



**MSC & PHD
BOREAL ECOSYSTEMS
AND AGRICULTURAL
SCIENCES**



HANDBOOK 2025-2026

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Section One - Introduction

The boreal ecosystem dominates much of Canada's landscape, with approximately 10-12% of our landscape comprised of boreal peatland and 78% of our forests characterized as boreal forests. These two components of the boreal ecosystem play important economic and ecosystem service roles in our province, nationally and globally. Boreal ecosystems contain many of our nation's natural resources. Research on natural and human impacts in boreal systems is growing regionally, nationally and globally given the need for sustainable food security in the north and the susceptibility of boreal systems to human impacts such as climate change.

The Masters and Doctorate in Boreal Ecosystems and Agricultural Sciences (BEAS) programs are coordinated by the School of Science and the Environment at Grenfell Campus, Memorial University of Newfoundland. The master's program is a two-year thesis-based program which combines course learning and the completion of a thesis. Students will also have opportunities to participate in research assistantships (RAs) and teaching assistantships (TAs). The doctorate is a 4-year program comprised of a course in Issues in Boreal Ecosystems and Agricultural Sciences (BEAS 6000), a graduate research seminar (BEAS 6001) (Appendix B), a comprehensive examination, a research seminar and a thesis.

The BEAS program is designed to develop core competencies by providing students the opportunity to develop advanced knowledge and skills in theoretical and technical advances, equipped with a strong focus on plant, soil, land and water resources in the context of sustainable boreal agriculture and forestry. This program will focus on developing personal, methodological and advanced skills within an interdisciplinary context including the acquisition of quantitative and qualitative skills relevant to their area of specialization.

MSc – Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the Master of Science in Boreal Ecosystems and Agricultural Sciences (MSc–BEAS) program, students will be able to demonstrate:

- ✚ An advanced understanding of the concepts and principles governing boreal ecosystems and agriculture;
- ✚ Advanced professional writing skills to allow conceptualization and development of comprehensive research programs, e.g., critical evaluation of scientific literature, formulation of research questions, hypothesis development, development and evaluation of research protocols and methodology; data collection, handling, analysis and interpretation, and as well as dissemination strategies;
- ✚ Ability to conduct independent research projects under controlled and field conditions to answer research questions in areas such as agronomy, plant science, climate change, soil science/microbiology, ecology and land & water resources;

- ✦ Understanding, and operational knowledge to carry out analytical activities on both laboratory and field equipment relevant to their area of specialization;
- ✦ Ability to analyse and interpret the factors that can contribute to food security and ecosystem sustainability in the context of climate change; and
- ✦ Ability to apply relevant knowledge, skills and technologies to assess issues and offer solutions to applied and environmental problems related to crop production/cropping systems, ecology and management practices in boreal ecosystems.

PhD – Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the PhD (BEAS) students will be able to demonstrate:

- ✦ Advanced understanding of the concepts and principles governing natural and impacted boreal ecosystems;
- ✦ Advanced research methods, analytical techniques, and communication skills allowing effective dissemination of research through peer reviewed publications and oral and poster-based presentations at national and international conferences;
- ✦ An ability to reach out and work with community partners on issues of relevance;
- ✦ Be capable of planning and executing an independent research program;
- ✦ Relevant knowledge, skills and technologies to understand and investigate issues and develop practical solutions related to management of boreal ecosystems; and
- ✦ Leadership as scholars in academic institutions, research sectors in industry, government, NGOs, or other institutions.

Key Program contacts

Core Faculty

Dr. Lakshman W. Galagedara, B.Sc. (Peradeniya); M.Agri. (Obihiro); Ph.D. (Guelph)

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Adjunct Faculty

Adjunct Faculty can be found at: [Faculty+Staff | Grenfell Campus | Memorial University of Newfoundland \(mun.ca\)](#)

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Grenfell Campus Directory

[Welcome | Grenfell Campus | Memorial University of Newfoundland \(mun.ca\)](#)

School of Grad Studies (SGS) - St. John's Campus Contacts

[School of Graduate Studies Contacts](#)

Section Two - Program Structure

MSc- BEAS Program Flow

Year 1

Fall	Winter
BEAS 6000 - Issues in Boreal Ecosystems and Agricultural Sciences	BEAS 6002 – Advanced Quantitative Research Methods for the Natural Sciences
BEAS 6001 – Graduate Research Seminar	
1 Elective from Table I to be completed in the Fall or Winter Semester	
	Thesis proposal Thesis research begins

Year 2

Fall	Winter	Spring
Thesis research continues	Completion of thesis research Thesis writing begins	Submit thesis for examination Seminar presentation of Thesis

Note: This chart reflects the normal program outline for full-time students, individual programs may vary.

PhD- BEAS Program Flow

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Issues in Boreal Ecosystems and Agricultural Sciences (BEAS 6000) 2) Graduate Research Seminar (BEAS 6001) (Appendix B) 3) Comprehensive examination 4) Research seminar 5) Thesis <p>*Students who have completed the course work for the MSc (BEAS) will not be required to re-take these two courses. However, students may be required to take additional courses in consultation with the student’s thesis supervisory committee to fill the gaps related to the research project if required.</p>

1. In order to continue in the School of Graduate Studies and in order to qualify for a Masters or PhD degree, a candidate shall obtain an A or B grade in each program course.
2. When it has been determined, on the basis of consultation with the candidate, the instructors in graduate courses, and the thesis or report Supervisor, that a candidate's work has fallen below a satisfactory level, the Supervisor or the Head of the academic unit may recommend to the Dean that such a candidate be required to withdraw from the program.

Elective Courses

These courses are offered on a rotating basis at Grenfell Campus. Please consult the Graduate Officer to determine which courses are offered in the upcoming academic year.

