

New Graduate Programs at Queen's for 2009

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Ten new graduate studies programs being launched at Queen's University this fall reflect the changing landscape of both the academic and professional worlds.

These new programs are diverse, ranging from specialized study in cancer research to a master's level program in the newly-named Gender Studies Department; several are multi-disciplinary, with courses offered by two or more departments.

"The fact that many of Queen's new graduate programs also have an interdisciplinary focus speaks to prevailing interest in society to ask questions that lie at the intersection of singular disciplines," says Janice Deakin, Dean, Graduate Studies & Research at Queen's University. "There are many spin-off benefits to having an increased number of graduates on campus, including assisting in the recruitment and retention of new faculty members, improving the pool of potential teaching assistants, and enhancing opportunities for interaction between graduates and undergraduates."

For more details and contact information for each of the 10 programs, please click on the program name below.

The new programs are:

- [**Aboriginal and World Indigenous Educational Studies \(MEd\)**](#)

This part-time blended (on-line and on-campus) MEd program in Aboriginal and World Indigenous Educational Studies is intended to develop leadership abilities and provide hands on experience.

- [**Biomedical Engineering \(MAsc, PhD\)**](#)

This course is fueled by the demand for increasingly sophisticated medical devices and treatment methods required by our aging society.

- [**Biostatistics \(MSc\)**](#)

The demand for biostatisticians in Canada and internationally is very high and graduates will find excellent employment opportunities upon completion of their studies.

- [**Cancer Research \(MSc, PhD\)**](#)

This program will formally link the unique strengths of the participating departments in cancer research, creating an optimal training opportunity.

- [**Cultural Studies \(MA, PhD\)**](#)

This program intersects the humanities, science studies, the social sciences and the arts and comprises 61 distinguished faculty from 20 different disciplines.

- [**Economics and Law \(Combined MA / JD\)**](#)

There are many areas in which we need experts who understand both economics and the law: the financial crisis of the past year is a good example of this relationship in action.

- [**Gender Studies \(MA\)**](#)

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Gender Studies points to the recent opening up of gender categories, encompassing racial, gendered and sexual diversity.

• [Global Development Studies \(MA\)](#)

"Recession," "peak oil," "food crisis" and "pandemic" are common currency in the business media. This program offers new ways of thinking about and practical approaches to addressing global inequalities.

• [Law \(PhD\)](#)

This program will provide students with the opportunity to engage in intense research and writing necessary for work in policy development, government, international organizations, and the judiciary.

• [Public Health \(MPH\)](#)

With the emergence of infectious diseases such as SARS and H1N1, and the growing burden of chronic diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer, and mental illness, this new program provides a broad mastery of the subject and methods necessary to public health practice in Canada.

Aboriginal and World Indigenous Educational Studies (MEd)

This is a part-time blended (on-line and on-campus) Master's of Education program in the field of Aboriginal and World Indigenous Educational Studies intended for students with experience in Aboriginal communities. It is designed to develop leadership abilities and theoretical, practical, and experiential knowledge.

"Because our new masters program is taught largely online with only one summer residency, it attracts students from national and international locations. Our courses have been created and are taught primarily by Aboriginal scholars or those with expertise in the field," says Rebecca Luce-Kappler, coordinator, Graduate Studies and Research, in the Faculty of Education at Queen's.

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Biomedical Engineering (MAsc, PhD)

This collaborative program links the graduate programs in Chemical, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering and provides shared learning experiences, bringing students from a variety of backgrounds together to learn about research methodology and professional practice in the field of Biomedical Engineering. This area is diverse and multi-disciplinary, bringing in concepts from chemistry, mechanics, biochemistry, cell biology and physiology.

"Although the demand for some engineering specialties are expected to plateau or decline in the future, the US Bureau of Labour Statistics is forecasting a 21 per cent growth for Biomedical Engineers through to 2016," says Brian Amsden, who will be teaching in this new program. "This growth is fueled by the demand for increasingly sophisticated medical devices and treatment modalities required by our aging society. However, unlike many engineering fields, most entry-level Biomedical Engineering positions require an advanced degree.

