Rehabilitation Science MSc Map

Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

Why GRADUATE STUDIES in REHABILITATION SCIENCE?

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. The program attracts students from varied backgrounds including occupational therapy, physical therapy, speech-language pathology, kinesiology, psychology, social work, arts & humanities, nursing, education, epidemiology, law, engineering, 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

MSc (2 years): MSc in Rehabilitation Science students are required to take 2 core courses (6 credits), 2 elective courses (6 credits), and a written thesis with an oral defense over 24 months (2 years).

GRAD MAP FOR MSc STUDENTS ➡

"If you are someone who thrives on developing your quantitative research skills, wants to understand the complexity of qualitative research, or would like to make an impact on our Canadian healthcare system then the Rehabilitation Science program is just for you! [The program] has broadened my scope in terms of the diversity of opportunities available to me – spanning anywhere from working in a traditional research facility conducting clinical trials to focusing my skills in the policy world and making a large scale healthcare change, to addressing barriers to health care and participation in the international context."

– Kasha Pyka, MSc

RESEARCH Areas

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

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 them 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.

Queen's UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE STUDIES AND POSTDOCTORAL AFFAIRS

2023-2024
Rehabilitation Science MSc Map

MASTER OF SCIENCE (MSc)

Queen's UNIVERSITY

	GETTING STARTED	INTERMEDIATE STAGE	WRAPPING UP
ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS	• Start with key priorities like developing your relationship with your supervisor, forming your committee, and doing your coursework. • Consider how your course papers can contribute to your Master's thesis. • Find your way through the academic process with help from development workshops, the department Grad Chair, and the SGSPA website.	• Complete your coursework; begin to research and write your Master's or thesis. • Participate in RHBS 803 Academic and Professional Development for MSc Students.	• Present your research to Rehabilitation Science graduate students and faculty. • Complete and defend your Master's research thesis.
MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT	• Start to think about the audiences for your research. • If you will be continuing graduate studies, apply for funding from sources such as CIHR, SSHRC NSERC, OGS, the Heart & Stroke Foundation, CBCF, the Department of Defence, and the American Cancer Society.	• Attend or present at a graduate conference such as the Rehabilitation Research Colloquium, or the Canadian Student Health Research Conference. • Consider participating in the 3 Minute Thesis (3MT) competition. • Expand your research audience through social media such as Twitter or a blog.	• Consider publishing elements of your research. • Attend a major conference in your field, such as the International Conference for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, the annual conference of Psychosocial Rehabilitation Canada, or Rehab Week. • Set up a meeting with the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs for a Grad Chat to discuss your research interests.
BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE	• 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. • Serve on departmental, faculty, or university committees. Talk to the program assistant for tips on getting involved. • Check out professional development workshops from School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs professional development and the Rehabilitation Science Department.	• Start keeping an eportfolio of your skills, experiences, and competencies. • Use a Research Assistant or Teaching Assistant position to develop your research or teaching skills. • For help with teaching, get support from the Centre for Teaching and Learning. Enrol in SGS902 or the PUTL Certificate for more professional development in teaching and learning.	• Practice articulating the skills you have been developing in settings outside the university, such as casual conversation, networking, and interviews. Get help from a Career Services workshop. • 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.
ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY	• Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus. • 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 accessibility of community opportunities for all citizens.	• Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organizing conferences, and research groups. • Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking the Intercultural Awareness Training Certificate hosted by QUIC and FDISC. • If you are an international student interested in staying in Canada, consider speaking with an International Student Advisor.	• Do some targeted networking with people working in careers of interest, through Queens Connects on LinkedIn, the Queen's Alumni Association, professional associations, and at conferences. Get help from a Career Services workshop. • Consider joining one of the many professional associations related to disability and rehabilitation, such as the Canadian Association of Physical Rehabilitation and Medicine.
LAUNCH YOUR CAREER	• Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking a Career Services career planning workshop or meeting with a career educator and coach. • 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 Week to explore your career pathways.	• Explore different careers of interest by using Queens Connects on LinkedIn to connect with Queen's alumni. Check out Career Cruising for more information. • If you are considering a PhD, explore programs of interest reach out to faculty, and apply to PhD programs and external scholarships.	• 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.

WHAT WILL I LEARN?

A graduate degree in Rehabilitation Science can equip you with:

• **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, critically appraise findings, draw and act on conclusions
• **Creativity** and **innovation**
• **Perseverance**
• **Independence** and experience as a **collaborative** worker
• **Awareness** and understanding of sound **ethical** practices, **social responsibility**, responsible 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 Master's degree in Rehabilitation Science can take your career in many directions. Many of our MSc students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master's students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

• Academia (research and teaching)
• Agencies - government, not-for-profit, or private - that support clinical care, research, or workforces related to health or disability
• Clinical/Program Research and evaluation
• International community-based rehabilitation
• Policy development
• Program development at the local, national or international level

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

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.

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 Individual Development Plan (IDP) 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 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.

Application FAQs

What do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
- Honours Bachelor's degree or equivalent in a discipline related to rehabilitation science (e.g. physical therapy, occupational therapy, kinesiology, sociology, psychology, life sciences, engineering, etc.) Contact the program director to discuss how your studies to date may be related to rehabilitation sciences.
- **Grade requirements:** Upper second-class standing (B+). 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.

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 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 due:** February 15th.
- **Notification of acceptance:** Late April/ early May.

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

What about FUNDING?

Master's students in Rehabilitation Science are offered a minimum funding of $8,000 per year.

Apply for external funding from OGS, CIHR/NSERC, and other sources. Queen's will automatically issue a one time $5,000 top-up to Master's winners of federal government tri-council awards. See the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' information on awards and scholarships for more.

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