

Important Academic Delivery Update for All Programs

Dear Ridgetown Campus students,

You are all aware that due to COVID-19 and the provincewide shutdown, we have new academic challenges to address. I wanted to provide you with an update on the Winter 2021 semester and courses. Please review the information below.

Winter 2021 Semester under [Provincewide Shutdown](#)

Ridgetown Campus continues to carefully plan for the upcoming winter semester. The University's top priority remains the health and safety of our campus community.

Following the [provincewide shutdown](#) announcement on December 21st, **we will proceed with online delivery (labs and lectures) of the Horticulture, Environmental Management and Equine Care and Management diplomas. This online delivery format will be for a minimal period of January 11 through January 24, 2021** and then will be reassessed based on the provincewide shutdown status.

Your courses will be delivered either [synchronous](#) (learning happens in real time – listed as “virtual” in WebAdvisor) or [asynchronous](#) (learning happens without the need for real-time interaction – listed as “remote” in WebAdvisor) the first two weeks of classes. Your instructor(s) will communicate with you about their intention for online delivery format, using email or the Announcement feature of CourseLink.

For the **Diploma in Veterinary Technology (Conventional) and the Certificate in Veterinary Office Administration, the delivery of labs will be face-to-face starting Monday, January 11. Students will be required to be on campus to attend the labs.** All the lectures and pre-labs will be online. We will limit face-to-face labs to groups of 10 persons (students and instructor), to comply with lockdown regulations for post-secondary institutions. Kennels duties will also be performed with a maximum of 10 people. The above plan will be for the duration of January 11 - 24th, then will be reassessed depending on the provincial lockdown status. Daily completion of the [U of G COVID-19 Screening Form](#) will be required before coming to campus. The

University's [COVID-19 website](#), and the [Ridgetown Campus website](#) provide essential information about U of G's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and safety protocols to follow.

The Diploma in Agriculture will continue as an alternative (on-line) course delivery for the full Winter 2021 semester.

After the Provincewide Shutdown

Following the end of the shutdown, we hope to resume to face-to-face teaching, at least for the lab portion of the courses for the Horticulture, Environmental Management, Equine Care and Management diplomas. We will adjust based on whether the shutdown is extended or lifted, as we receive more information on regulations implemented by the provincial government.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to have any Agriculture diploma students on campus this semester. We greatly appreciate the patience and understanding of our students during this difficult time.

Winter 2021 will continue to require flexibility and perseverance. I want to thank you for your commitment and wish you all the best for the coming semester! Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Simon

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