"The development of the proposed Collaborative Graduate Program in Biomedical Engineering will meet the needs of both students and faculty by formally linking the unique strengths in research of the participating departments and thereby creating an optimal training opportunity."

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Biostatistics (MSc)

The Department of Community Health and Epidemiology offers a broad range of courses in biostatistics, epidemiology, clinical trials, and health services research. The Department of Mathematics and Statistics offers strong programs in mathematical statistics. By combining resources from both these departments, students will have unique opportunities to develop the analytic skills and practical experience needed as biostatisticians to interact with practitioners and to work on current research projects in a variety of health areas.

"The high demand and low supply of qualified Master's level biostatisticians is the main reason we believe that this program is needed now," says Paul Peng, program coordinator. "The program will also strengthen the biostatistical research and increase the profile of the excellent health research happening at Queen's."

The demand for biostatisticians in Canada and internationally is very high and graduates will find excellent employment opportunities upon completion of their studies.

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<http://meds.queensu.ca/medicine/comhepi/biostatprogram.html>

Cancer Research (MSc, PhD)

Collaborative Graduate Program in Cancer Research - participating departments are: Anatomy & Cell Biology; Biochemistry; Community Health & Epidemiology; Microbiology & Immunology; Pathology & Molecular Medicine; Pharmacology & Toxicology; and Psychology.

Cancer research is one of the strongest and most comprehensively developed research priorities within the Faculty of Health Sciences and at Queen's University as a whole. A primary goal of this program will be to meet the needs of both students and faculty by formally linking the unique strengths of the participating departments in cancer research and thereby creating an optimal training opportunity.

"We are really excited about the opportunity to develop the Collaborative Graduate Program in Cancer Research," says Lois Mulligan, a coordinator of the new program. "Until now, graduate opportunities in cancer research have been found in several departments at Queen's but, for prospective students, it hasn't always been easy to identify the departments in which to look or to identify the potential supervisors whose focus was in cancer research and matched the students own interests."

The program will provide students with an added official recognition of their specialization in cancer research as recognition of the new area of specialization.

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Cultural Studies (MA, PhD)

Cultural Studies is an emphatically interdisciplinary area of inquiry that intersects the humanities,

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science studies, the social sciences and the arts. Drawing on a range of practices, from the Frankfurt and Birmingham schools to critical globalization studies, Cultural Studies researchers investigate values, beliefs and belongings, cultural processes and cultural objects, economic and social relations, institutions and identities.

"We have designed an innovative program that includes options in the degree programs that allow students to become involved in various kinds of community organizations, to participate collaboratively with cultural producers, or to pursue community-based projects that have clear ties to the field areas of the program," says Lynda Jessup, a professor in the Department of Art. "Student response to the program, which is beginning this September, has been overwhelmingly positive, and we are excited as they by the opportunities this new program offers."

Cultural Studies at Queen's comprises 61 distinguished faculty from 20 disciplines to offer an innovative program at the MA and PhD levels. Cultural Studies at Queen's is committed to a diversity of students and faculty and to the global expertise that they bring to the cultural and academic fields.

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Economics Combined MA / JD (Juris Doctor)

This combined degree will offer focused interdisciplinary training for students interested in pursuing academic careers, high level policy work, and specialized legal work in the many areas where law and economic analysis interact.

"Lawyers and policy makers often confront challenges in which economics and the law are tightly intertwined," says Cherie Metcalfe, who teaches in the School of Law. "The financial crisis of the past year is a good example of this relationship in action. Graduates of our new program will be able to combine strong analytical skills and understanding of economic policy with their legal expertise.

"This background will prepare them to make unique contributions in their careers - whether as lawyers, policy-makers, or academics. There are many areas in which we need experts who understand both economics and the law - international trade, competition law, tax law, corporate law and financial regulation, consumer protection and insurance law, labour law, and environmental and resource management - these are just some examples."

