

Go Abroad: Learning for Sustainability

Develop the skills you need for a
changing world

GO Abroad: Learning for Sustainability (GOALS) is a transformative study abroad program that addresses themes of global sustainability by equipping you with in-demand 21st-century skills. Designed for those eager to understand and engage with global issues, GOALS combines dynamic, interdisciplinary coursework with a team-based project to foster critical thinking, creative problem-solving, and collaborative communication.

In your project teams, you will apply design thinking to develop innovative solutions to a global challenge aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Investigating how these goals are being tackled in Canadian and global contexts, you will co-create innovative responses and solutions while becoming a more globally minded citizen with the adaptability and leadership skills needed to help build a more sustainable future.

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



The University of Waterloo is in the

TOP 1%

of universities in the world
(Centre for World University
Rankings 2025)

27th

in the world for
social impact
(QS Sustainability
Rankings 2025)

Hikaru, past GOALS student



“In the GOALS program, you will have the opportunity to connect with students from all over the world and develop your global perspective. Through group work and university-organized events, you can develop your leadership skills! The advice I would give to new students is to be curious about everything. Don’t be afraid! Renison offers many activities, many events and volunteer activities - take advantage of them, give them a try. Don’t miss any chance to grow yourself.”

What will you learn?

In GOALS, you will participate in three skills courses and a team-based project course designed to support your exploration of global issues and themes of sustainability.



Communication:
Conveying a message



Culture:
Embracing diversity



Innovation:
Thinking critically

Project Course

Address a global SDG challenge with your project team by applying the design cycle process and integrating the skills built across all your courses to explore, analyze and create meaningful solutions.

Fees and dates



Dates and fees are subject to annual planning. For more information, please visit our website.

Have questions? Connect with our team:

renison.sace@uwaterloo.ca

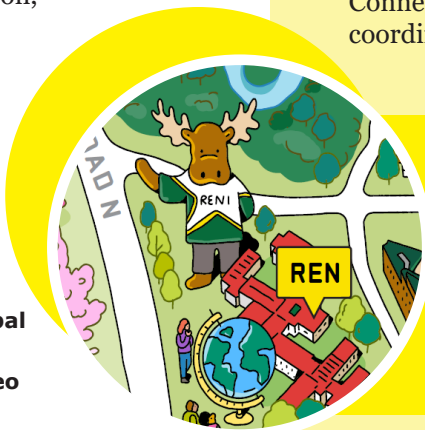
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1 on 1

support through meet-ups
with your Peer Leaders

Accommodation and student experience

Flexible, pay-as-you-go structure for trips and activities for GOALS students*. Activities and trips may include the following:

- SDG Ideas Factory visit
- True Canadian trivia
- Welcome bonfire
- GreenHouse visit
- Karaoke night
- Toronto bus trip
- Niagara Falls bus trip

**activities and trips are included for students in the August 2026 immersion GOALS program*



**Live in the community
with a homestay family or
on-campus in residence**

In GOALS, you may have the opportunity to live with a homestay family or in on-campus university residence*. In both homestay and residence, you'll benefit from included meals, opportunities to build connections and practice your English, and experiences to enhance your time in Canada!

**on-campus residence accommodation is included for students in the August 2026 immersion GOALS program*



Access a variety of supports

Connect with our team of peer leaders, inclusion coordinators, and student experience staff.

August 2026 GOALS Immersion Experience

Live, learn and explore!

The 3-week August 2026 session will be delivered in an immersion format that includes on-campus housing and meal plan, trips, and activities.