

## Health Sciences Graduate Programs Information

**Professor and Dean of Health and Behavioural Sciences**  
**Associate Professor and Chair of Department of Health Sciences**

L.A. Livingston

G. Knutson

**MHSc**  
**Graduate Coordinator**  
**Core Master's**

V. Kristman

M. Bedard (Health Sciences),  
 P. Brink (Health Sciences),  
 L. Chambers (Women's Studies),  
 J.L. Dewar (Adjunct to Health Sciences),  
 M.L. Kelley (Social Work),  
 N. Khaper (NOSM West Campus),  
 V. Kristman (Health Sciences),  
 K. Leung (Biology),  
 L. Livingston (Kinesiology),  
 L. Martin (Health Sciences),  
 K. McQueen (Nursing),  
 H. Moller (Health Sciences),  
 H. Schraft (Biology),  
 J. Scott (Health Sciences),  
 M. Stones (Psychology),  
 M. Ulanova (NOSM West Campus),  
 P. Wakewich (Sociology/Women's Studies),  
 E.C. Wiersma (Health Sciences),  
 L. Wu (Health Sciences)

**Non-Core Membership**

M. Albert (Chemistry)

**MPH and MPH (SPECIALIZATION IN NURSING)**  
**Graduate Co-ordinator (MPH)**  
**Graduate Co-ordinator (MPH Specialization in Nursing)**  
**Core Master's**

P. Brink

K. McQueen

M. Bedard (Health Sciences),

P. Brink (Health Sciences),  
L. Chambers (Women's Studies),  
M.L. Kelley (Social Work),  
N. Khaper (NOSM East Campus),  
R. Kirk-Gardner (Nursing),  
V. Kristman (Health Sciences),  
K. Leung (Biology),  
N. Lightfoot (NOSM - East Campus),  
L. Marshall (Adjunct),  
L. Martin (Health Sciences),  
L. McDougall (Nursing),  
M. McKee (Social Work),  
H. Moller (Health Sciences),  
C. Mushquash (Psychology),  
C. Nelson (Social Work),  
I. Newhouse (Kinesiology),  
K. Poole (Nursing),  
J. Scott (Health Sciences),  
P. Sevean (Nursing),  
D. Steven (Nursing),  
S.D. Stone (Sociology),  
M. Stones (Psychology),  
M.L. Stroink (Psychology),  
P. Wakewich (Sociology/Women's  
Studies),  
E.C. Wiersma (Health Sciences),  
L. Wu (Health Sciences)

### **Non-Core Membership**

J. Andersen (Adjunct),  
C. Cheng (Adjunct),  
R. Crocker Ellacott (Adjunct),  
S. Dakubo (Adjunct),  
S. Dubois (Adjunct),  
J. Kotalik (NOSM West Campus),  
K. McQueen (Nursing),  
L. Sieswerda (Adjunct)

### **MASTER OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

The Department of Health Sciences offers a Master of Health Sciences (MHSc) program that is designed to provide the student with the knowledge and skill to undertake a supervised, beginning research study in a relevant area of concern within the broad definition of

health. Completion of specific required courses, followed by selection of relevant elective courses, allows the student to develop both breadth and depth in an area of research interest. Although students may choose to complete research studies using quantitative, qualitative or mixed-methods approaches, they are required to demonstrate beginning competence in both quantitative and qualitative methods. The structure of the program allows the student to complete elective courses in research methods and/or in a discipline-based area of interest.

### **MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

Lakehead University offers a Master of Public Health degree. Students will focus on current issues in the science and/or service of public health, so that they may gain experience through opportunities in any of the fundamental disciplines that underlie public health. The program is primarily intended to build on the knowledge foundation of professionals currently working in the field of public health. The program's objectives are to prepare a graduate who: possesses advanced health-related education; is capable of critical analysis; understands health-related decision-making at the level of the individual, population, and government; understands research; and possesses knowledge exchange and dissemination strategies for individuals, populations, and government. Within the Master of Public Health program, students have the option of completing the regular Master of Public Health program, a Specialization in Nursing, or a Specialization in Gerontology. Within the Master of Public Health Specialization in Nursing, successful applicants can apply to the Master of Public Health Specialization in Nursing with Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner Electives.

### **ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Candidates will be accepted under the Faculty of Graduate Studies Master's Regulations provided they also satisfy additional requirements, as listed below. The application deadline is **February 1**. Late applications may be considered for admission, but may not be considered for funding.