Students in this combined program will be able to complete the requirements for both the Juris Doctor and the Master's within three calendar years.

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Gender Studies (MA, BA)

The Master's Program in Gender Studies will emphasize the ways in which women, gender and politics are informed by questions of racism, colonialism, and globalization.

"The new graduate program in Gender Studies will seek to answer questions of difference - race, sexuality, class, age - in relation to local, regional, national, and outernational flows," says Katherine McKitterick, who teaches at both the graduate and undergraduate level in the Gender Studies Department. "Students will have the opportunity to think through creative works, political economy, diasporic and migratory cultures, activism and feminism as they are locally experienced, yet also lived within the context of globalization."

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The Women's Studies Department is also changing its name to Gender Studies.

"The shift to Gender Studies points to an opening up of gender categories," says McKittrick, "encompassing racial, gendered and sexual diversity. With the first Gender Studies MA candidates arriving to Queen's in fall 2009, we will maintain strong links between the undergraduate program and the graduate program. Naming both the undergraduate and graduate programs Gender Studies will demonstrate academic, intellectual, and institutional coherence."

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Global Development Studies (MA)

Global Development Studies at Queen's is an interdisciplinary department with faculty from a variety of backgrounds. The program is engaged in cutting edge teaching and research on Asia, Africa, Latin America and Aboriginal communities in Canada.

A Master's in Global Development Studies will provide students with the critical conceptual tools and the historical and comparative insights to understand international changes and prepare students for further studies in the social sciences and/or for careers in law, media, foreign affairs, international business, aid work and other fields.

"Development Studies at Queen's has experienced enormous growth since it was first established as an undergraduate program in 1997," says Marc Epprecht, who teaches in the department. "A new generation of young people is hungry for critical knowledge about the relationships between economic growth in the Global North, and poverty, human rights abuses, ill-health, and environmental destruction in the Global South."

"Today, when "recession," "peak oil," "food crisis" and "pandemic" are common currency even in the business media, this program offers new ways of thinking about, and practical approaches to addressing global inequalities."

For more information, contact:

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Law (PhD)

The doctoral program in Law at Queen's will provide students with the opportunity to engage in intense research and writing under the guidance and supervision of established legal scholars with a view to developing knowledge, expertise and skills necessary for a career in the academy, or a career in areas of the legal profession that tend to involve scholarly, critical or reflective analyses, including work in policy development, government, international organizations, and the judiciary.

"The new doctoral degree in Law at Queen's reflects both the commitment of the Law Faculty to excellence in research and scholarship, and the changing landscape of legal education," says Mark Walters, a professor in the School of Law.

Until recently, the LLM was the only graduate-level degree needed for those pursuing a career teaching law. However, in the last 15 years or so that has changed as more and more legal academics have

pursued doctoral-level studies.

"As Queen's Law has emerged as one of Canada's leading research-oriented law schools, it is well positioned to offer a doctoral program that will permit students to consider challenging legal problems from a variety of comparative, interdisciplinary, theoretical, and global perspectives," says Walters.

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Public Health (MPH)

The Master's of Public Health will equip students with a broad mastery of the subject matter and methods necessary to public health practice in Canada. Through a combination of coursework and practical experiences, students will develop applied skills required to organize, analyze, interpret and communicate public health knowledge, as well as to apply this knowledge in the assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health policies and programs.

"Public health is concerned with promoting population health," says Heather Stuart, a professor in the Department of Community Health and Epidemiology. "Historically, many of society's most significant health accomplishments have been public health accomplishments. With the emergence of infectious diseases such as SARS and H1N1, and in recognition of the growing burden of chronic diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, cancer, and mental illness, there has been a renewed interest in public health and in strengthening our public health capacity."

The knowledge, attitudes, and skills gained from the MPH program at Queen's will equip graduates to practice competently as generalists in public health in Canada and elsewhere.

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