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.

Why QUEEN'S?

The program is full-time and is completed from a distance, through a blended format of on-line and in-person learning. Intensive on-site sessions introduce students to core 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 online 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 population of older adults including government, universities and colleges, for-profit and non-profit organizations, business and industry, and various healthcare settings.

Program STRUCTURE

PhD (4 years, full time): Course work consisting of 4 courses (normally including 2 core courses), comprehensive exam, thesis and defense.

Core COURSES

- AGHE 901 Knowledge Translation and Uptake
- AGHE 903 Critical Analysis of Theories of Aging

We encourage you to identify an area of research interest and contact a potential supervisor before applying.
2023-2024
Aging and Health PhD Map

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD)

YEAR I

ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS

- Meet early with your supervisor to set expectations and discuss roles, responsibilities, program requirements, resources, research/occupational goals, timelines, and any required accommodation plans.
- Consider how your coursework can contribute to your Research proposal and comprehensive examination.
- Look to Student Academic Success Services for a variety of supports.

MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT

- Think about audiences for your research.
- Complete the CORE online module on research ethics if doing research regarding sensitive topics.
- Apply to CIHR, SSHRC, NSERC, OGS, and other funding.

BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Consider positions in student services, the SGPS, or media outlets like the Queen’s Journal, CHE, and the SGSPA Blog - Graduating. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory.
- Use a Teaching Assistant or Research Assistant position to develop your skills and experience.

ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

- Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on and off campus.
- Consider volunteering or working with local community organizations that are focused on supporting healthy aging and aging in place.

PROPEL YOUR CAREER

- Finding career fit starts with knowing yourself. Take a Career Decision workshop or meet with a career educator and coach for help. Check out the Career Resource Area for advice on various career options.
- Start reading publications like University Affairs and the Chronicle of Higher Education. Browse non-academic labour market websites.
- Stay on the lookout for special events like School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs Career workshops to explore your career pathways.

YEAR II

- Priorities include completing your comprehensive examination and pursuing research.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and professional development workshops, the Aging and Health Program Director and Program Assistant, and the SGSPA website.
- Set up regular meetings with your supervisor to discuss progress and obstacles to timely completion.

YEAR III

- Continue to meet regularly with your supervisor, review research progress, and write your dissertation. Check out the SGSPA writing articles, such as Dissertation Boot Camp and Dissertation on the Lake.
- Use conference presentations to create and refine thesis or project material.
- Use conference presentations to create, discuss, and explore ways to disseminate research findings.

YEAR IV & TRANSITIONING

- Plan date of thesis submission for examination.
- Present your research to graduate students and faculty or at conferences and work with supervisor to prepare for defence.
- Review submission and examination guidelines.
- Secure necessary oral defence accommodations.

YEAR IV & TRANSITIONING

- Continue to attend conferences and connect with scholars in your field and with community partners.
- Continue public outreach through social media and the Queen’s Media Centre.
- Set up a meeting with the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs for a Grad Chat to discuss your research interests.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

A professional degree in Aging and Health can equip you with:
- Knowledge and technical skills
- Effective communication skills in multiple settings
- Ethical approaches to research and practice
- 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.

WHERE CAN I GO?

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.

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How to use this map

Use the 5 rows of the map to explore possibilities and plan for success in the five overlapping areas of career and academics. The map just offers suggestions – you don’t have to do it all! To make your own custom map, use the My Grad Map tool.
Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
• Completion of a Master's degree in 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 the Aging and Health program studies.
• 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
• Two references.
• Two Official Transcripts.
• Current CV.
• Statement of Interest.
• 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
• Application deadline: February 15.
• Decisions will be made following that date.

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.