### **MASTER OF HEALTH SCIENCES**

In addition to the application documents, applicants to the MHS must submit a curriculum vitae and a statement of goals and intentions for the course of study. This document must clearly describe the individual's potential research interests, as well as whether or not they

intend to specialize in Gerontology.

### **MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

In addition to the application documents, applicants to the MPH or MPH (Specialization in Nursing) must submit a curriculum vitae and a statement of goals and intentions for the course of study. An interview may also be required. Admission decisions will be made by the Department of Health Sciences Admission Committee. Preference will be given to applicants who have completed statistics and research methods courses.

The Master of Public Health can be taken through either a Course Option or a Thesis Option, indicated by students at the time of application. Students who wish to apply to switch program options may request a program change which will be reviewed by the Department; the Department's decision is final and binding. The request for a program change must be made by December 31st of the first year of study for full-time students, and by April 30th of the first year of study for flexible full-time students; program change requests made after this time will not be considered. Normally, students will not be granted more than one program change during their period of study.

Students applying to the Thesis Option must identify their research interests in their statement of goals and intentions; these should be in line with the areas of expertise within the full-time Faculty of the Department of Health Sciences. Students admitted to the Thesis Option will have a supervisor assigned by the Department during the first term of the program.

Master of Public Health students may apply to the Specialization in Nursing. The additional admission requirements for the Master of Public Health Specialization in Nursing include:

1. Four-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree or its equivalent from a university of recognized standing with a minimum "B" average.
2. Evidence of a commitment to nursing as contained in the student's resume and Statement of Goals and Intentions.
3. Proof of current registration or eligibility to register with the College of Nurses of Ontario or another jurisdiction in Canada.
4. Current Immunization status.
5. Basic Life Support Certificate current.

Master of Public Health students may apply to the Nursing Specialization with Nurse Practitioner Electives, offered in conjunction

with the School of Nursing.

Master of Public Health students may apply to the Collaborative Graduate Program with Specialization in Gerontology. Students wishing to complete this specialization must note their interest in Gerontology in their application to the Master of Public Health Course Option, or identify their research interests in Gerontology in their application to the Master of Public Health Thesis Option. Note that in the Master of Public Health Thesis Option the Gerontology courses will need to be taken as extra courses in addition to the Master of Public Health program requirements (i.e., an additional half-course equivalent, or 0.5 FCE).

## **ACADEMIC REGULATIONS**

In addition to the Faculty of Graduate Studies Master's Regulations of this Calendar, MPH and MHSc students are also bound by the regulations listed below:

### **1. Registration**

Students will normally complete a maximum of three half-credit courses (1.5 FCEs) per term (Fall, Winter, Spring/Summer). A student who wishes to take more than three half-credit courses in a single term may do so only if the student has: (1) at least an 80% overall average in the previous term, and (2) the permission of the Graduate Co-ordinator. Students are not eligible to take more than three half-credit courses in their first term of study.

### **2. Thesis Process**

Each student in the Thesis Option will have a thesis committee which is approved by the Graduate Co-ordinator. The Graduate Co-ordinator will authorize the Thesis Option student to seek ethical approval after successfully defending the thesis proposal. Prior to submission of the final thesis grade, the Graduate Co-ordinator will ensure that all recommendations made at the time of the thesis defence and by the external examiner, have been addressed.

### **3. Letter of Agreement**

When any portion of a student's thesis work is to be carried out at his/her employer's premises, prior to proposing the thesis topic, a letter of agreement from his/her employer to his/her supervisory committee must be filed by the student with the Faculty of Graduate Studies. The letter must indicate, clearly, the scope and limits of the permission granted by the student's employer to carry out the work at

the employer's premises. The letter must also give details of time slots that the employer may provide the student to carry out his/her thesis work at the employer's premises. The issue of liability insurance must also be addressed in the letter of agreement.

#### **4. Practicum Placement**

Practicum placements normally take place after completion of the required courses (Public Health 5010, 5030, 5070, 5210, 5211, 5212, 5213) and electives, and after all course grades appear on the transcript. It is the responsibility of the student to contact the Department of Health Sciences Administrative Co-ordinator at least 6 months prior to proceeding with the practicum placement, in order to ensure adequate time to plan the practicum. The graduate student must maintain at least a 70% average to proceed with the practicum placement. Any course that must be repeated, must be successfully completed before the student can proceed with the practicum placement. The Department of Health Sciences Administrative Co-ordinator will arrange one practicum placement for each student. If the student's actions jeopardize the placement that has been arranged, the student will be required to either secure his/her own appropriate practicum placement, subject to the approval of the Department, or withdraw from the program.

