Why GRADUATE STUDIES in REHABILITATION SCIENCE?

Graduate students and their work are an important part of an ongoing research process that provides the community with ways of understanding natural, cultural, imaginative, social and technological phenomena. The graduate programs in Rehabilitation Science at Queen’s University stress the multidisciplinary contribution of many health professions and disciplines to rehabilitation. The focus is on understanding how people who experience disability can be enabled to live full and satisfying lives as members of their community, considering a broad range of individual, community and societal factors. Students can expect to be introduced to a broad spectrum of rehabilitation related concerns including function and participation across a wide range of health conditions and disabilities (for example neurotrauma, mental health, intellectual disabilities), policy development, professional education, and interdisciplinary and intersectoral services. An innovative feature of this program is the interdisciplinarity which has attracted students from varied backgrounds including occupational and physical therapy, kinesiology, psychology, nursing, social work, sociology, law, epidemiology and others.

Why QUEEN’S?

The School of Rehabilitation Therapy at Queen’s University is committed to leading and inspiring positive changes that transform lives through rehabilitation research, education and practice. As part of this commitment, part of our core mission is to educate rehabilitation scientists who contribute to health and well-being globally through collaboration, creativity, and the discovery of new knowledge. We are recognized nationally and internationally for our excellent faculty, high-quality professional and research programs, and the ways in which our scholarship contributes to the lives of people affected by or at risk of disability.

Program STRUCTURE

PhD (4 years, full time): Comprehensive exam (written and oral), thesis, and oral defense.

RESEARCH Areas

- Human Mobility & Motor Control Across Lifespan
- Disability & Participation
- Workplace Health & Accommodation
- Moving Knowledge into Practice and Policy
- Health Professional Education
- Military and Veteran Health

We encourage you to identify an area of research interest and contact a potential supervisor before applying.

Visit the Rehabilitation Science website to read faculty profiles, and learn more about faculty members’ research areas. When you find a faculty member with similar research interests to yours, contact him/her and tell them about your interest in graduate work and related experience. This is also an opportunity for you to find out if the faculty member is accepting new graduate students to supervise.

“At the School of Rehabilitation Therapy I have improved my research skills (and) had the unique opportunity to develop teaching skills and learn how to coordinate projects and activities related to the academic field.”
– Kamary Coriolano Lins da Silva, PhD

“Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies
Rehabilitation Science PhD Map

GRAD MAP FOR PhD STUDENTS

School of Graduate Studies
Create an impact
www.queensu.ca/sgs
### Rehabilitation Science PhD MAP *

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<th>YEAR I</th>
<th>YEAR II</th>
<th>YEAR III</th>
<th>YEAR IV &amp; TRANSITIONING</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS</strong></td>
<td><strong>MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT</strong></td>
<td><strong>ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY</strong></td>
<td><strong>LAUNCH YOUR CAREER</strong></td>
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<td>Key priorities include your relationship with your supervisor, completing required health and safety, annual human research ethics training and any required coursework, and developing your research proposal.</td>
<td>Think about audiences for your research.</td>
<td>Consider volunteering with different community organizations aligned with the Rehabilitation Sciences, such as local hospitals, community services and associations that support people with disabilities and promote accessibility of community opportunities for all citizens.</td>
<td>Finding career fit starts with knowing yourself. Take a Career Services career planning workshop or meet with a career counselor for help. Check out books like <em>So What Are You Going to Do With That? Or Planning a Scientific Career in Industry</em> from the Career Resource Area for advice on various career options.</td>
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<td>Meet early with your supervisor to set expectations and discuss roles, responsibilities, program requirements, resources, research/occupational goals, timelines, and any required accommodation plans.</td>
<td>Complete ROMEO online module on research ethics if doing research with human or sensitive topics.</td>
<td>Connect to broader communities of rehabilitation professionals.</td>
<td>Start building your teaching portfolio including</td>
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<td>Look to Student Academic Success Services for a variety of supports</td>
<td>Apply to SRC, OSS, and other funding</td>
<td>Consider positions in student services, the SGSS or media outlets like the Queen's Journal CIRC or the SGSS Blog Look in the AMS Clubs Directory.</td>
<td>Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organizing conferences, and research groups like Material Matters.</td>
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<td><strong>PRESENT YOUR WORK</strong></td>
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<td>This map is intended to provide suggestions for activities and careers, but everyone’s abilities, experiences, and constraints are different. Build your own Grad Map using our online My Grad Map tool.</td>
<td>Start keeping an eportfolio of your skills, experiences and competencies.</td>
<td>Include voluntourism and career job shadowing experiences that connect to community service and rehabilitation science.</td>
<td>Start building your teaching portfolio including student evaluations, and seeking mentorship.</td>
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<td>Priorities include completing your comprehensive examination and pursuing research. Find your way through the academic process with the help of Expanding Horizons workshops and SGS Habitat.</td>
<td>Present your research at academic conferences and write your dissertation. Check-out the SGSS Dissertations Boot Camp or Dissertation on the Lake.</td>
<td>Produce your dissertation and consider options for publication.</td>
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<td>Consider publishing elements of your research. Learn from the Expanding Horizons Publishing workshop.</td>
<td>Consider participating in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) competition.</td>
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**WHAT WILL I LEARN?**