Research Area	Course code	Course name
Plant Science	BEAS 6020	Management of Crop Nutrition
	BEAS 6021	Organic Farming for Sustainable Agriculture
	BEAS 6022	Plant Biochemistry
	BEAS 6023	Plant Physiology
Soil and Land Resource	BEAS 6030	Chemical Speciation Modeling for Environmental Matrices
	BEAS 6031	Soil Functions: Soil as a Bioreactor
	BEAS 6032	Environmental Soil Physics
	BEAS 6033	Soil and Water Conservation
Water Resources	BEAS 6040	Advanced Groundwater Management
	BEAS 6041	Applied Hydrology
	BEAS 6042	Soil and Groundwater Remediation
Other	BEAS 6052	Statistical Model Building in Boreal Ecology
	BEAS 6058	Introduction to Life Cycle Assessment

Other special topic and reading courses offered in the past

BEAS 6053: Issues in Fertility of Boreal Soils

BEAS 6054: Applied Hydrogeophysics

BEAS 6051: Applied Bioinformatics

BEAS 6055: Machine Learning from Data

BEAS 6056: Stable Isotope Techniques for Estimating Origins of Migratory Animals in the Canadian Boreal Biome

BEAS 6057: Soil Biogeochemistry

BEAS 6059: Theoretical Ecology

BEAS 6060: Applied Analytical Chemistry

BEAS 6050: Colloids and Natural Nanoparticles in Aquatic Systems

Section Three – Post-Admission

Responsibilities of Supervisors and Graduate Students

The fundamental principle underlying this statement of responsibilities between students and faculty is that there must be mutual respect governed by high standards of professional integrity and ethics. These written guidelines are meant to identify, at a high level, guiding principles that can apply to all graduate supervisors and students to help both supervisors and students create and maintain a successful relationship, but are not meant to replace student-supervisor communication.

Supervisors	Students
Supervisors should make themselves familiar with regulations of the School of Graduate Studies (SGS) and their own academic units, keep abreast of any changes that might affect their students, and ensure that students are informed of these regulations.	Students should become familiar with and meet all appropriate deadline dates and regulations associated with registration and graduate requirements, as specified in the appropriate regulations of the SGS and the academic unit.
Supervisors must convene meetings of students' supervisory committees at least once a year and should annually complete and submit to the SGS a detailed Supervisory Report Form for each student under their supervision.	Students should assist the supervisor in preparing for the yearly report by providing relevant documents or information.
With the input of students, supervisors will provide clear guidelines of expectations from the supervising faculty member on their program, including timetables and milestones. This study plan will ensure students can complete their programs in a timely manner. Study plans should be challenging and feasible, and allow intellectual contributions from the students. Such plans should reflect short- and long- term academic and professional goals (e.g., publications, conference presentations, skills development, and awards) that will enrich students' experiences and prepare them for the world of work.	Students will provide input for and meet the milestones reflected in a study plan to ensure timely completion. A reasonable research topic shall be identified as early as possible with the consultation of the supervisor. Students should understand that they are making a commitment to enhance the chosen field of study by developing expertise to a level of competence where new ideas and knowledge may be created. In consultation with the supervisor, the student will choose and attend appropriate professional activities.

<p>Supervisors should initiate regular meetings with their students, according to a mutually agreed schedule, and make themselves accessible to discuss problems or issues that may arise between scheduled meetings. All students should have a supervisor or an advisor during the course of the program, and should contact the Graduate Officer if they do not have one.</p>	<p>Students must maintain regular contact with the supervisor and the members of the supervisory committee, and should meet with the former regularly to review progress. Students should follow the agreed upon program of study (including thesis research where appropriate) and endeavor to make acceptable progress towards program objectives.</p>
<p>Supervisors should make constructive suggestions on any written work submitted as part of their students' program, alert students to any perceived difficulties this work is likely to encounter, and return the work to students promptly.</p> <p>Supervisors should make reasonable efforts to ensure that theses are acceptable before they are submitted to the SGS for examination.</p>	<p>Where it is required, the student must agree to produce a thesis of his/her own work that reflects a capacity for independent scholarship in the discipline, and that meets generally accepted standards of quality and style. In the thesis, the student must acknowledge assistance, materials and/or data provided by other scholars, including fellow students, companies, technicians, the supervisory committee and others.</p>
<p>Supervisors will endeavor to foster the development of professional skills among graduate students, including teaching, presentations, writing (including grant writing), and interviews. Supervisors will also encourage students to pursue professional activities and help prepare them to be competitive for employment by advising on career options within and outside of the academy.</p>	<p>Students will take advantage of skills development opportunities available to them, including workshops, seminars, and resources offered through the Enhanced Development of the Graduate Experience (EDGE) and within their academic units. Students will devote time and commitment to skills development as needed.</p>
<p>Supervisors should make reasonable efforts to ensure students have access to academic, financial and other resources necessary in order to complete their programs in a timely manner.</p>	<p>Students should make reasonable efforts to become aware of appropriate sources of funding.</p>
<p>If students have been supported by funds from the supervisor's research grants, and such funds become unavailable, supervisors should attempt to give at least one semester's notice to these students to find alternative funding.</p>	<p>Students should assist in the securing of additional or alternative funding by seeking sources, completing forms, and providing information as required.</p>

Supervisors should consult their academic units on the assignment of graduate assistantships, and ensure that duties assigned under such assistantships are appropriate, comply with the TAUMUN collective agreement, and do not impede the progress of students' academic programs.	Students should be aware of the TAUMUN collective agreement and guidelines governing teaching assistantships in their academic units and should carry out those duties in a professional manner.
Supervisors should discuss intellectual property issues with students, at the earliest possible stage of their programs, including any potential joint authorship that might arise from their research and any joint ownership of data or patents; supervisors should also make sure they adequately acknowledge any student contributions to material they publish.	Students must recognize that in cases where his/her research comprises a component of the supervisor's research program, questions of joint ownership of data and/or patents should be discussed. Questions regarding sole or joint ownership of data in such a research program must be resolved as early as possible in the life of the program, and the possibility of joint publication of research results discussed and clarified.
Supervisors should inform the students of the institutional ethical policies and the ethical standards of their particular discipline and should ensure that the students receive adequate training in those ethical principles.	Students should endeavor to understand and follow institutional ethical policies and should exercise honest and ethical behavior in all their academic pursuits, whether these pertain to study, course work, research, cooperative placements, community engagement, or teaching.
Supervisors should inform students of safety regulations on campus and encourage students to become familiar with regulations off campus.	Students should maintain safe work environments and discuss concerns with supervisors as soon as problems are noted. Students should become aware of and follow safety policies on and off campus.
During any extended period of absence from campus, supervisors must make arrangements for advising and supervising students while they are absent; such arrangements should be acceptable to their students and to heads of the relevant academic units.	It is the student's responsibility to keep the supervisor informed of where s/he may be contacted. Students should also inform the supervisor of any extended period of absence or the potential of such absence.
Supervisors should ensure that they do not exploit students for personal, financial, or professional gain.	If students feel they are exploited in any way they have the responsibility to discuss concerns with the Graduate Students' Union, Graduate Officer, Head of Department, and finally the

