



GO ABROAD: LEARNING FOR SUSTAINABILITY (GOALS)

Gain 21st century skills while exploring global issues

This term long, study abroad program is designed to help students enrich their 21st Century Learning Skills so they can effectively engage in academic and professional contexts across cultures.

Through a combination of dynamic courses and practical projects, students will develop their critical thinking, creative problem solving and collaborative communication abilities while exploring relevant global issues such as those emphasised by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Learning how these SDGs are being researched and realized at the University of Waterloo, students will develop their own creative solutions in the process of becoming more socially conscious, globally minded citizens.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Collaborate with others, foster a growth mindset and showcase leadership skills



BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Reinforce your learning through through engaging workshops, excursions and participation in social events



ONE OF CANADA'S TOP INNOVATION UNIVERSITIES

WHO IS GOALS DESIGNED FOR?

GOALS is designed for individuals who are:

- > interested in studying abroad in Canada at one of the nation's most innovative universities
- > looking to explore the SDGs while gaining skills for the 21st century



PROGRAM INFORMATION

While dates and fees are subject to annual planning, the GOALS program typically begins in September, January, and May.

For more information, please visit our website.



CLASS LEVELS

The GOALS program is recommended for students with a CEFR level B1 (intermediate).

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9:30 11:30AM	Project Course	Project Course	Communication	Project	Communication
LUNCH 11:30AM - 1:00PM					
12:30 2:30PM	Communication	Culture	Innovation	Culture	Innovation
2:30 4:00PM			Study Hall		Workshop
<i>Optional activities and trips are offered after classes during evenings and weekends</i>					

ACCOMMODATION (additional \$)

On-campus residence and homestay is subject to availability.

[Learn more about the GOALS program](#)



SUPPORTS



> PEER LEADERS

Waterloo students who attend social events and bus trips with you to enhance your immersion experience.



> STUDENT ADVISOR

Dedicated staff to support your academic experience in the GOALS program including helping you through the application process to the University of Waterloo or other Canadian institutions.



> STUDENT EXPERIENCE SPECIALIST

Enthusiastic staff to help you make the most of your experience in Canada, the city of Waterloo, and the University of Waterloo.



WHAT STUDENTS WILL LEARN

TWO-PART PROJECT COURSE



PART I: EXPLORING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)

In this course students will:

- › develop personal accountability to engage effectively in teamwork
- › explore the dynamics of teamwork to facilitate team performance and the exchange of ideas
- › position themselves as global citizens to enhance awareness of privilege and inequity
- › demonstrate understanding of SDGs to reflect on the need for action
- › apply design cycle inquiry and analysis to global challenges



PART II: IDEAS TO ACTION

In this course students will:

- › use project management tools to prioritize tasks and support team efficiency
- › reflect on self and team achievements to strengthen team performance
- › analyse a global challenge to identify opportunities for mitigation strategies
- › evaluate potential consequences to select appropriate responses
- › work collaboratively to organise findings and present solutions

SKILLS COURSES



COMMUNICATION: CONVEYING A MESSAGE

In this course students will:

- › work collaboratively with peers to discuss topics and plan and execute group work
- › apply research skills to assess information from a variety of sources
- › compile relevant data to develop and support arguments and lines of thinking
- › explore audience and purpose to develop effective communication style
- › enhance communication skills to explain and justify actions and decisions
- › use digital tools to enhance the appeal and clarity of visually presented information
- › edit and revise drafts to enhance communicative clarity



CULTURE: EMBRACING DIVERSITY

In this course students will:

- › develop cross-cultural sensitivity and awareness by examining both culture-general and culture-specific knowledge as well as by identifying their own cultural assumptions
- › build strategies for managing cultural misunderstandings and adapting communication style to different cultural contexts
- › reflect upon the value of diversity in local and global sustainable development
- › develop communication strategies that can facilitate cross-cultural communication



INNOVATION: THINKING CRITICALLY

In this course students will:

