



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN REHABILITATION SCIENCES
MSC AND PHD PROGRAMS
STUDENT HANDBOOK

*THIS HANDBOOK IS PRODUCED BY THE GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN REHABILITATION SCIENCES AS AN
INFORMATION RESOURCE FOR THE STUDENTS IN OUR MSC AND PHD PROGRAMS.*

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GENERAL INFORMATION

WELCOME

Welcome to the Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences (RHSC). This handbook is designed to help you become familiar with the many resources available to you within the program and on campus. It brings together the UBC Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (G+PS) [Policies and Procedures](#) and the RHSC Policies and Procedures.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences at the University of British Columbia are geographically distributed within the UBC campus and amongst various hospitals in Vancouver which are affiliated with UBC.

Mailing address:

T325- 2211 Wesbrook Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 2B5

Phone: 604-827-4055

Website: <https://rehab.med.ubc.ca/>

Email: rehab.gradprogram@ubc.ca

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/ubcrhsc/>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/ubc-rehabilitation-sciences/>

ADMINISTRATION

PROGRAM ORGANIZATION

The Department of Physical Therapy and the Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy are separate units within the Faculty of Medicine, and they offer the professional degrees of Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) and Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT).

The Graduate Programs (MSc and PhD) are jointly supported financially and administratively by the Department of Physical Therapy and the Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy. The primary faculty members of the Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences are members of the Departments of Physical Therapy and Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy.

OTHER GRADUATE PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY PT AND OSOT

The Rehabilitation Science Online Programs (RSOP) consists of the Master of Rehabilitation Science (MRSc) and the Graduate Certificate in Rehabilitation (GCR). Both programs are designed for working health professionals and to enhance interdisciplinary practice. The GCR consists of 5, 3-credit courses. To graduate from the MRSc program, learners successfully complete 10, 3-credit courses, 5 of which are the GCR courses. They have the option of conducting a workplace-based research project in their degree. This program is sunsetting and is accepting their final students as of September 2025.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Lara Boyd (lara.boyd@ubc.ca)

604-827-3369

Chair of the Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences

The Chair of the Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences manages the MSc and PhD programs and fulfills the role of Graduate Advisor. Issues related to curriculum or academic performance should be directed to the Chair.

Cassandra Gilliam (rehab.gradprogram@ubc.ca)

604-827-4055

Graduate Program Coordinator in Rehabilitation Sciences

The Program Coordinator supports the Chair of the Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences. All student services issues should be relayed to this individual.

Alex Scott (alex.scott@ubc.ca)

604-822-1353

Head of the Department of Physical Therapy (Dept. PT)

The Head is responsible for ensuring the implementation of the Department of Physical Therapy's mission.

Ben Mortenson (osot.head@ubc.ca)

604-827-1358

Head, Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy (Dept. OSOT)

The Head is responsible for ensuring the implementation of the mission of the Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy.

Brodie Sakakibara (brodie.sakakibara@ubc.ca)

(250) 807-8505

Chair of the RHSC Awards Committee

The Awards committee is responsible for overseeing the adjudication of all internal RHSC awards and conducting rankings for a variety of UBC and National-level (tri-council) scholarship applications for MSc and PhD students. The committee is comprised of an equal number of PT and OSOT faculty members.

FACULTY MEMBERS

Name and Title	Dept.	Contact Information
Dr. Rola Ajjawi Affiliate Professor	PT	UBC (Surgery) rola.ajjawi@ubc.ca
Dr. Pedro Almeida Affiliate Assistant Professor	OSOT	University of Northern BC (UNBC) ptavares@unbc.ca
Dr. Clare Ardern Assistant Professor	PT	City Centre 1 (2nd floor), UBC-Fraser Valley (604) 822-4519 clare.ardern@ubc.ca
Dr. Skye Barbic Associate Professor	OSOT	UBC Hospital, Koerner Pavilion skye.barbic@ubc.ca
Dr. Lara Boyd Professor	PT	UBC Hospital, Koerner Pavilion, Brain Behaviour Lab (604) 827-3369 lara.boyd@ubc.ca
Dr. Pat Camp Associate Professor	PT	UBC Centre for Heart Lung Innovation, St. Paul's Hospital (604) 806-9144 pat.camp@hli.ubc.ca

Dr. Kristin Campbell Professor	PT	UBC Hospital Koerner Pavilion T114 (3rd Floor) (604) 827-4704 (Friedman Office) (604) 827-1914 (Koerner lab) kristin.campbell@ubc.ca
Dr. Janice Eng Professor	PT	GF Strong Centre (604) 714-4117 janice.eng@ubc.ca
Dr. Susan Forwell Professor	OSOT	UBC Hospital, Koerner Pavilion (604) 822-7410 susan.forwell@ubc.ca
Dr. Stephanie Glegg Assistant Professor	OSOT	UBC Hospital, Koerner Pavilion stephanie.glegg@ubc.ca
Dr. Jordan Guenette Professor	PT	Centre for Heart Lung Innovation, St. Paul's Hospital (604) 682-2344 x62129 jordan.guenette@hli.ubc.ca
Dr. Julia Henderson Assistant Professor	OSOT	UBC Hospital, Koerner Pavilion (604) 822-7142 Julia.henderson@ubc.ca
Dr. Liisa Holsti Professor	OSOT	UBC Hospital, Koerner Pavilion (604) 875-2000 ext. 5200 liisa.holsti@ubc.ca
Dr. Michael Hunt Professor	PT	UBC Hospital, Koerner Pavilion, 3 rd Floor T123 (604) 827-4721 michael.hunt@ubc.ca
Dr. Suzanne Huot Associate Professor	OSOT	T325-2211 Wesbrook Mall (604) 822-7395 suzanne.huot@ubc.ca
Dr. Tal Jarus Professor	OSOT	UBC Hospital, Koerner Pavilion (604) 827-3392 tal.Jarus@ubc.ca
Dr. Linda Li Professor	PT	Arthritis Research Centre of Canada, Richmond (604) 207-4020 lli@arthritisresearch.ca
Dr. Teresa Liu-Ambrose Professor	PT	Aging, Mobility, and Cognitive Neuroscience Lab Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health

