# Aging and Health MSc/GDip Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

Why GRADUATE STUDIES in AGING AND HEALTH?

Graduate studies in Aging and Health are offered through innovative programs that provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of aging, with a focus on health and healthy living. Students will develop multi-disciplinary knowledge of individual aging processes, the effect of aging on social systems, and the policies needed to support healthy aging. The program is meant to enhance students' ability to contribute to the development, delivery and implementation of evidence-based care, services, and policies for older adults across a range of settings.



The program is full-time and is completed mostly from a distance, through a blended format of on-line and in-person learning. Intensive on-site sessions introduce students to core MSc courses and e-learning technology, as well as provide an opportunity for in-person interaction with faculty and fellow class members. Elective courses are completed at a distance, online. The blended format of on-site intensives and on-line components couples networking and experiential opportunities with the flexibility of distance learning.

Queen's University programs in Aging and Health position graduates for success in a variety of settings that serve the growing





"I wanted to equip myself with transitional knowledge that allows me to successfully advocate for the lives of older adults, without having to move to campus and quit my job.... This program is designed for the lifelong learner, delivering rich education on a profoundly relevant topic, in a flexible format."

- Stephanie Gurr, MSc'19

population of older adults including government, universities and colleges, for-profit and non-profit organizations, business and industry, and various healthcare settings.

## Program STRUCTURE

MSc: Students entering the MSc program will progress on a full-time basis to complete requirements in 12 months. Students will complete a total of three required (core) courses (9 credits), four electives (12 credits), and a project.

**GDip**: Students entering the GDip program will progress on a full-time basis to complete requirements in 8 months. Students will complete a total of five courses (15 credits), any 800 level elective course, including most MSc core courses.

## Core MSc COURSES

- Evaluating Aging-Related Programs and Services
- Ethics and Aging
- Issues in Aging and Health



Students in the MSc program will complete a project that develops skills for critical appraisal and integration of evidence to address a defined question related to aging and health. Students in the GDip program can complete the Core MSc Courses as one of their five term courses. Students in the GDip program do not complete a project.

Visit the <u>Aging and Health website</u> to learn more about the program and its opportunities.



GRADUATE STUDIES AND POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS

# LECT'S UNIVERSITY rkplace Skills Aging and

# Aging and Health MSc/GDip Map

MASTER OF SCIENCE (MSc) or GRADUATE DIPLOMA (GDip)

	GETTING STARTED	INTERMEDIATE STAGE	WRAPPING UP
ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS	<ul> <li>Start with key priorities like doing your coursework and preparing for your project.</li> <li>Determine your elective courses.</li> <li>Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs (SGSPA) professional development workshops, the department Grad Chair, and the SGSPA website.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Complete your coursework.</li> <li>Begin to do research for your major project.</li> </ul>	Complete your course work and project.
MAXIMIZE SCHOLARLY IMPACT	<ul> <li>Start to think about the audiences for your project.</li> <li>If you will be continuing graduate studies, apply for funding from sources such as CIHR, SSHRC, NSERC, OGS, the Heart &amp; Stroke Foundation, and other foundations related to your area of research.</li> </ul>	Expand your project audience through social media such as Twitter or a blog.	Attend a major conference in your field, such as the annual conference of the Canadian Association on Gerontology.
BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE	<ul> <li>Consider positions in student services, the SGPS, or media outlets like the Queen's Journal, CFRC, and the SGSPA Blog. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory for more ideas.</li> <li>Serve on departmental, faculty or university committees. Talk to the program director or assistant for tips on getting involved.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Use a Research Assistant or Teaching Assistant position to develop your research or teaching skills.</li> <li>If interested in further developing teaching skills, get support from the Centre for Teaching and Learning. Enrol in SGS902 or the PUTL Certificate for more professional development in teaching and learning.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Practice articulating the skills you have been developing settings outside the university, such as casual conversatinetworking, and interviews. Get help from a Career Serviworkshop.</li> <li>Investigate internships from MITACS and other sources.</li> <li>Check out opportunities for extra training through CTL, School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs professional development, MITACS, or other sources to boost your skills.</li> </ul>
ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY	<ul> <li>Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus.</li> <li>Consider volunteering or working with local community organizations that are focused on supporting healthy aging and aging in place.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organizing conferences, and research groups.</li> <li>Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking the Intercultural Awareness Training Certificate hosted by QUIC and Four Directions.</li> <li>If you are an international student interested in staying in Canada, consider speaking with an International Student Advisor.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through LinkedIn, the Queen's Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences. Get help from a Career Services workshop.</li> <li>Consider joining professional associations like the Canadian Association on Gerontology.</li> </ul>
PROPEL YOUR CAREER	<ul> <li>Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking a Career Services workshop or meeting with a career educator and coach. Check out the Career Resource Area for advice on various career options.</li> <li>Start reading publications like University Affairs and the Chronicle of Higher Education. Browse non-academic labour market websites.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Explore different careers of interest by using LinkedIn to connect with Queen's alumni. Check out Career Cruising for more information.</li> <li>If you are considering a PhD, explore programs of interest reach out to faculty, and apply to PhD programs and external scholarships.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Participate in hiring committees and attend job talks. Start focusing on areas of interest. Research organizations of interest and start putting together your CV or resume for potential positions of interest. Get help from Career Services with job searching, resumes, and interviews.</li> <li>Find impactful work that aligns with your values using the Oueen's Career Guide to the LIN Sustainable.</li> </ul>

