

Master of Science (Environmental & Life Sciences)



The journey to your success continues here...



BRANDON
UNIVERSITY

MELS - M.Sc. (Environmental & Life Sciences)

- 2-year **thesis-based** interdisciplinary graduate program with courses drawn from **Biology, Chemistry, Geography & Geology** departments.
- Thesis is based on **major research project** working with world class Brandon University professors, spanning research areas at scales from the molecular to planet-wide.

What will you learn?



Image courtesy Dr D. Greenwood,
BU Biology

MELS students will gain skills and experience in:

- ▶ Research methodology
- ▶ Scientific problem solving
- ▶ Project planning
- ▶ Scientific reporting
- ▶ Data interpretation and analysis

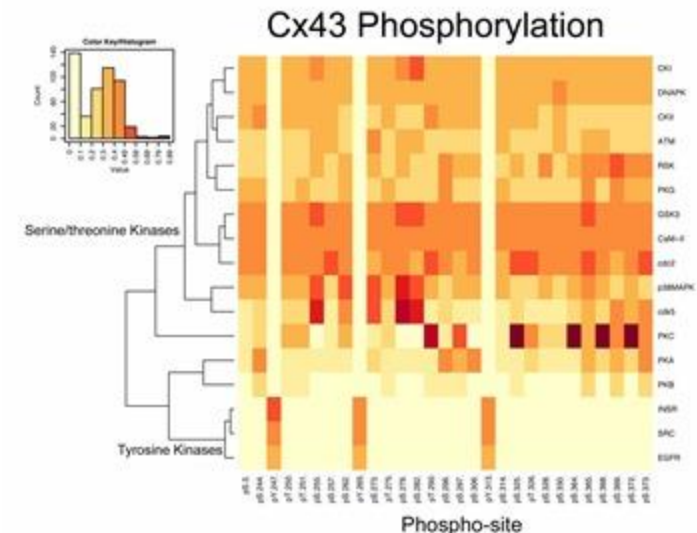


Image courtesy Dr V. Chen, BU Chemistry

Thesis Project

The thesis project is the heart of the MELS student experience.

- From laboratory-based **life science** and **chemical science** projects,
- to **field-based environmental and earth science** research in northern Manitoba and elsewhere in Canada.



Research Opportunities

Current **research project** opportunities in Biology, Chemistry, Geography and Geology can be found on our web-site under our Faculty Directory.

<https://www.brandonu.ca/mels/mels-faculty-directory/>





What are you waiting for?

How to Apply

Prior to applying, students strongly advised to **consult with the Co-ordinator of Graduate Studies** (MELS) and one of the **faculty members in the core Departments** about available projects and supervisors. (Listed on our MELS Faculty Directory page).

Once a supervisor has been found applicants must submit a completed **MELS Information Form** (found on the MELS website).



Application Deadlines

- ▶ January 31st for September intake
- ▶ Late applications will be considered
 - ▶ *January application date is aligned with scholarship deadlines*



Scholarship Opportunities

- ▶ **CIHR, NSERC, and SSHRC Graduate Scholarship**

- ▶ **CGS-M APPLICATION DEADLINE:** December 1, 2014

- ▶ **Brandon University Manitoba Graduate Scholarships**

- ▶ **Internal Deadline: March 1** (Where the 1st falls on a weekend, the deadline will be the following business day.)

- ▶ **Other funding**

- ▶ Some professors have research grants that allow them to directly fund a graduate student stipend
 - ▶ MELS has funding for 3 Graduate Teaching Assistantships (i.e. paid to teach undergraduate labs)

Career Opportunities

▶ **AVG Salary with MSc in Biology, Environmental Science or Chemistry C\$46,845-\$99,000**

- ▶ **SOURCE:** http://www.payscale.com/research/CA/Degree=Master_of_Science_%28MS%29%2c_Environmental_Science/Salary

▶ **Types of Jobs**

- ▶ Opportunities for careers in private industry, educational institutions*, and government agencies (federal, provincial, or local). You might decide to pursue teaching, research, or consulting positions.
- ▶ employers will hire candidates with a B.Sc. for some entry-level positions, most companies and government agencies prefer a M.Sc.
- ▶ A Ph.D. generally required for research or university teaching positions.
- ▶ **SOURCE:** <http://www.petersons.com/graduate-schools/environmental-science-jobs-rise.aspx>



What our students are saying...

“When I learned the University was beginning a Masters program in Science I was excited for an opportunity to continue my education, something I have always wanted to do, without having to move away from home. In the years I spent as a student and working at Brandon University I have come to know the staff and facilities, and I am proud and excited to get a chance to be a student there once again.

– Ashley Greenley, MELS Student

“There are several reasons why I chose Brandon and the MELS program. The community, professors, resources and thesis project being the most prevalent. ... They have been exceptionally accommodating and helpful since I began this program. New computers, software and near immediate access to equipment, such as the facilities of the micro-analytical lab, allow me to work effectively.”



– Mark Hamilton, MELS Student

“I became part of the MELS program to challenge myself and improve future employment prospects. I feel this program is an excellent way to improve my research skills, build professionalism, and work in areas of conservation. Brandon is close to home and is small enough to foster a sense of community. Brandon University has the benefits of small class size and one-on-one time. The professors here are competent and caring.



– Vanessa Rosenkranz, MELS Student



Thank you.
Any questions?

