

FAMILY MEDICINE

Doctor of Philosophy

Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry

About the Program

The program of study will lead to a PhD in Family Medicine. This degree will attract family physicians anticipating a research career in family medicine.

There will be a two week on-site portion of the program each year to allow each of the students to meet individually with the Chair of the Program to discuss their individual learning objectives and progress throughout the program. It will also provide an opportunity to meet face to face with their supervisory committee and interact with fellow students.

Graduates of the doctoral program will:

- Understand the theoretical foundations of Family Medicine.
- Design and conduct research relevant to significant issues in the discipline of Family Medicine.
- Demonstrate a commitment to the advancement of knowledge in the discipline of Family Medicine in the areas of teaching, research and clinical practice.

Milestones – Path to Successful Completion

The following list is a guideline for students for successful completion of their PhD:

- Completion of all courses in a timely manner usually by the end of term 7.
- Presentation of thesis proposal at the end of their 5th term of doctoral studies.
- Assignment of supervisory committee in year two of the program.

In addition to course requirements, students will engage in a program of research under the supervision of a chief advisor and two other faculty advisors that will culminate in a doctoral thesis to be examined in accordance with School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies procedures.

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Admission

Admission to the program will require possession of a **master's degree, an overall average of B+ in their masters degree, as well as a medical degree and certification (or eligibility for certification) by the Canadian Family Physicians of Canada or its equivalent in other countries.**

In addition, all candidates must be fluent in spoken and written English. Candidates whose first language is not English must pass the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language). International applicants will not require an Ontario general licence / educational licence as any clinically associated work will be conducted in their home setting.

Applicants are required to submit:

1. A current curriculum vitae.
2. A written statement covering the following topics:
 - Reasons for pursuing doctoral level work in family medicine.
 - Commitment to and plan for timely completion of the program.
 - Self-evaluation of scholarly abilities.
 - Evidence of research potential, including any publications.
 - Proposed research focus and its alignment with the work of the faculty member proposed as thesis supervisor.
3. Two academic references (mandatory).
4. Official transcripts of all completed studies.

Fast Track Entry

Outstanding students in the MCISc program may apply to fast track into the PhD program. In this option students must be recommended by their supervisor, have completed the four core courses (Teaching & Learning in Family Medicine, Research Methods in Family Medicine, Theoretical Foundations of Family Medicine, Advanced Patient Centred Medicine) and have completed a research project (qualitative or quantitative pilot study).

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Fields of Study

Patient Centred Clinical Care
Health Services in Primary Health Care

Courses

Research Methods in Family Medicine (or demonstrated equivalent)
Advanced Patient Centred Medicine
Theoretical Foundations of Family Medicine
Canada's Health System: Current Policy Issues
Doctoral Seminar
Advanced Qualitative Research Methods
Advanced Quantitative Research Methods

Comprehensive Examination Requirements

Major paper written by the student in their area of research interest. The paper is expected to make a substantive and original contribution to knowledge in this area.

Dissertation

The dissertation process will commence with the thesis proposal being presented to the candidate's advisory committee. Once the proposal is accepted the thesis research will be conducted. Examination of the thesis will include an oral defense.

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Faculty Supervisors

Dr. Judith Belle Brown, PhD
Professor, Department of Family Medicine
Cross Appointment: The School of Social Work at King's University College
Chair, Master of Clinical Science & PhD Programs, Family Medicine

Dr. Stewart Harris, MD, MPH, FCFP, FACPM
Professor, Department of Family Medicine
Cross Appointments: Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Division of Endocrinology
Medical Director of the Primary Care Diabetes Program
Ian McWhinney Chair of Family Medicine Studies, Canadian Diabetes Association Chair in Diabetes Management

Dr. Carol Herbert, MD, FCFP
Professor, Department of Family Medicine
Cross Appointments: Department of Pathology and Department of Women's Studies

Dr. Gillian King, PhD
Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine
Adjunct Research Professor, Faculty of Education and Department of Psychology
Associate Professor, School of Nursing

Dr. Rob Petrella, MD, PhD, FCFP, FACSM
Professor, Department of Family Medicine
Cross Appointments: Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, School of Kinesiology in Faculty of Health Sciences and Division of Cardiology in the Department of Medicine
Beryl and Richard Ivey Research Chair in Aging, Rehabilitation, and Geriatric Care (ARGC)
Director of the Canadian Centre for Activity and Aging

Dr. Graham Reid, PhD, C.Psych
Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine and Department of Psychology
Cross Appointment: Department of Pediatrics
Scientist, Children's Health Research Institute

Dr. Moira Stewart, PhD
Professor, Department of Family Medicine
Cross Appointment: Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Director, Centre for Studies in Family Medicine
Dr. Brian W. Gilbert Canada Research Chair in Primary Health Care

Dr. Amardeep Thind, MD, PhD
Canada Research Chair in Health Services Research
Associate Professor, Department of Family Medicine and Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics
Acting Chair, Master of Clinical Science & PhD Programs, Family Medicine

Dr. Evelyn Vingilis, PhD, C.Psych
Professor, Department of Family Medicine, Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics and School of Nursing
Director, Population & Community Health Unit



For further information, please visit our website at www.uwo.ca/fammed/grad. If you wish to further discuss our program please contact our office at :

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The University of Western Ontario

