Lakehead UNIVERSITY | School of Kinesiology

MSc Supervisor Information

Are you interested in applying to our Master of Science in Kinesiology (Thesis) Program? If so, you will need to secure a supervisor. Read through our Faculty profiles and connect with the professor(s) that you would like to work with.

Email them and provide your 1) name, 2) a brief overview of your research interests, and 3) why you want to work with this supervisor.

Faculty Supervisor	Area of Research	What can the student expect while working with me?
 Dr. John Gotwals jgotwals@lakeheadu.ca	1. Perfectionism in sport, dance, and exercise. Perfectionism is prevalent among athletes, but also associated with distress. I try to untangle this paradox. 2. Green physical activity. Being active in nature predicts both individual health and positive environmental action. I try to understand why and when this happens. 3. Pain in sport. For athletes, pain is an inevitable experience. Athletes differ, though, in how they attend to, interpret, and cope with this inevitability. I examine those differences.	My broad goals as a supervisor are to: • Provide high quality, personal, and timely guidance; • Have students complete their degrees within the program's timeframe; • Help students produce theses that make meaningful contributions to the literature; and • Promote a healthy, enjoyable, and beneficial grad school experience.
 Dr. Derek Kivi dkivi@lakeheadu.ca	My research interests are in the area of applied sport and exercise science. More specifically, my research integrates both biomechanical and physiological aspects of movement and performance and includes the following areas of focus: • Kinematics and kinetics of human movement and locomotion • Sports biomechanics • Biomechanics and physiology of strength training and conditioning	I strike a balance between encouraging autonomy and providing guidance to my students. I allow my students to explore their own research interests so they may meet their own personal and professional goals, provided they are in alignment with my own broad topics of research. This approach allows my students to dive deeply into their chosen area of interest but also equips them with the skills and knowledge they need to excel in their future careers or in pursuing a PhD.

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Faculty Supervisor	Area of Research	What can the student expect when working with me?
 Dr. Taryn Klarner tklarner@lakeheadu.ca	My research area focuses on understanding the structural, functional, and theoretical implications for the organization and control of movements. This involves neurophysiological studies with human participants that quantitatively measure movement control and coordination.	Students can expect to work collaboratively as part of a team of other students where through a mentorship approach, they will learn by helping more senior students with their research projects. They can also expect to receive funding as a Research Assistant to help with all aspects of my research projects.

I am specifically looking for students that will be working on aspects related to my NSERC Discovery Grant which you can preliminarily read about on interlimb coordination and control during walking.

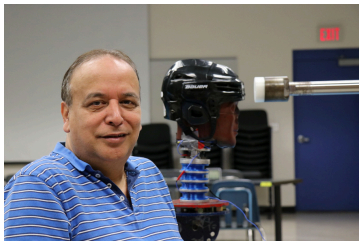
 Dr. Erin Pearson espearso@lakeheadu.ca	My research is health promotion oriented with a focus on behaviour modification and lifestyle psychology. Specifically, projects centre around: 1) community-based programs for children, youth, and families; 2) evaluating the utility of Co-Active coaching/motivational interviewing as strategies to enhance health; and 3) developing and implementing avenues to optimize dimensions of wellness in at-risk populations. Integral to this research is the opportunity to collaborate with community-based organizations to create asset- focused, participant informed projects.	Students working with me can expect a supportive and enriching academic experience where they will tackle important research problems in the health promotion arena while enhancing their communication and presentation skills. I am dedicated to being a mentor who actively works with my students to help them achieve their goals and aspirations, ensuring they are well-prepared for both academic and real-world contexts. Students will participate in projects and activities that allow them to connect their learning to the broader community, gain practical experience, and make a positive impact. Ultimately, I equip my students with the tools necessary for success in their careers, helping to build a strong foundation for their future professional endeavors.

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 Dr. Eryk Pryzsucha eprzysuc@lakeheadu.ca	• Degrees of Freedom/Motor Control & Interlimb Coordination • Effects of plyometric training on agility, power, strength, and balance of elite athletes • Balance control in typically and atypically functioning individuals • Psychometrics	I encourage self-regulation and independence in my students, allowing them to take ownership of their research projects. However, I do value frequent communication, ensuring that students receive guidance and support throughout their studies. Moreover, I encourage students to expand their knowledge beyond the scope of his/her current research areas. In this day and age, versatility across different theoretical and methodological paradigms is essential for a young researcher.
 Dr. Paolo Sanzo psanzo@lakeheadu.ca	Rehabilitation and sports medicine. My research integrates the clinical, biomechanical, and physiological aspects of human movement & gait analysis. Other areas of research include clinical uses of shockwave therapy, therapeutic taping, concussion analysis, manual therapy, relationships between muscle & myofascial tissue, and medical technology integration.	My students can expect high quality and personalized one on one supervision and training obtaining advanced skills related to clinical research that bring the research from the bench to the bed side. This supervisory framework will also allow for independent learning and exposure to national and international partnerships in the area of musculoskeletal science and research.

I am looking for MSc students to assist with ongoing research related to the topics mentioned that may include funding but this depends upon the stage of the project and where we are at in terms of the timeline. Students are encouraged to communicate with me about interest in working in my lab under my supervision as part of an ongoing project or to develop independent topics that may or may not be related to the ongoing research of study described.

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 Dr. Kathryn Sinden ksinden@lakeheadu.ca	My clinical and research expertise is in applied ergonomics and occupational health. My research integrates lab and field based approaches and involves collaboration with community partnerships.	Graduate students can expect a supportive and personalized experience, with one-on-one support provided throughout their Master's training. Students will gain unique perspectives on integrating research and practice in applied health settings which translates to post-graduate employment opportunities in both academia and clinical practice. "Graduate school is challenging, but Dr. Sinden will always make sure you have what you need to be able to succeed through it. She is invested in you as a person and will always support your needs, whether inside or outside of academia." Kate (former MSc student; now pursing a PhD)
I am currently seeking students interested in supporting several occupational health research projects that are being conducted with community partners in both Northwestern and Southern Ontario.		
 Dr. Carlos Zerpa czerpa@lakeheadu.ca	I study injury biomechanics, focusing on concussion, antalgic gait patterns, and developing protective devices for injury prevention and innovative rehabilitation methods.	You can expect to have open and regular communication with me. Whether it is through meetings, emails, or other means, I will be accessible to answer your questions, address your concerns, and provide guidance when needed to help you move forward with your research.