



# BALSILLIE SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

## ***GRADUATE HANDBOOK***

### ***Global Governance M.A. Program***

***2026-2027***

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## **1. GETTING STARTED**

### **1.1 Where to Find Us**

<b>Name</b>	<b>BSIA Office</b>
Professor Veronica Kitchen, MAGG Program Director	TBD
Andrew Thompson, Program and Partnerships Manager	217
Tiffany Bradley, Associate Director, Operations	220
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### **1.2 Helpful Information**

All program information and e-mail correspondence from the program administration will be directed to students' Balsillie School account (xxx@balsillieschool.ca) or UWaterloo account (xxx@uwaterloo.ca). It is the responsibility of all students to check these accounts regularly and/or have the email from this account forwarded to another account. Any problems arising from the failure of a student to check their email in this account will be the full responsibility of the student. Two-factor authentication (2FA) is now mandatory for most UW central services. You must sign up for 2FA to gain access to Quest.

The most important thing to do to start is to look up information on:

- [Balsillie School of International Affairs](#)
- [Graduate Studies Postdoctoral Affairs \(GSPA\)](#)
- [Quest](#) (student information system)
- [Graduate Calendar](#) - (The calendar has PDF capabilities for printing the full document or sections)
- [Graduate Student Association](#)

UWaterloo students in both the Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Environment are members of the Graduate Students Association of these respective faculties and are encouraged to contact the GSA office of the appropriate faculty for information in regard to related services and events.

### **1.3 Questions?**

- a. See Andrew to enrol in graduate classes labelled "*Instructor/Department Consent Required*".
- b. If you wish to take a course at another university, i.e. Wilfrid Laurier University, etc. please download the **Ontario Visiting Graduate Student (OVGS)** form from the GSPA website (see section 10 below). Once filled out and signed, bring the form to Andrew.
- c. Use QUEST to register for classes, update your address, view your tuition account and your unofficial transcript, and access proof of enrolment letters. For more information, refer to Quest website.

#### **1.4 What to do when you arrive**

- get a student WATCard (more information is in section 3.1)

### **2. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

All students in the program are expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offences, and to take responsibility for their actions. When the commission of an offence is established, disciplinary penalties will be imposed in accord with Policy #71 (Student Academic Discipline). For information on categories of offences and types of penalties, students are directed to consult the summary of Policy #71 which is supplied in the Graduate Calendar. If you need help in learning what constitutes an academic offence; how to avoid offences such as plagiarism, cheating, and double submission; how to follow appropriate rules with respect to “group work” and collaboration; or if you need clarification of aspects of the discipline policy, ask your course instructor for guidance. Other resources regarding the discipline policy are your academic advisor and the Graduate Associate Dean.

A mandatory online academic integrity tutorial, called the Graduate Academic Integrity Module, will also need to be completed by all new graduate students. It will be managed by the Office of Academic Integrity.

Students who believe that they have been wrongfully or unjustly penalized have the right to grieve; refer to Policy #70, Student Grievance.

See also the following resource: Office of Academic Integrity

#### **2.1 Generative-AI Policy**

Students in the M.A. in Global Governance are bound by University of Waterloo Artificial Intelligence (AI) policies. In addition, the following rules apply:

1. Coursework: Students will abide by course-specific guidance on permissible and impermissible uses of AI, as set by instructors. Best practice will be for instructors to provide such guidance on course syllabi.
2. Major Research Papers: Students will negotiate and sign a contract with their MRP supervisor(s) specifying permissible and impermissible uses of AI for both research and writing. This contract, once concluded, may be amended only with the consent of both parties. Contracts must comply with all research ethics requirements and academic integrity policies. Supervisory committees reserve the right to fail MRPs that violate the terms of the contract. In such a case, the student will no longer be considered in good standing in the program (a student must be in good standing to be eligible for funding and program extensions).

In the event of an inconsistency between university rules and either Part 1 or Part 2 above, the more restrictive provisions will apply.

### **3. REGISTRATION**

Students are encouraged to register for courses as soon as registration is open, *but do not need to register* prior to the beginning of the first term. New students who have outstanding admission conditions and only have been issued an Offer of Admission do not have access.

### **3.1 Notes**

You will use Quest to register for classes, update your address, view your tuition account, and your unofficial transcript.

For assistance in registering for courses, please see the Quest [course enrolment step-by-step guide](#).

Graduate students cannot add undergraduate courses or Audit courses on Quest. Students will have to complete a [Graduate Studies Course Drop/Add form](#).