	Dean of Graduate Studies. This list may not be exclusive.
Supervisors should avoid any attempts to indoctrinate students into their own political, religious, or other ideologies and prejudices.	If students feel they are being pressured, they have the responsibility to discuss concerns with the Graduate Students' Union, Graduate Officer, Head of Department, and finally the Dean of Graduate Studies. This list may not be exclusive.
Supervisors should, in any case where disagreement arises between supervisor and student, approach (in consultation with the student if possible) the Head, Graduate Officer or other appropriate person to initiate a process for resolving the dispute.	In cases where there is disagreement between supervisor and student, it is incumbent upon the student, in consultation with the supervisor whenever possible, to approach the appropriate officials within the academic unit and/or the SGS so that discussions aimed at solving the problems can be initiated. The Graduate Students' Union is available for information and advocacy as well.

Registration Procedures

Registration for the fall semester begins in early August; for the winter semester, it begins in early December; and for the spring semester, in early April.

Registration is done online through [Memorial Self Service](#). Please ensure the graduate courses you register for are reflected on the Program of Study form that was sent to you at time of admission. **All BEAS graduate students must register for BEAS 9000 upon entry to the BEAS program**, as this registration identifies you as a graduate student. This registration will automatically occur for all subsequent semesters. If you are granted a leave of absence, you will need to register for BEAS 9000 upon your return.

More information pertaining to registration procedures may be found online: [Registration procedures and course offerings | School of Graduate Studies | Memorial University of Newfoundland](#).

Payment of Fees

When you accepted your offer of admission to the BEAS program, you selected a payment plan based on number of semesters of study. This plan remains in effect for the duration of the program and may not be changed after the first semester. If you complete your program in fewer semesters than originally selected, the remaining semester fees must be paid. Students who do not complete their program in the expected number of semesters will be required to pay a continuance fee for each additional semester. All graduate students must be

registered for every semester during the BEAS program, and must pay fees for each semester, unless a leave of absence has been granted.

Fees are due once a student registers. These fees may be paid by cash, debit, online banking or cheque to the Bursar's Office (AS279) or by MasterCard through [Memorial Self Service](#). There is a convenience fee of 2.50% when paying by credit card (Subject to change by Moneris).

More details on payment options can be found at [About | Grenfell Campus | Memorial University of Newfoundland](#).

Payroll Deduction

Graduate students who wish to have their tuition paid from their bi-weekly financial support can request payroll deduction online through [Memorial Self Service](#). Your semester program and ancillary fees will be allocated over the number of pay periods available within a given semester and will be deducted from your bi-weekly support. Graduate students signing up for payroll deductions must do so every semester.

Current students already on funding will be able to sign up for online payroll deductions 24 hours after they register. New students will be able to sign up for online payroll deductions on the first day of classes. **All graduate students must complete their online submissions before the last day to register (two weeks after the start of classes).** After the last day to register, you will not be able to sign up for payroll deductions until the following semester.

Leave of Absence

To receive a Leave of Absence, a completed [Request for Leave of Absence](#) form should be submitted before the registration deadline for that semester and must be approved by the School of Graduate Studies. The Request for Leave of Absence form may be found online here [Forms for current students | School of Graduate Studies | Memorial University of Newfoundland](#).

Dropping and Adding courses

A "Drop and Add" period at the start of each semester gives you time to change your course schedule without academic penalties. Most changes can be done through Memorial Self-Service. In some instances, you may have to use a [Course Change Form](#). Students wishing to register for program courses outside their academic unit (including undergraduate courses) must do so with a Course Change Form. A Change of Program Form must be completed if any such courses are to become part of your graduate program. Please see the [2025-2026 Diary of Important Dates](#) for specific course change regulations and deadlines.

Funding Your Education

Financial support will usually be offered at time of admission to eligible students. Students must be registered as full time and must meet defined academic standards in order to receive an SGS Fellowship. Guidelines for awarding of SGS Fellowships and Graduate Student Support are available on the webpage, [Funding and employment | School of Graduate Studies | Memorial University of Newfoundland](#).

According to the School of Graduate Studies, Memorial University of Newfoundland, a full-time graduate student may not commit more than 24 hours a week working time, including teaching assistant or research assistant duties, to matters other than the degree program. (Regulation 2.3.8).

Graduate Assistantships (GAs)

If you have received graduate assistantship funding as part of your internal funding package, you are required to work as a Research Assistant (RA) and/ or a Teaching Assistant (TA) during the academic year. Students must have a Social Insurance Number (SIN) before receiving GA funding. Students submit an ongoing record of their graduate assistantship hours using the GA Hours form found in section eight of this handbook. Please discuss the recording of hours with your supervisor.

The Graduate Assistantship (GA) process is administered through the Office of Research and Graduate Studies at Grenfell Campus. Students who are obligated to complete a GAship must apply for specific positions to fulfil this requirement. GA opportunities/positions go live around the beginning of the semester. Graduate students should monitor emails from the Graduate Office to remain updated on Graduate and Research Assistantship opportunities.

Grenfell Campus graduate students who receive GAs become members of the Teaching Assistants' Union of Memorial University of Newfoundland (TAUMUN). Students will receive a TAUMUN letter from the Senior Secretary, Graduate Studies upon awarding of the assistantship. As per Article 12.17 of the [TAUMUN Collective Agreement for 2023-2026](#), Graduate Assistants must be notified of their appointment in writing and a Graduate Assistant can only be required to perform duties and responsibilities as outlined in their letter of appointment.

