

# GEOGRAPHY: NEOTROPICAL ENVIRONMENT (PH.D.)

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**Offered by:** Geography (Faculty of Science)

**Degree:** Doctor of Philosophy

## Program Description

The Doctor of Philosophy in Geography; Neotropical Environment is a research-based program offered in collaboration with the Bieler School of Environment and the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI-Panama). The program is focused on environmental issues relevant to the Neotropics and Latin American countries including thematic areas such as geography, environment, biology, agricultural sciences, sociology, and political science. The program favours interdisciplinary approaches to research and learning through the participation of researchers from McGill University and from STRI. Some research and teaching is conducted in Latin America and Panama. The thesis must be on a topic that relates to both the neotropical environment and geography.

**Note:** For information about Fall 2025 and Winter 2026 course offerings, please check back on May 8, 2025. Until then, the "Terms offered" field will appear blank for most courses while the class schedule is being finalized.

## Thesis

A thesis for the doctoral degree must constitute original scholarship and must be a distinct contribution to knowledge. It must show familiarity with previous work in the field and must demonstrate ability to plan and carry out research, organize results, and defend the approach and conclusions in a scholarly manner. The research presented must meet current standards of the discipline; as well, the thesis must clearly demonstrate how the research advances knowledge in the field. Finally, the thesis must be written in compliance with norms for academic and scholarly expression and for publication in the public domain.

## Required Courses

Expand allContract all

Course	Title	Credits
BIOL 640	Tropical Biology and Conservation.	3
ENVR 610	Foundations of Environmental Policy.	3
GEOG 631	Methods of Geographical Research.	3
GEOG 700	Comprehensive Examination 1.	0
GEOG 701	Comprehensive Examination 2.	0
GEOG 702	Comprehensive Examination 3.	0

## Elective Courses

3 credits, at the 500 level or higher, on environmental issues to be chosen in consultation with and approved by the student's supervisor AND the Neotropical Environment Options Director.