A graduate degree in Rehabilitation Science can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:

- Knowledge and technical skills
- Effective communication skills in multiple forms for diverse audiences
- Information management: prioritize, organize and synthesize large amounts of information
- Time management: meet deadlines and manage responsibilities despite competing demands
- Project management: develop ideas, gather information, analyze, critique, prepare presentations, draw and act on conclusions
- Creative and critical thinking
- Independence and experience as a collaborative worker
- Awareness, an understanding of sound ethical practices, social responsibility, responsibility research and cultural sensitivity
- Professionalism in all aspects of work, research, and interactions
- Leadership: initiative and vision leading people and discussion

**WHERE CAN I GO?**

A PhD in Rehabilitation Science can take your career in many directions. In Canada, less than 40% of all PhDs will work in post-secondary education – the majority will work in industry, government, or non-profits.

- Clinical/Program Research and evaluation
- Academia (research and teaching)
- Work with professional agencies and/or funding agencies
- Program development at the local, national or international level
- Policy development
- International community-based rehabilitation

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.
Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- Completion of a Master’s degree in Rehabilitation Science or a related field with a minimum B+ standing. Contact the program director and potential supervisors to discuss how your studies and experiences to date may be related to rehabilitation sciences.
- The entire transcript is reviewed but particular attention is given to your last 20 courses and how well you have progressed throughout your academic career. Preference is given to students with higher academic standing.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
- If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet the English language proficiency requirements in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. The School of Graduate Studies requires the following minimum scores: TOEFL (paper-based): 550, (2) TOEFL iBT: Writing (24/30); Speaking (22/30); Reading (22/30); Listening (20/30), for a total of 88/120 (applicants must have the minimum score in each test as well as the minimum overall score), or (3) IELTS: 7.0 (academic module overall band score), or (4) PTE Academics: 65.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES
- Application due: February 15th.
- Notification of acceptance: Early April.

Before you start your application, please review the Graduate studies application process.

What about FUNDING?

PhD students in Rehabilitation Science are offered a minimum funding of $18,000 per year.

We encourage all students to apply for external funding from OGS, CIHR, SSHRC and other sources. Queen’s will automatically issue a $10,000 award to winners of federal government tri-council awards for PhD studies. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies’ information on awards and scholarships.

Application FAQs

How do I use this map?
Whether you are considering or have embarked on graduate studies at Queen’s, use this map to plan for success in five overlapping areas of your career and academic life. The map helps you explore possibilities, set goals and track your individual accomplishments. Everyone’s journey is different – the guide offers options for finding your way at Queen’s and setting the foundation for your future. To make your own customized map, use the online My Grad Map tool.

Where can I get help?
Queen’s provides you with a broad range of support services from your first point of contact with the university through to graduation. Ranging from help with academics and careers, to physical, emotional, or spiritual resources – our welcoming environment offers the programs and services you need to be successful, both academically and personally. Check out the SGS HABITAT for available resources.

What is the community like?
At Queen’s, graduate students from all disciplines learn and discover in a close-knit intellectual community. You will find friends, peers and support among the graduate students enrolled in Queen’s more than 130 graduate programs within 50+ departments & research centres. With the world’s best scholars, prize-winning professional development opportunities, excellent funding packages and life in the affordable, historic waterfront city of Kingston, Queen’s offers a wonderful environment for graduate studies. Queen’s is an integral part of the Kingston community, with the campus nestled in the core of the city, only a 10-minute walk to downtown with its shopping, dining and waterfront. For more about Kingston’s history and culture, see Queen’s University’s Discover Kingston page.