Graduate student support will be paid bi-weekly. The Senior Secretary, Graduate Studies will send an email biweekly to initiate payments to students by submission of the Graduate Student Support Payroll form.

Scholarships and Awards

Graduate students are encouraged to apply for scholarships and external awards to enhance qualifications and increase graduate funding. Below is a breakdown of the awards that are

available for graduate students, please note the eligibility criteria under each award and the **internal** deadlines that must be met to apply.

Pierre Elliot Trudeau Foundation Doctoral Scholarship (more info [here](#))

- \$50,000 stipend per year for up to 3 years
- Up to \$20,000 travel and research allowance per year for up to three years
- Most prestigious of its kind in Canada
- Open to **ALL doctoral** students (International and Canadian) in year 1, 2, or 3 of their programs
- Deadline not yet specified – typically late fall / early winter submissions
- ALL Disciplines

Tri-Council Canada Graduate Scholarship (Doctoral) (more info [here](#))

- \$40,000 per year for up to 3 years
- Open to **Canadian and International** doctoral students in year 1, 2, or 3 of their programs
- Please monitor the [Searchable awards & scholarship database](#) for deadline details
- ALL Disciplines

SSHRC Doctoral program (more info [here](#))

- \$40,000 per year for up to 3 years
- Open to **Canadian and International** doctoral students in year 1, 2, or 3 of their programs
- Please monitor the [Searchable awards & scholarship database](#) for deadline details
- Social science and humanities disciplines

NSERC Doctoral Program (more info [here](#))

- \$40,000 per year for up to 3 years
- Open to **Canadian and International** doctoral students in year 1, 2, or 3 of their programs
- Please monitor the [Searchable awards & scholarship database](#) for deadline details
- Natural sciences or engineering disciplines

CIHR Doctoral Program

- Health related disciplines
- Please monitor the [Searchable awards & scholarship database](#) for deadline details

Additional scholarship and award notices may be found online at: [Searchable awards & scholarship database | School of Graduate Studies | Memorial University of Newfoundland](#).

Working Off-Campus

Grenfell Campus offers Career Development Services to help you prepare for your job search. You may visit the Career Development Coordinator in AS271 or email Thomas Young: twy675@mun.ca.

Full-time International students should access information for working off campus from Angela Gomez in the Internationalization Office: agomez@mun.ca.

Students will require a Social Insurance Number (SIN) before commencing work.

Conference Funding

- Full-time and part-time master's and doctoral students are eligible for a maximum of \$250 per eligible student through SGS.
- TAUMUN allocates \$100 per student (one conference for master's program and two conferences for PhD programs, not concurrent).

Students should become familiar with Memorial University of Newfoundland's travel guidelines. If your destination is outside of Canada, you must comply with Memorial University of Newfoundland safety and security procedures. Students should submit the [Travel Request Form](#), even if attending a virtual conference, solicit all required signatures, and retain the completed form. Students should apply for funding a minimum of **four weeks** before the conference begins, unless otherwise stated in this policy. Conference and travel assistance is normally available after the conference has concluded, but an advance can be arranged, if necessary. Once your conference is completed, complete the Travel Claim Form, solicit all required signatures, and submit with necessary receipts and the original Request for Travel Assistance Form to the School of Graduate Studies. Conference and travel funding is not guaranteed and is contingent upon the availability of funds and the submission of a complete application package. Please refer to [MUN Travel Policy](#) for details on the University's travel policy and for more information on other funding sources, please contact SGS, TAUMUN, or the appropriate Faculty.

Social Insurance Number (SIN)

For more information on social insurance numbers, please visit the [Service Canada](#) website. You can complete and submit the [Social Insurance Number Application](#) online. In addition to your application, you will be required to submit a copy of your study permit that includes a condition authorizing you to work.

International student's SIN will start with the number '9' and will only be valid until the end of your authorized stay in Canada (date of expiry of study permit). When you renew your immigration documents, be sure to renew your Social Insurance Number.

International students may also need to obtain an International Student Employment Contract, signed by you and your employer, to submit with your SIN application.

English Language Tutoring and Development

The English as a Second Language (ESL) Office at Grenfell Campus is pleased to provide language support for graduate students at Memorial University who use English as a second or additional language. This support is available through one-on-one or small group tutoring sessions as well as themed workshops. For more information about these services or to make an appointment with a tutor, contact Melissa Halford (mhalford@mun.ca).

Health Services

Grenfell's Health Services office offers a variety of health care services to help you live well, feel good, and achieve your goals. Their health professionals can help you take care of your physical and mental health so that you're able to have the best university experience possible. Grenfell Campus Health Services is located in the Bennett wing on the main floor of the Arts and Science Building. In addition, Health Services has partnered with the local organizations to offer various health promotion activities.

For more information about Health Services, contact us: 637-7919 or ghealthservices@mun.ca.

The new Western Memorial Regional Hospital provides emergency services. They are located at 100 Health Care Crescent, Corner Brook, NL, A24 0J4.

Mental Health and Well Being

Mental Health Crisis Line (24/7/365) **1-833-456-4566 toll-free (In QC: 1-866-277-3553)** www.crisisservicescanada.ca

24-hour Newfoundland and Labrador province wide Mental Health Crisis Line at (709) 737-4668 (Toll free: 1-888-737-4668) or ask for support from the Mobile Crisis Unit at the same number.

Memorial's Student Wellness and Counselling Centre (SWCC) and School of Graduate Studies have partnered to offer dedicated virtual counseling supports for graduate students. To book an appointment with SWCC's counsellor for graduate students, please complete the [SWCC request counselling form](#).

Health and Dental Plans

The Graduate Students Union (GSU) provides health and dental plans that are mandatory for all full-time graduate students (including international students that have opted out of the ISA health insurance), and fees are collected by the University in all three semesters. For an additional fee, students may extend the coverage to their partners, including same sex partners, and their dependent children. Eligible students may opt out of the GSU health and/or dental plans on condition that proof of alternate comparable coverage is provided and the necessary opt-out forms are completed by the deadline. For more information about the GSU Health and

Dental plans go to: [Health & Dental — GSU MUN site](#).