## Knowledge & Workplace Skills

A professional degree in Aging and Health can equip you with:

- Knowledge and technical skills
- Effective **communication** skills in multiple forms for diverse audiences
- Ethical approaches to research and practice with older adults
- Time management skills to meet deadlines and manage responsibilities despite competing demands
- Project management skills to develop ideas, gather information, analyze, critically appraise findings, draw and act on conclusions
- Creativity and innovation
- Independence and experience as a collaborative worker
- Professionalism in all aspects of work, research, and interactions
- Leadership skills to take initiative and lead discussions and influence people.

## Career Possibilities

Queen's University programs in Aging and Health position graduates for success in a variety of settings that serve the growing population of older adults including government, for-profit and non-profit organizations. Potential career opportunities include:

- Coordination and management roles in for-profit organizations that deliver services or create products for older adults;
- Policy development and analysis related to aging and society;
- Program development, implementation, and oversight in community-based or public healthcare organizations;
- Program evaluation for aging and health-related services.

In addition, graduates of this program have taken the knowledge and skills gained in this program back to their own places of employment to contribute to the development of age-sensitive services and practices. Taking time to explore career options while building your experience and networks can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

the Queen's Career Guide to the UN Sustainable

Development Goals.

#### How to use this map

• Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.

## Graduate Studies FAQs

## How do I make the most of my time at Queen's?

Use the Grad Map to plan for success in five overlapping areas of your career and academic life. Everyone's journey is different - the ideas on the maps are just suggestions to help you explore possibilities. For more support with your professional development, take advantage of the SGSPA professional development framework and the new Professional Development Plan (PDP) process to set customized goals to help you get career ready when you graduate.

## 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 SGSPA website for available resources.

## What is the community like?

At Queen's, graduate students from all disciplines learn and discover in a closeknit 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.

# Graduate Application FAQs

## What do I need to know to APPLY?

## **ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS**

- · Honours Bachelor's degree or equivalent.
- Grade requirements: Minimum B+ average or above from any 4-year undergraduate program or equivalent.

### ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

- 2 references, with one academic reference if you have graduated from university less than 5 years prior to application.
- Current Curriculum Vitae (CV) or Resume, submitted directly to the Graduate Assistant.
- If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet the English language proficiency requirements in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. The following minimum scores are required: (1) TOEFL iBT: Writing (24/30); Speaking (22/30); Reading (22/30); Listening (20/30). Applicants must have the minimum score in each test as well as the minimum overall score, or (2) IELTS: 7.0 (academic module overall band score and a 7.0 for each test band), or (3) PTE Academics: 65, or (4) CAEL CE -70 (minimum overall score).

## **KEY DATES & DEADLINES**

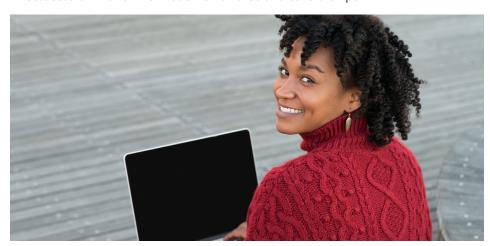
- For the AGHE GDip program, applicants have the option to complete over two consecutive terms, either Fall/Winter or Winter/Summer. Applications are reviewed and offers are made on an on-going basis with preference given to applicants who apply by March 1 and October 1, respectively.
- For the MSc program, the application deadline is March 1.

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

## What about FEES?

For information about fees and tuition, please check the Registrar and Financial Aid Services website for the most up-to-date information.

Apply for external funding and see the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' information on awards and scholarships.





Aging and Health Programs