On the [Quest](#) webpage, select “Graduate Students” (left hand column) to view important notices for the current term and “Important Dates” for enrolment. You can also find important academic term deadlines in the Graduate Studies Academic Calendar.

Also note that students do not need to enrol on Quest for the program seminar, MRP, or internship.

**Students having difficulties with QUEST** should:

- Read the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for using Quest
- During [regular business hours](#), staff in The Centre are here to assist students and employees with Quest issues via [Live Chat](#), phone (519-888-4567, ext. 42268), and [email](#).

## **4. ENROLLING FOR YOUR FIRST TERM OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

(Source: Graduate Studies Postdoctoral Affairs)

### **Payment/Fee Arrangement (Tuition)**

Student Financial Services will post your tuition fees on Quest approximately one month prior to the beginning of each term in your graduate studies program. Payment/fee arrangements can be made by bank payment, certified cheque, money order, bank draft, Western Union transfer, International wire transfer, or, through payroll deduction (with a [promissory note](#)) for scholarship/bursary payments. For more information about tuition fees, fee arrangements, promissory note, and payment deadlines refer to [Student Financial Services](#).

### **Student Card (WatCard)**

Visit the [WatCard Office](#) (Student Life Centre, inside the Campus Tech Shop) at the beginning of your academic term to pick up your student identification card. You will need to show a valid piece of photo ID. The WatCard is your one card to access many facilities and services both on and off campus. You will use it every day for food, photocopying, Physical Activities Complex access, libraries, and computer labs.

Please check that the WatCard office has recorded the [correct Faculty](#) at which you are registered (Faculty of Arts or Faculty of Environment)

## **5. FORMAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MA IN GLOBAL GOVERNANCE**

The MA program requirements include completion of 6 courses, an Internship, Program Seminar and Master’s Research Paper (MRP) Milestones. The MA Program in Global Governance is normally completed in 4 terms (see

the exception below for Global Governance Fellowship holders). Students normally take six courses during their first two terms, and spend their third or fourth term as an intern. Students concentrate their non-internship term on the completion of their MRP.

Term	Courses and Milestone Requirements
Term 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GGOV 600 Globalization &amp; Global Governance</li> <li>• History Component</li> <li>• Normally, 1 other course to meet other course requirements</li> <li>• Program Seminar</li> </ul>
Term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economics/Political Economy Component</li> <li>• Normally, 2 other courses to meet other course requirements</li> <li>• Program Seminar</li> </ul>
Term 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internship/MRP</li> </ul>
Term 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MRP/Internship</li> </ul>

Recipients of a Global Governance Fellowship have the option of completing the degree in 3 terms by counting their fellowship (over three terms) as the “internship” component of the degree. In this case, a student takes six courses during their first two terms and then concentrates on the completion of their MRP during the third term.

All incoming MA students are required to submit an MRP Supervisor Form by November 15. The form will be available at the beginning of the term. During the winter term, the official declare/change your supervisor form from GSPA will also need to be submitted.

### 5.1 Course Requirements

During the first two terms of study in the MA program, students are normally required to take six courses which must include GGOV 600: Globalization and Global Governance (core course), a History course (see options below), an Economics course (see options below) and a political science component (see options below) as well as two electives. In addition, all students participate in the Program Seminar, which meets regularly throughout the first and second terms and includes visiting speakers, guest talks and discussions of the research plans of students for the MRP. For a list of courses, please consult the [MAGG Course Offerings](#) page of the Balsillie School website.

**History component:** Students may choose one course from a menu of history courses. Please note that some courses may not be offered in a given academic year. Eligible courses include but are not limited to:

- GGOV 605 Global Governance in Historical Perspective
- HIST 606 International Development in Historical Perspective
- HIST 607 Human Rights in Historical Perspective I
- HIST 608 Human Rights in Historical Perspective II
- HIST 612 Indigenous Rights and Claims: A Global Perspective
- HIST 660 Transnational and Global History: Old Problems and New Directions

**Economics component:** Students may choose one course from a menu of political economy and economics courses. Please note that some courses may not be offered in a given academic year. Eligible courses include but

are not limited to:

GGOV 610/PSCI 688/ PACS 630 Governance of Global Economy  
GGOV 618 Special Topics in Global Political Economy  
GGOV 619 Readings in Global Political Economy  
GGOV 621/PSCI 606/ERS 606 Governing Global Food and Agriculture Systems  
GGOV 663/PSCI 619 China and Global Governance  
PSCI 683 Topics in International Political Economy  
ECON 637 Economic Analysis and Global Governance  
ECON 631 International Trade  
ECON 635 International Trade and Development  
ECON 673 Special Topics in Economics