#### **5. Safe Clinical Practice**

A student may be excluded from the clinical area when his/her performance is deemed to be unsafe. Unsafe practice is any situation arising from a student's interaction with a client which places the client and/or student at risk for harm (refer also to the School of Nursing Safety Policy Statement).

#### **6. Reference Check**

Students in Health and Behavioural Sciences should be aware that criminal reference checks may be required and that unsafe practice and unsuitable professional behaviour can result in dismissal from the program.

#### **7. Minimum Satisfactory Academic Standing**

##### **1. General**

As an exception to the Faculty of Graduate Studies Master's Regulations, no more than one half-course (0.5 FCEs) in a Master of Health Sciences program or a Master of Public Health program may be repeated. Graduate students must maintain at least a B overall average in their courses with no more than one half-course graded C. A graduate student who receives an "F" in Public Health 5805 - Master

of Public Health Practicum and Report will not be permitted to repeat the practicum or continue in the program.

## **2. Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner Courses**

As an exception to the Faculty of Graduate Studies Master's Regulations on minimal acceptable academic standing, graduate students must achieve 70% or higher in the following half-courses: [Public Health 5610](#), [5615](#), [5616](#), [5630](#), [5635](#) and [5636](#). A student must also achieve 70% in the full course [Public Health 5840](#). A score of less than 70% in these courses will constitute a failure. A failed half-course may be repeated or replaced only once by another course specified by the supervisor. Any student taking the following half-courses with more than one half-course failure on his/her record must withdraw from the program: [Public Health 5610](#), [5615](#), [5630](#), [5635](#) and [5636](#). A student failing [Public Health 5840](#) must withdraw from the program.

## **8. Period of Study**

Students in a Master's program are expected to complete all requirements within six terms (two years) of continuous full-time registration. As an exception, students in the Master of Health Sciences and Master of Public Health programs can be admitted to the Flex Option of six additional terms of continuous registration (12 terms flexible full-time total). As this option is intended for working professionals, students admitted to the Flex Option will not be considered for financial support. *Note that students will not be permitted to change from the Standard Option to the Flex Option, and vice versa.*

## **9. Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner Courses for Students in Master of Public Health with Nursing Specialization**

Students admitted to this Specialization may apply to the Master of Public Health Nursing Specialization Graduate Co-ordinator for permission to take courses leading to certification as a Nurse Practitioner. Those students must complete a total of 7 FCEs that include the following required courses: [Public Health 5010](#), [5030](#), [5070](#), [5211](#), [5212](#), [5213](#); and the following elective courses: [Public Health 5610](#), [5615](#), [5616](#), [5630](#), [5635](#), [5636](#) and [5840](#).

As an exception to the Faculty of Graduate Studies Master's Regulations regarding Advanced Standing, applicants to the Master of Public Health Nursing Specialization with Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner Electives who hold a current RN (EC) licence or equivalent and have completed the following graduate level courses or their equivalent with a minimum grade of 70% within the past 5 years from a COUPN Consortium program: [Nursing 5610](#), [5630](#), [5615](#), [5616](#), [5635](#), [5636](#) and [5840](#); will have the following Master of Public

Health courses waived: Public Health 5610, 5630, 5615, 5616, 5635, 5636 and 5840 and will be required to successfully complete Public Health 5010, 5030, 5070, 5211, 5212 and 5213 only.

**For the course requirements to complete the programs see:**

Master of Health Sciences

Master of Health Sciences (Specialization in Gerontology)

- Master of Public Health (Course Option)
- Master of Public Health (Thesis Option)
- Master of Public Health with Specialization in Nursing (Course Option)
- Master of Public Health with Specialization in Nursing (Course Option with Nurse Practitioner Electives)
- Master of Public Health with Specialization in Gerontology (Course Option)
- Master of Public Health with Specialization in Gerontology (Thesis Option)
- Master of Public Health with Specializations in Nursing/Gerontology (Course Option)

Master of Public Health with Specializations in Nursing/Gerontology (Course Option with Nurse Practitioner Electives)

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