- › develop critical thinking skills to identify problems and analyze issues
- › enhance independent thinking and decision-making abilities
- › apply critical thinking skills to evaluate the feasibility and potential impact of proposed solutions to real-world scenarios related to sustainable development
- › strengthen their sense of responsibility and personal agency for sustainable development
- › develop a mindset that embraces ambiguity and failure as an opportunity for growth and innovation

ABOUT WATERLOO

The University of Waterloo and Renison University College are located in the Region of Waterloo, which is considered Canada's Silicon Valley and home to the second-highest density of startups in the world and a variety of renowned companies such as BlackBerry, Google, and ApplyBoard. Students can immerse themselves in the area's entrepreneurial culture while enjoying Southwestern Ontario's most unique tourist sites and activities. From shopping and the CN Tower (Canada's tallest building), just 100 km away in Canada's largest city Toronto, to the incredible views of Niagara Falls, to the sounds, scents, and colours of St. Jacobs Farmers' Market (the largest year-round market in Canada), students are guaranteed a diverse experience where the urban, rural, and entrepreneurial collide.

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

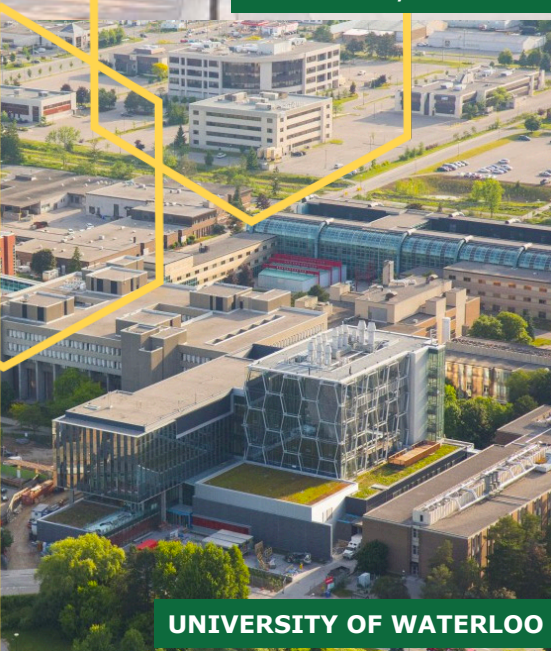
The University of Waterloo is Canada's #1 university for entrepreneurial learning with over 42,000 students cumulatively between undergraduate and graduate programs. As a globally renowned and recognized institution, the University of Waterloo has been the start for countless company and student success stories through its bold start-up culture, a creator-owned intellectual property policy, and the largest cooperative education program in the world. Students benefit from an ecosystem that stays active and engaged 365 days a year with world changing research, innovative technology, and inspired teaching.

RENISON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Renison University College, an affiliated college at the University of Waterloo, provides a close-knit community experience within the larger University of Waterloo campus and student population. Renison provides unique educational programming in Social Development Studies, Social Work, and a variety of language and culture courses such as Arabic, Chinese, English, Japanese, and Korean. Since 1970, Renison's English Language Institute (Renison ELI) has delivered innovative English courses and programs that help students, teachers, and other professionals succeed in academic and professional environments. Additionally, Renison offers an enriching residence experience that includes an extensive meal plan featuring cuisine from around the world. All Renison ELI students will benefit from high-quality intensive English programming embedded within a unique, diverse, and interculturally aware Canadian university environment.



WATERLOO, ONTARIO



UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO



RENISON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

STUDENT EXPERIENCE

We are dedicated to ensuring you have an exceptional experience during your time at Renison. Our enthusiastic team of peer leaders, a student advisor, and student experience staff are here to help you enhance your skills!



EXPERIENCE LIFE IN CANADA



PRACTICE YOUR SOCIAL AND ENGLISH SKILLS



BE A SUCCESSFUL STUDENT



BUILD YOUR LEADERSHIP SKILLS



STAY CONNECTED



CONTACT US

Have questions? Connect with a member of our team to learn more about the program.

PROGRAM INFORMATION



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GROUP REGISTRATION



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