**Political Science component:** One of the following courses:

GGOV 610/PSCI 688 Governance of the Global Economy  
GGOV 620/ERS/PSCI 604 Global Environmental Governance  
GGOV 630/PSCI 678 Security Ontology  
GGOV 640/PSCI 658 Human Rights in a Globalized World  
GV 760 (WLU)/GGOV 641 International Human Rights  
GGOV 642/PSCI 639 Global Social Governance  
GGOV 650/PSCI 657 International Organizations and Global Governance

## 5.2 Internship

All students are required to spend the equivalent of one academic term as an intern working on global governance issues in the public or private sector, at a research institute, or for a non-governmental organization. The work-term will normally take place in the third or fourth term of the program. Students receiving the Global Governance Fellowship have the option of counting their fellowship work over the year (which amounts to approximately 10 hours/week over three terms) as meeting the internship requirement for the program.

All students will meet with Andrew early in the first term to discuss potential internship options. Students must declare their intentions to the Andrew by no later than the end of their first semester in the program.

A written report (approximately 10 double-space pages in length) arising out of the internship experience will be required and will be evaluated by the Program Manager on a pass-fail basis. This report is distinct from the MRP, but can build towards it.

All students who travel abroad for their internship must complete a [pre-departure risk assessment](#) course through Waterloo International, and ensure that they have sufficient health insurance prior to commencing their placements. Students are also encouraged to apply for funding to help offset the costs of their placements. For a list of available funding opportunities, please consult the [UWaterloo Graduate Studies Funding and Awards Database](#).

## 5.3 Program Seminar Component

In addition to their six courses, all students must attend six BSIA events per term to fulfill the Program Seminar component.

#### **5.4 Master's Research Paper (MRP)**

The MRP provides students with an opportunity to pursue a specific research topic of their choosing relating to the study of global governance. The minimum length is 40 pages double-spaced, and the maximum is 60 pages double-spaced (~15,000 words). Students are encouraged to meet informally with faculty members early in their graduate studies to discuss possible topics for their MRP. Students will need to identify their supervisor and second reader on the MRP Supervisor Form they submit in November. Both the supervisor and second reader must be satisfied with the MRP, and either can ask for minor or major corrections or reject the MRP outright. Upon its completion, the MRP is assigned a grade by the supervisor and second reader. To complete by the end of the fourth term, students should normally expect to submit a complete draft by November 1. Students also should normally expect to submit a subsequent final draft for grading by November 30.

#### **6. WARWICK AND AMERICAN UNIVERSITY DOUBLE DEGREE/PATHWAYS OPTIONS**

Established in 2015, the University of Waterloo-University of Warwick double degree program offers students an opportunity to study in one of the UK's best politics departments in combination with Canada's leading school of international affairs. The program allows students to combine the MA Global Governance program with their choice of eleven Master's programs offered by the Department of Politics and International Studies (PAIS) at Warwick. Students choose between two routes, either carrying out the first year of their studies at the University of Warwick before proceeding to Waterloo in their second year to complete their degree, or beginning with the first year at Waterloo and then completing the second year at Warwick. At the end of the two years, they receive degrees from both the University of Waterloo and University of Warwick. For more information about the double degree option, please consult the [UWaterloo-Warwick Double Degree FAQ](#) page of the Balsillie School website.

Established in 2019, the University of Waterloo-American University pathways program is an exceptional educational experience that allows students access to world-class programs and faculty at both institutions. The program allows students to combine the interdisciplinary and experiential approach to the study of Global Governance with additional academic training in applied international affairs through the Master of International Studies-International Studies Track (MIS-IST). For more information about the pathways program, please consult the [American University Pathways FAQ](#) page of the Balsillie School website.

#### **7. KONSTANZ EXCHANGE**

Students in the Master of Arts in Global Governance (MAGG) program can do an exchange at with the [International Conflict Administration and Management](#) program at the University of Konstanz in Germany (established in 2014). The exchange takes place in term three of the program.

#### **8. TRAVEL AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS AND FUNDING FOR TRAVEL**

Compliance with university regulations is mandatory for all travel that is considered university business, which includes things such as conference travel and field research.