Registered International students are automatically enrolled in the Foreign Health Insurance plan provided by MUN's International Student Advising Office (ISA), and full-time International graduate students are automatically enrolled in the Graduate Student Union (GSU) dental plan. Eligibility requirements have to be met in order to opt out of the Foreign Health Insurance and/or transfer into one of the student union plans. These requirements can be found online: [Foreign Health Insurance | Internationalization Office | Memorial University of Newfoundland](#).

If you meet the eligibility requirements to opt out of the Foreign Health Insurance plan, visit Student Services before the end of the second week of classes to complete a waiver and provide necessary proof. Students who have completed an opt-out form in past semesters will be automatically exempt in following semesters.

Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Care Plan (MCP)

All international students with a study permit valid for 12 months or longer are eligible to apply for the Newfoundland and Labrador Medical Care Plan (MCP). MCP is a comprehensive plan of medical care insurance designed to cover the cost of physician services for residents of the province. The MCP application form and further information may be found online: [Health and Community Services-Forms and Applications](#).

Computing Accounts

As a student at Memorial University, you are provided with computer accounts to access systems and resources. To create a [MUN Login account](#).

To create your MUN account, you will need:

- your student number (for example: 201612345)
- your PIN (you used this to register for courses and the format is your birthdate: yymmdd)

If you are having problems with your new account, you may contact the Help Desk by telephone 639- 2049, by email gcits@mun.ca or by visiting AS 373.

Computers are located in the library (LC208), the computer labs: LC202, AS3003, AS3009 (Mac Lab), and AS3005 (GIS Lab), and in the student atrium of the Arts and Science extension. The computer labs are open from 8:00am to 12:00am, 7 days a week throughout the year (including holidays).

*Labs are utilized for classes but will be available to students during non-class hours.

Student ID Card

Before starting classes, you should request your campus card online. You can even upload a selfie of your choice, as long as it fits the parameters! You must be alone in the picture, your face must be unobstructed, and please don't use any filters or silly expressions.

Follow these steps to get your campus card:

1. Take a picture, or scan, a piece of government-issued photo ID, so that we can verify your identity. You'll need this when you submit your request.
2. Login to my.mun.ca.
3. Navigate to the Students tab.
4. Click the Launch button in the orange Student Services box.
5. Select the Request a Card button.
6. Request your card as a distance student (check the "not on St. John's campus" option).
7. Follow the instructions on each screen.
8. Once your request has been processed, you will receive a confirmation email to your @mun.ca address, and your Campus ID will be sent to your permanent mailing address.

There is no fee for your first ID Card, but there is a \$20.00 replacement fee for all subsequent cards.

If you have any problems, please email campuscard@mun.ca.

*Please note that the option to request your campus card may not appear until you have registered for your courses.

Parking Permit

- 1) Students must complete a Parking Application form to be considered in the lottery for a Parking Permit for students: [Parking Application - Residence 2025-2026 \(On Campus\)](#), [Parking Application - Student 2025-2026 \(Off Campus\)](#) or see options for other parking details at [Campus Enforcement & Patrol](#).
- 2) *Please note there is a residence application for students living on campus and a student application for those living off campus. The relevant form can be found on the [Campus Enforcement & Patrol](#) page.
- 3) Students must select on the Parking Application each Parking Lot they are interested in purchasing a Parking Permit. Only those Parking Lots identified on the Parking Application will be entered into the lottery process.
- 4) Parking permits will be distributed using a lottery process based on available parking spaces at the time of the lottery. All applications are due by mid-September (actual date can be found on [Campus Enforcement & Patrol](#)) in order to be entered in the student lottery draw. **Applications can be dropped off at office AS280 or emailed to**

gcparking@mun.ca.

- 5) Students do not need to be in attendance during the lottery process. Successful applicants will be e-mailed following the lottery process based on the contact information provided on the Parking Application form. It will be the student's responsibility to be kept informed of the results of the lottery process.
- 6) Following the lottery, students will have three business days (payment deadline) to pay for the Parking Permit in the Bookstore. Payments for a Parking Permit must be made in full by the payment deadline. Partial Payments will not be accepted. Parking Permits are subject to HST.
- 7) A further lottery process may be undertaken for all unclaimed Parking Permits following the payment deadline.

All parking on campus shall comply with the Grenfell Campus Parking Regulations and the Overnight Parking Procedures that are in effect between November 1st and April 30th annually to allow for snow removal. Because parking spaces are limited on campus, there is no guarantee of finding an available parking space. Parking permits increase the likelihood of finding an available parking space, because the number of permits issued is limited for those parking lots that require a permit.

Limited parking is available without a permit in Lot P4 at no charge. To view parking map, please click link: [Grenfell Parking Map 2025-2026](#).

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI)

Our graduate programs acknowledge the importance of equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in graduate education – that different backgrounds and views are critical to excellence in personal development, academic achievement, and societal change. Diversity is represented in many ways, including indigeneity, socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, nationality, ability, ways of learning, or life experience. SGS has a special responsibility to lead and foster equity initiatives given the breadth of diversity in graduate programs and the importance of inclusion in scholarship. We are committed to eliminating barriers and fostering opportunities to students and scholars from all backgrounds.

SGS's commitment to graduate students from diverse backgrounds and lived experiences extends across the lifecycle. By creating and making more inclusive our processes, resources, and services, the School will improve the recruitment and admission, retention and experience, and completion rates and outcomes of all graduate students.

SGS Diversity Dialogue: Lunch and Learn Series

The Diversity committee will host a [Lunch & Learn](#) session once a month, as part of Memorial's EDI initiative. Each session will consist of a panel discussion with audience participation. For more information and to register for a session, please visit the [Equity, Diversity and Inclusion \(EDI\) Lunch & Learn web page](#).

