manager**
- Inuit Qaujisarvingat (Inuit Knowledge Centre), Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Ottawa: **Senior Researcher**
- Sandy Hill Community Health Centre: **Community Developer**
- Well Grounded (international NGO): **Executive Director**

**Education**
- Nunavut Arctic College, Inuit and University Studies, Iqaluit: **Dean of Education**
- Carleton University Library: **Geospatial Data Services Specialist**
Recent MSc Grad positions

Federal Government
- Environment and Climate Change Canada (various departments), National Defence, Geological Survey of Canada, Natural Resources Canada, Transport Canada: Geospatial Analyst or Officer
- Canadian Ice Service: Ice Analyst
- Meteorological Service of Canada: Physical Scientist
- Health Canada, Canadian Institute for Health Information: Senior Analyst

Provincial Government
- Government of Northwest Territories: Geospatial Analyst
- Ontario Parks: Park Planner

NGOs
- World Wildlife Fund: Arctic Shipping and Marine Conservation Specialist
- Nature Conservancy of Canada: GIS & Conservation Data Assistant
- Rideau Valley Conservation Authority: GIS Database Specialist

Private Sector
- Hoskin Scientific Limited: Environmental Representative
- Crosslinx Transit Solutions: Environmental Coordinator

Education
- Ottawa Catholic School Board: Teacher
If you are interested in the MA or MSc in Northern Studies, see:
https://carleton.ca/northernstudies/

- A 1-year course-based Masters degree or diploma
- A multi-department program
- DGES is currently running it
  - Chris Burn is the Director
  - Dan Bert is the Administrator