##### *UWaterloo Pre-Departure Risk Assessment Procedures and Health Insurance*

If you are traveling outside Canada on university business (such as field work, conference travel, etc.), you must complete **all** UWaterloo pre-departure [risk assessment requirements](#), including submitting all necessary forms to the International Office and providing copies to the program. **Note: students must satisfy all university safety requirements in order to be eligible for internal BSIA funds, and the program will not support applications for UWaterloo funds until the safety requirements have been satisfied.**

Students are normally not permitted to travel to countries or regions labelled as "AVOID NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL" or "AVOID ALL TRAVEL" by the Government of Canada. If you wish to appeal this restriction you should contact the Associate Vice President International to discuss why an exemption should be considered. Please note that at present final authority for travel restrictions rests with the Vice President Academic and Provost.

Before travelling, please also ensure that you have adequate health coverage. Full and part-time graduate students paying tuition to the university are automatically enrolled in the [FEDS/GSA Health and Dental Plan](#). The plan gives you international coverage for 150 days per trip. FEDS/GSA Health and Dental Plan insurance is only valid if you also have Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) provincial coverage, or UHIP coverage."

Subject to the availability of funds, students may apply to the Balsillie School of International Affairs for funding support for travel for fieldwork and for travel to academic conferences. **The application for funds must be made in advance of incurring expenses and before the conference or research travel takes place.**

Eligible expenses include registration, travel, accommodations and food. Students may ask for up to \$1500 in support. Normally, students may make one request for funds per fiscal year. Subject to the availability of funds, there may be an opportunity for students to make a second request for funds in a fiscal year; however, priority will be given to students who have not yet received conference travel support. Expenses will be reimbursed after travel has taken place and detailed receipts, along with the completed expense form, have been submitted. Funds must be spent in the fiscal year in which they are allocated (May 1 to April 30).

## **9. READING COURSES**

The Program recognizes that the course offerings in any given year may be insufficient to provide adequate coverage of all fields of Global Governance. Under conditions when there is an unusually large number of BSIA faculty on leave, individual students may seek to augment their programs of study with one reading course (i.e., directed independent study). Arrangements and faculty approval must be completed no later than two weeks after the beginning of the term. Please note due to other faculty workload commitments, not all requests, even when otherwise justified, will be granted. **All reading courses must be approved by the Director of the Program.**

Reading courses will not be offered as Audit courses. Once you and the faculty member agree to a reading course, you will need to fill out a "Proposal for a Graduate Reading Course" form.

**The deadline to submit the Reading Course form is September 20 (Fall term), January 20 (Winter term), and May 20 (Spring term).**

## **10. ONTARIO VISITING GRADUATE STUDENT (OVGS) PLAN**

The Ontario Visiting Graduate Student Plan allows a graduate student at UWaterloo (Home University) to take graduate courses at another Ontario University (Host University) while remaining registered at their own university. The plan allows you to bypass the usual application and admission procedures and the resultant transfer of credit difficulties. The **OVGS** form can be downloaded from the Graduate Studies website.

The course(s) selected must be at the graduate level and there must be no comparable course(s) offered at the University of Waterloo. The course(s) selected must be required for the student's degree program. Such courses may not be taken as "extra" or "audit" courses.

On the form you will indicate the course(s) to be taken and the term during which the course(s) is/are offered at

the Host University. Once you have filled out the form, return it to Andrew. Enrolment is not complete until the form has been approved by the Department Chair and Graduate Dean of both UWaterloo and the Host University. Normally, students are allowed to register for a maximum of one Ontario Visiting Graduate Students course. However, subject to approval from the Program Director, students may take a second course in the event that enrolment in UW courses is full.

### **11. GLOBAL GOVERNANCE FELLOWSHIP**

The Global Governance Fellowship is an award granted to select students of the Balsillie School of International Affairs (BSIA). The fellowship complements the unique graduate studies experience at the BSIA. It is designed to provide students an opportunity to gain mentorship by working with senior scholars and policy practitioners, and to advance their own policy-relevant research, writing and presentation skills.

### **12. CONVOCATION/APPLICATION FOR DEGREE**

All graduate students who expect to receive degrees at either the Spring (June) or Fall (October) Convocations must apply online to graduate through Quest. Students should apply online to graduate once their MRP has been submitted for grading. A [Graduation Checklist](#) is available through Graduate Studies Postdoctoral Affairs to help prepare for convocation.

Department deadlines for the final grade of your MRP are **April 23** for Spring convocation and **August 24** for Fall convocation. Please note, until all your revisions are done, approved, and signed by your supervisor, and you have applied to graduate through Quest, your paperwork cannot be forwarded for processing.

It should also be noted that the name printed on your diploma will be the name that appears on Quest.

Students who are unable to attend convocation will have their degrees mailed to them by Graduate Studies Postdoctoral Affairs approximately one week after the convocation ceremony. Please make sure your mailing address is up to date on Quest.