Holistic Review in Graduate Admissions

SGS in partnership with Information Technology Services is working on a technology- enabled method of assessing a broad range of graduate applicant characteristics to make graduate programs more accessible to persons of all backgrounds. This project is funded through the [Collaborative Applied Research in Economics \(CARE\)](#) initiative.

Integrity and Research Ethics

Memorial University is committed to excellence in scholarly activities. To this end, Memorial provides resources and support by which all members of our academic community—students, faculty and staff—can become educated regarding ethical conduct in scholarly endeavors. Whether you are in a course-based program conducting library research or in a research-based program undertaking experiments in a lab, or interviewing participants in the field, there are ethical standards and related guidelines and policies to which you must adhere.

The [Integrity and Research Ethics page](#) provides information and resources related to ownership and acknowledgement, data, and the potential impact of research on humans, animals, and the environment. It contains a selection of important documents set out by the School of Graduate Studies, Memorial University and the Tri-Agency*.

All BEAS Research Proposals directly involving human subjects must receive Ethics Approval from the Research Ethics Board, Grenfell Campus prior to commencement of research. All forms are available online, [Integrity and Research Ethics page](#). If you have any questions regarding Research Ethics, please contact: Lan Ma Research Office AS320, Tel: 709-639-7596, Email: f99lm@mun.ca.

Section Four – Research Facilities

Boreal Ecosystem Research Facility (BERF)

The BERF facility houses 4 state of the art laboratories, all located in the Forest Center building (FC). The labs (FC1010, FC1012, FC1013 and FC4019) are equipped with high-level research resources able to support federal, provincial, university and private sector research priorities in forestry, agriculture, and the environmental sector. The focus of the research conducted in the BERF labs are soils, plants, air, and water based on the multidisciplinary expertise of faculty members (agronomist, soil scientist, plant/crop scientists, agriculturist/forester/ecologist and hydrologist). Learn more about the [Boreal Ecosystems Research Facility](#).

To conduct research experiments under controlled environment, one walk in growth chamber and two low temperature growth chambers are available at Grenfell Campus, MUN.

Western Agriculture Center and Research Station

Field research trials are conducted at Western Agriculture Center and Research Station (WACRS) , Pasadena, approximately 40 km away from Grenfell Campus. The research is managed by the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture (DFFA), Government of NL and Grenfell Campus MUN researchers and research scientists from DFFA have established research collaboration to carry out graduate student's research and individual faculty research projects at WACRS.

BERF Research Support

There are 2 Laboratory Research Coordinators who oversee lab safety, maintenance, and organization of the BERF facility, including equipment's operation and maintenance. Laboratory Research Coordinators are available to provide support for students working in the BERI labs from Monday to Friday, during regular working hours, and are located in FC1014.

Currently, Dr. Tao Yuan (Analytical Chemist) and Dr. Natalia Sveshnikova (Molecular Biology) are providing research and operational support in the BERI labs.

From the student perspective

Students are required to complete 2 online safety courses (SC-1807-001 and SC-1808-001) prior of having an in-person safety walk (BERF and RecPlex) with one of the BERF Laboratory Research Coordinators.

Those 2 courses (Laboratory Safety and WHMIS) and the in-person safety walk are the minimum safety requirement to work in one of the BERF labs, which means all students who are currently working in the labs, have had all 3 courses done in their first week at Grenfell.

Functional Foods Sensory Lab (FFSL)

The FFSL examines "functional foods" – natural or processed food products with known health benefits beyond basic nutritional needs, such as the antioxidants in blueberries, eggs enhanced with omega 3 fatty acids or the probiotics associated with yogurt.

The FFSL includes computerized sensory analysis systems and software with multiple lighting and video recording capabilities, freezers and coolers, small food processors, specialized instrumentation for testing food properties and small equipment for food preparation (vacuum-package machine, temperature/energy controlled microwave, sous-vide machine, slow cooker), as well as a cryo-microtome for producing thinly sliced samples for spatial, qualitative and quantitative nutrient or contaminant analyses. The lab has unique analytical capacity to discern the chemical determinants of consumers' sensory perception of taste, aroma, texture, colour, overall acceptance and preferences for the evaluated food.

Section Five – Thesis

The Masters' thesis describes research completed during the student's academic program at Memorial University and should demonstrate an ability to carry out research and to organize results.

Guidelines for Formatting and Submitting your thesis

Guidelines for formatting your thesis and the submission process are available online, [Theses and reports | School of Graduate Studies | Memorial University of Newfoundland](#).

Students should submit a draft of their thesis to their supervisory committee for approval 2-6 weeks before the deadline for submission of thesis for examination and make necessary revisions on the advice of the supervisory committee.

Students should also submit an Application for Graduation through [Memorial Self Serve](#) under the Graduation menu option.

Students should submit an electronic copy to the supervisor in PDF and Microsoft Word versions.

Thesis examination may take up to 6 weeks or longer. In order to ensure an arms-length examination process, contact with examiners during this time is limited to the Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies. Information on the possible outcomes of a thesis examination, time limits for revisions, and re-examination procedures can be found in the [2025-2026 Diary of Important Dates](#). Required revisions and corrections are made by the student in consultation with the supervisory committee.

The final version of a thesis found acceptable with or without corrections shall be submitted to the University within six months of the date on which the thesis and examiners' reports are returned to the student's academic unit.

For final submission, all graduate students are required to produce one electronic copy of their thesis to the Head of their academic unit.

The final version of your thesis should be in PDF/A format (needed for the long-term archiving of electronic theses) and **use the following naming convention: lastname_firstname_middlename_finalsubmissionmonthandyear_degree.pdf** (e.g., **Smith_John_James_122013_PhD.pdf**).

Once approved by the Head of the academic unit, the electronic copy of the thesis and any associated supplementary files should be uploaded to the University Library using the e-thesis submission form on my.mun.ca portal. A confirmation email will be sent to your @mun.ca email account once you have successfully submitted your thesis.

If required, a completed Request to Include Copyright Material form should be uploaded along with the thesis as a supplementary file.

Students must maintain their graduate registration until all academic requirements for their degree including thesis corrections have been met.

