INTRODUCTION TO GRADUATE STUDIES

Nancy Martin, Associate Head, Graduate Studies
Department of Biomedical & Medical Sciences (DBMS)

Nancy.martin@queensu.ca
INTRODUCTION TO GRADUATE STUDIES

• What is graduate study?
  • Opportunity to conduct advanced study/research in an area of interest to you
• Some programs are course based, most require a substantial research (practicum) component
  • MSc - 1.5 - 2 years depending on program
  • PhD - ideally 4 years, although can be longer
• Stipends
• Combined BHSc(H)/MSc Program
Situated on traditional Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Territory, Queen’s University was founded in 1841 and is a research-intensive university offering over 125 graduate programs and home to over 4,200 graduate students from across Canada and abroad. Queen’s ranks highly in terms of research funding, features internationally recognized faculty, and hosts state-of-the-art research facilities. The School of Graduate Studies strives to provide a robust experience for students by offering support services, such as a comprehensive resource hub (The Habitat) and a workshop series (Expanding Horizons), among others. It is our goal to enable the academic, professional, and personal success of our students.
What are my career options after getting a graduate degree?
INTRODUCTION TO GRADUATE STUDIES

- Education coordinators
- Research technician
- Scientist
- Administrator/Management
- Private sector (biotechnology pharmaceutical industry, consulting firms)
- Academic careers
- Professional schools
How To Apply

- complete the online application located at: http://www.queensu.ca/sgs/applications-admissions

- This website also provides helpful information on registration, fees, awards, cost of living and information for international students

- When you complete and submit your on-line application, then your referees will be emailed instructions to provide on-line letters of support
Application Deadlines

Check website – some firm others, more flexible (typically Jan – Mar)

Research based often require a secured supervisor
INTRODUCTION TO GRADUATE STUDIES

Funding/Awards
- Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR)
- NSERC
- Queen's provides an automatic one-time top-up of $5000 (Master's) or $7,500 (PhD) to all incoming federal tri-council award winners.
- Ontario Graduate Student Scholarship
- Internal Awards
INTRODUCTION TO GRADUATE STUDIES

• Programs and Graduate Coordinators within the School of Medicine at Queen’s:
  • Neurosciences – Dr. Gunnar Blohm
  • Public Health Sciences – Dr. Will King
  • DBMS – Dr. Nancy Martin
  • Translational Medicine – Dr. Paula James
  • Pathology – Dr. Peter Greer
  • Collaborative Cancer Research – Dr. Lois Mulligan
  • MD/PhD – Dr. Chandra Tayade
INTRODUCTION TO GRADUATE STUDIES

Neurosciences – Dr. Gunnar Blohm (Graduate Coordinator)

• Multidisciplinary, collaborative graduate program focused on reducing the impact of neurological disorders

• The Neuroscience graduate program is firmly rooted in research because our objective is to produce highly-trained graduates who will continue our efforts to prevent and treat neurological diseases

• Program offers studies at the master’s and doctoral levels spanning the full spectrum of neuroscience research, from cellular/molecular to clinical studies
MSc in Anatomical Sciences – Director, Dr. Leslie MacKenzie

• 16 months long
• Program is structured around three pillars of competency (content, pedagogy, inquiry) and designed to educate students interested in the art of teaching and designing curricula in the anatomical sciences.
Translational Medicine – Wei Yan (Educational Lead)

• Combining the fields of medicine and research, this program links graduate level research skills with a variety of clinical experiences including patient interactions, clinical observerships and medical rounds to enhance professional thinking and action.

• This innovative curriculum offers important foundation work for future careers in the biomedical field, and provides critical skills for pursuing careers that include clinician scientists, biomedical researchers, leaders in industry and public health and/or health policy.
INTRODUCTION TO GRADUATE STUDIES

MD/PhD Program Pathway

MD Program

Yr 1

Yr 2

Yr 3

Yr 4

PhD Program

Yr 1

Yr 2

Summer

Yr 3

- Literature review, research proposal, course requirements, comprehensive exam, manuscript publication
- Manuscript publication, write, defend thesis
INTRODUCTION TO GRADUATE STUDIES

Biomedical and Molecular Sciences (DBMS) – Dr. Nancy Martin (Associate Head, Graduate Studies)

(i) MSc (Anatomical Sciences)
(ii) Thesis-based MSc research degree
(iii) Thesis-based PhD degree

In the latter two degree programs (MSc and PhD), students choose one of the following Fields of Specialization, which represent the current research strengths of the Department:

• Biochemistry and Cell Biology
• Experimental Medicine
• Microbes, Immunity, and Inflammation
• Reproduction and Developmental Sciences
• Therapeutics, Drug Development, and Human Toxicology
Pathology and Molecular Medicine – Dr. Peter Greer (Graduate coordinator)

• The Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine is a clinical department with a major research focus in cancer, hemostasis and vascular biology

• Trainees have opportunities to pursue comprehensive training in basic and translational biomedical research, an example being diagnostic, predictive and prognostic biomarker research
INTRODUCTION TO GRADUATE STUDIES

Collaborative Program in Cancer Research – Dr. Lois Mulligan (Graduate coordinator)

• The graduate program in cancer research is jointly offered by the Departments of Public Health Sciences, Pathology & Molecular Medicine, Psychology and Biomedical & Molecular Sciences

• The collaborative program provides an intellectual focus on cancer and connects researchers and graduate students with different perspectives on this area

• The program encourages interactions of researchers and students with common interests in cancer, regardless of departmental home, and at the same time facilitates productive interaction between individuals involved in different research areas, all focused on different aspects of cancer research
INTRODUCTION TO GRADUATE STUDIES

Public Health Sciences – Dr. Will King (Graduate coordinator)

• This program aims to provide students with the educational opportunities needed to acquire the knowledge, attitudes and methodological skills necessary to participate in health services or epidemiology research teams, or in public health practice.

• The M.Sc. program offers the chance to specialize in one of three streams of study:
  • Epidemiology and Population Health
  • Health Services and Policy Research
  • Clinical Epidemiology

• The Ph.D. program trains epidemiologists as independent investigators and leaders in health or health-related agencies where research is an important function.