### **13. GENERAL INFORMATION FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS**

#### **13.1 Office Space, Keys and Fobs**

All incoming MA students will be assigned a desk at the Balsillie School. You will also be provided with a fob that will allow you to access the building after hours. The fob will also allow you to access the parking lot, if requested. The School requires a \$30 deposit for the fob and key.

Fobs and keys are to be returned once you finish your degree or plan to leave Waterloo for an extended period of time. Your deposit will be refunded when the fob, key and parking tag (if requested) is returned.

#### **13.2 Mailboxes**

Mail will be placed in the first floor mail room.

#### **13.3 Information for International Students**

The [Student Success Office](#) assists students in maintaining their legal status in Canada, provides assistance and

support for them and their dependents, and promotes interaction with and integration into the UWaterloo student community at large.

The [Graduate Student Association](#) (GSA) at the University of Waterloo provides a number of services for International students including a listing of clubs (national, regional, and religious associations).

The [Working Centre](#) is great opportunity for international students to connect to the larger Kitchener-Waterloo community. The Centre offers services such as the sale and repair of used bikes (very cheap), organizes events (i.e. the annual Multicultural Film Festival), and offers volunteer opportunities to those wanting to get engaged in the community.

## **14. RESOURCES**

### ***Campus Wellness***

Campus Wellness services are available to all students who may require mental or physical health aid. Do familiarize yourself with the complete list of services offered through [Campus Wellness](#).

[Counselling Services](#) is located on the second floor of the Needles Hall expansion. For assistance, or to book an appointment, please call **519-888-4096**. Walk-in appointments are available.

If urgent assistance is needed, you can contact **Good2Talk** at **1-866-925-5454**.

### ***The Centre***

[The Centre](#) is a go-to place for a number of student administrative needs. Students can order official documents, drop off forms, change their personal information, receive financial advice, get answers to a wide range of miscellaneous questions, and so much more!

### ***Co-operative Education and Career Action***

The [Centre for Career Development](#) offers career advice for all students and staff at UWaterloo.

Students should contact a Career Advisor for support and guidance with searching for both academic and non-academic jobs. Workshops, and individual appointments on a wide range of work search topics, including effective document preparation, interview skills and job search strategies are available.

### ***AccessAbility Services***

Students can register for services and accommodations provided through [AccessAbility Services](#) by using their online system. Some of the [Student Services](#) offered include:

- Adaptive technology
- Alternate format texts
- Campus orientation assistance
- Learning strategists
- Student access van

Drop in appointments are also available for students wishing to meet with an advisor. Appointments are 30 minutes in length and are offered Monday-Thursday | 1:30pm-4:30pm. To book an appointment, please call reception at 519-888-4567 ext. 45231 or 47922 or email [access@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:access@uwaterloo.ca).

### **Medical Leave**

As a student, should you find yourself in a situation where a medical (e.g. physical or mental health) [leave](#) is required, you are responsible for submitting the Change of Enrolment Status form to your academic program's department/school, indicating 'medical leave' as a reason for changing your enrolment status. No additional information is required by the program contact (including your supervisor).

All medical information is collected, in confidence, by AccessAbility Services through a secure process, as outlined below, and your student record is updated by Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs (GSPA) appropriately, after the verification process is completed by AccessAbility Services. This process assures that your medical records remain confidential and ensures compliance with human rights legislation.

### **Parental Leave**

Students who become parents through birth or adoption may take up to 5 terms of uninterrupted leave during the first 20 months of birth or adoption. If both parents are University of Waterloo students, the leave can be split between the two. Both University of Waterloo parents cannot be on parental leave at the same time; however, one partner can be on parental leave while the other partner is on birth leave. Parental leaves must coincide with the start and end dates of academic terms.

Students planning on going on parental leave must request a change of their enrolment status to Inactive by completing the [Change of enrolment status form](#).

Students on parental leave are not expected to study or conduct research while on leave, and thus should not expect access to their supervisor.

Students who wish to apply for a University of Waterloo parental leave bursary should complete the [Graduate Studies Parental Leave Bursary application](#).

### **Library**

The University of Waterloo has two main libraries on campus: the Dana Porter (DP) Library and the Davis Centre Library. The DP library is the main library for GGOV students. For all other inquiries, please visit the [library website](#).

### **Writing and Communication Centre**

The Writing and Communication Centre offers [graduate-specific programing](#). For quick questions or check-ins, you can visit the Writing and Communication Centre for [drop-in appointments](#).