Thesis Submission Timeline

Doctoral Thesis Examination and Oral Defence Procedures

Pre-Submission ¹			
Step	Time Req'd	Candidate/Academic Unit	SGS
1	2-6 weeks ²	Candidate submits a draft of the thesis to the supervisory committee for approval and applies online to graduate through Memorial Self-Service .	
2		Head/Graduate Officer contacts potential examiners (with advice from supervisors).	
Submission/Examination			
3	1 day	Head/Graduate Officer/Delegate forwards PDF thesis, Supervisory Approval Form , Appointment of Examiners Form , using Hybrid or Remove Defence) and Change of Program Form (if applicable) to SGS.	SGS acknowledges receipt of the attachments and verifies completion of program requirements.
4	1-2 working days		SGS sends the appointment letter, forms and thesis to the examiners.
5	4 weeks		SGS records and monitors the examination process. ³
6	1-2 working days		SGS receives the examiners' reports; notifies the academic unit of decision to proceed to defence by email and confirms defence date.
eDefence ⁴			
7	1-2 working days	SGS ⁵	SGS sends web conferencing link to the student, examination committee, supervisory committee, and academic unit when defence is confirmed.
8	1-5 working days		SGS arranges the defence and appoints the Chair; prepares and posts notice of the defence of MUN Events and SGS Events Calendar.
9	Day of defence		SGS hosts pre-meeting and defence; candidate is notified of the outcome after the defence.
Post Defence			
10	Minor revisions - 6 months; Major revisions - 12 months	Candidate makes the required corrections in consultation with the supervisor; submits final version in PDF/A format to the Head of the academic unit for approval.	
11		Once the final version of thesis is approved by the Head of the academic unit, the candidate submits the final thesis in PDF/A format, the Request to Include Copyright Material form, if required, and a metadata file to sgs@mun.ca . Head submits the Recommendation for the Award of a Graduate Degree Form to SGS.	SGS records the date of receipt as the "Program Complete" date.

12			SGS clears successful candidate academically for convocation and automatically issues a letter to the candidate via MUN email.
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¹ It is strongly recommended that examiners not be contacted any sooner than 3-4 weeks prior to a firm submission date of the thesis for examination.

² The exact time required will depend on a number of factors, including the extent of the revisions necessary to the draft and academic unit policies and practice. Students are encouraged to consult their supervisors and academic units for more precise timelines.

³ Candidates should be made aware that the thesis examination is offered as a professional service courtesy by examiners and the actual time required may, therefore, vary considerably and may, in some cases, extend beyond six weeks. In order to ensure an arms-length examination process, contact with the examiners during the examination phase is limited to the [Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies](#).

⁴ [Oral defence via web-conferencing](#).

⁵ Academic units wishing to have the external examiner physically attend the oral defence, must make a formal request to the Dean of Graduate Studies.

The thesis Examination and Oral Defence Procedures form is available here [Doctoral Examination Procedures](#).

Section Six - Comprehensive Exams (for PhD Students)

The comprehensive examination will be held upon completion of all course work, and must be completed no later than the seventh semester of the student's program ([Comprehensive Examinations](#)). The examination will consist of both written and oral components. As part of the process, the student will be required to write a paper on the theoretical background of his or her research project. The comprehensive examination will assess the material related to this paper as well as fundamental concepts in the context of boreal ecosystems. The topic for the paper will be assigned by the Examination Committee, which will also determine the submission deadline for the paper, and the date of the examination. The Graduate Officer will communicate the paper topic and relevant guidelines to the student at least six weeks before the examination, if possible, but no later than four weeks in advance. The student will have four weeks to write and submit the paper. The Examination Committee then have two weeks to review the paper and determine whether student may proceed to the oral examination. This paper will form the basis of a public seminar.

During the oral examination, the Examination Committee will ask questions related to the paper, its subject matter, and its broader relevance to Boreal Ecosystems and Agricultural Sciences. The student will be notified of the designated sub-discipline by their supervisor a minimum of three months prior to the anticipated oral examination date, allowing sufficient time to prepare for the comprehensive examination. In addition, each candidate will also be required to prepare and present one public seminar (to members of the SSE) on the topic of his/her thesis during their four-year degree period. Students are required to submit a thesis present their final thesis to members of the SSE and satisfactorily defend their thesis in an oral examination following the SSE presentation. The thesis is expected to be an original and substantial contribution to research in the areas of his/her relevant research project. The thesis examination committee will be comprised of: one external examiner (from outside MUN), one internal examiner (from a related program within MUN), two supervisory committee members, and a chair (drawn from BEAS program members who are not members of the supervisory committee).

Section Seven - Campus Services and Other Resources

Indigenous Student Services

There are many programs and services dedicated to Indigenous students at Grenfell Campus, including an Indigenous Student Affairs Officer, who coordinates programming, and the student-run Indigenous Caucus of the Grenfell Campus Student Union. The Indigenous Student Centre, located at AS2027, is designated as a culturally safe space for smudging and Kullik/Qulliq lighting, and is a site for student gatherings, Aboriginal awareness programs, talking circles, craft workshops, or just enjoying down time between classes.

To learn more about Aboriginal Student Services on Campus, contact the Aboriginal Student Affairs Officer at Student Services in AS 278 or visit our website: [Welcome- Pjila'si- Atelihai- Tshima minu takushinieku- Tunngasugit- Bienvenue | Grenfell Campus | Memorial University of Newfoundland.](#)

Study Space

We currently have four Graduate student specific space on Grenfell Campus. **AS3023, AS327, AS272** and the **third** and **fourth** floor atrium located in the Forest Centre Building. Located in these spaces are cabinets with locks, as well as desks the keys to these cabinets can be signed out to a Graduate student on a **semester basis**. Please contact Nadia Simmons to sign out a key for the semester.

To book a group study space in the library, follow the link:

[Study Spaces | Memorial University Libraries](#) and scroll down to book online at the Grenfell Library.

Food Services

Meal Plans- Optional meal plans are available for purchase by all students living on and off campus. Information can be found here: [Meal Plans Memorial University | The Grove \(campusgrove.ca\).](#)

Campus Dining Hall

The campus dining hall is located in the lower level of the Arts and Science Building. The dining hall is a great place to grab a bite, catch up on some course work or just hang out and socialize with classmates. Come visit us this fall to enjoy fresh salads, soups, Paninis and daily home-cooked meals, along with popular favorites, including pizzas, fries and burgers. Adjacent to the dining hall is our student pub, the GCSU Backlot which offers nightly entertainment and, along with the dining hall, doubles as a concert space for large-scale events.

There are also vending machines at various locations on campus.

Graduate Student Union (GSU)

The Graduate Students' Union is comprised of over 3500 graduate students at Memorial University of Newfoundland. The GSU is located on the St. John's campus, see below for info on the GGSS, your representatives on Grenfell Campus. Some services provided by the GSU include health and dental plan, conference funding, and academic advocacy. They also provide a weekly newsletter that includes important information about event listings, conference notices, general GSU business, etc. Please visit [GSU MUN](#) to subscribe to the Mailing List and to learn more about the GSU.

Grenfell Graduate Student Society (GGSS)

The GGSS comprises students from Grenfell's graduate programs. They plan events, provide assistance and represent your needs on Grenfell Campus. The GGSS office is located in **AS322**.

Memorial University's School of Graduate Studies (SGS)

SGS maintains graduate files and administers graduate applications, admissions, comprehensive examinations, and thesis examinations. SGS is also responsible for registrarial functions, graduate enrolment management, and recruitment, and administers graduate student funding including assistantships, external and internal scholarships, baseline fellowships, and supervisor support. They are located on St. John's campus and more information may be found online [School of Graduate Studies | School of Graduate Studies | Memorial University of Newfoundland](#).

Teaching Skills Enhancement Program (TSEP)

TSEP is a professional development program offered to graduate students free of charge. It is designed to provide an introduction to teaching at the undergraduate level. Click here for more information: [Teaching Skills Enhancement Program | Centre for Innovation in Teaching and Learning | Memorial University of Newfoundland](#).

The Learning Centre

The Learning Centre provides students at Grenfell Campus with a variety of services and programs, specifically in the areas of academic support and personal development. The specific services include writing and mathematical instructional assistance, supplemental instruction, peer tutors, and learning strategies seminars. The Learning Centre also provides special arrangements to students with disabilities to achieve a barrier-free institution, giving equal opportunity to all students.

Student Housing

Student Housing allows for the option of living in residence or in one of the chalet style apartments. Student housing and accommodate approximately 380 in our residences, and 210 students in the Chalets. Each residence unit is comprised of two-bedroom suites sharing an adjoining bathroom and a refrigerator. The chalets consist of four- bedroom suites sharing one full and one-half bathroom, a kitchen area and living room space. Our fully wired bedrooms complete with digital phone and Internet access ensure an atmosphere well suited for study and academic achievement. Both residences are just minutes away from library services and classrooms.

It is important to know that applying to live on campus is separate from the general university and/or graduate application process. To apply to live in Student Housing, please visit Student Housing's webpage [Apply Online | Grenfell Campus | Memorial University of Newfoundland \(mun.ca\)](#) and click on the application link. Students beyond their first year of study (including graduate students) must apply online and pay the online \$20 housing application fee by **April 1**. Applications received after this deadline will be processed as time permits. Once the housing application is received, an automated email will be sent to the prospective student confirming receipt of the application and fee.

Notification of returning/transfer/graduate students' housing application status is emailed in late April/early May. **If you are accepted into Student Housing, and choose to accept this offer, a deposit/confirmation fee of \$500 must be paid within a three-week period of receiving your acceptance email. This deposit will be credited toward your Student Housing fees when you arrive in September.** Failure to cancel an Offer of Accommodations before the indicated deadline on your acceptance email will result in the forfeiture of the deposit/ confirmation fee. Please note that it is not guaranteed that you will be accepted into Student Housing once you have applied. An acceptance to Student Housing is based on number of factors including availability, date of application, and fee payment.

Room assignments are **emailed out** in early July informing students about their room/ chalet apt numbers, & their roommates. Further assignments are based on cancellations.

For more information on housing contact the housing office at AS201 (Pittman Wing), call (709) 637-6266, or by email gchousing@mun.ca. You can also like the Facebook page at Grenfell Campus Student Housing.

Know your rights. If you are seeking off-campus housing, it is important to know that as a renter, you have certain rights under Canadian and Newfoundland and Labrador law. For more information, you can reference the Residential Tenancies Act: <https://assembly.nl.ca/Legislation/sr/statutes/r14-2.htm#18>. For general rental policies go to [Landlord & Tenant - Government Modernization and Service Delivery](#).

Athletics and Recreation

Competitive Sports – Grenfell Warriors

Interested in joining a campus team? The campus organizes several sports teams like volleyball and basketball to play in local leagues and provincial tournaments. The sports and the number of teams formed each year depend on student interest. Please connect with Student Services through the website [Grenfell Campus Athletics | Memorial University of Newfoundland \(mun.ca\)](https://mun.ca/grenfell-campus-athletics) if interested in playing any sport.

Recreation

Grenfell Campus offers a distinctive program of recreation and activities that contributes to the well-being and personal and social development of all students. Students can use the large double gymnasium on campus and can participate in a variety of recreational activities, such as intramural sports (volleyball, indoor soccer and basketball, ultimate Frisbee, badminton and fitness programs. Fitness centre memberships are also available at a facility close to campus. Further information is available on our website [Grenfell Campus Recreation | Grenfell Campus | Memorial University of Newfoundland \(mun.ca\)](https://mun.ca/grenfell-campus-recreation).

The west coast of the province offers a number of unique recreational facilities, many of which are in close proximity to the Grenfell Campus. Facilities include Marble Mountain, Gros Morne National Park, Blow Me Down Trails, and the Civic Centre.

Section Eight – Important Dates and Deadlines

Please find important dates at the following site: [Important dates and deadlines | Office of the Registrar | Memorial University of Newfoundland \(mun.ca\)](#).