		(604) 875-4111 x62056 teresa.ambrose@ubc.ca
Dr. Taru Manyanga Affiliate Assistant Professor	PT	University of Northern BC (UNBC) 250-960-5583 Taru.Manyanga@unbc.ca
Dr. Bill Miller Professor	OSOT	UBC Hospital, Koerner Pavilion (604) 737-4107 bill.miller@ubc.ca
Dr. Ben Mortenson Professor OSOT Department Head	OSOT	UBC Hospital, Koerner Pavilion (604) 675-8870 ben.mortenson@ubc.ca
Dr. Laura Nimmon Associate Professor	OSOT	Centre for Health Education Scholarship (CHES) 604-822-8573 laura.nimmon@ubc.ca
Dr. Courtney Pollock Assistant Professor	PT	GF Strong Centre (604) 737-6312 courtney.pollock@ubc.ca
Dr. Brodie Sakakibara Associate Professor	OSOT	UBC Okanagan (250) 807-8505 brodie.sakakibara@ubc.ca
Dr. Alex Scott Professor PT Department Head	PT	Robert H.N. Ho Research Centre, Vancouver General Hospital (604) 822-1353 alex.scott@ubc.ca
Dr. Julia Schmidt Assistant Professor	OSOT	UBC Hospital, Koerner Pavilion (604) 714-4105 julia.schmidt@ubc.ca
Dr. Naznin Virji-Babul Associate Professor	PT	Djavad Mowafaghian Centre for Brain Health (604) 827-4966 Naznin.Virji-Babul@ubc.ca
Dr. Jackie Whittaker Associate Professor	OSOT	UBC Hospital, Koerner Pavilion, 3 rd floor (604) 714-4105 jackie.whittaker@ubc.ca
Dr. Jill Zwicker Professor	OSOT	BC Children's Hospital (604) 875-2345 ext 5948 jill.zwicker@ubc.ca

CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION

The most appropriate lines of communication depend on the issue or concern. If you have a question about evaluation criteria or the way an assignment was marked, approach the course instructor. If you have more general concerns about the course, discuss them with your thesis supervisor or, if not appropriate (or the issue remains unresolved), the Chair of the Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences.

The Program Coordinator may be consulted for information regarding the Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (G+PS) policies and registration (or in ambiguous and/or sensitive situations).

OFFICE OF TECHNICAL AND INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

The Educational Support Techs in the Department of PT and the Department of OSOT are responsible for lab and audiovisual equipment set-up. A student may request audiovisual equipment needed for class presentations. Unfortunately, we cannot permit the loan of school equipment for use outside of scheduled instructional sessions (or approved continuing education events).

Students with a supervisor who is a PT Faculty member should request equipment from pt.classroom@ubc.ca. Requests for equipment must be received at least 3 days before you intend to use it.

Students with a supervisor who is an OSOT Faculty member should request equipment otclassroom.support@ubc.ca. Requests for equipment must be received at least 3 days before you intend to use it.

Room booking requests for OSOT, contact: osot.roombooking@ubc.ca

Room booking requests PT, contact: pt.bookings@ubc.ca or 604-822-7044

MAIL

Graduate students typically receive their postal mail via their supervisor.

Mail for faculty and/or staff may be left in their box in the mailrooms located at:

Room 212, 2nd Floor, Friedman Pavilion for PT Faculty

Room T325, Third Floor Koerner Pavilion for OSOT Faculty

CAMPUS WIDE LOGIN and UBC STUDENT EMAIL

A Campus-Wide-Login (CWL) is essential as a student at UBC so you can access systems such as the UBC wireless Wi-Fi network (UBC Secure), Workday Student, and Canvas applications for classes. Creating a CWL was required for application to RHSC and will be your primary login for many services.

Creating your UBC Student Email account:

- RHSC students are encouraged to sign up for a <CWLusername>@student.ubc.ca email account. This email address will be used for RHSC official communication to update you on current program information or other important news.
- Go to myaccount.ubc.ca and log in with your CWL username and password.
- Click on “activate student email”
- Log into UBC Student Webmail and check that you have access.
 - Your username will be <CWLusername>.stu
 - Your password is your CWL password
- After creating your email, please send your address to the RHSC Program Coordinator to be enrolled in the appropriate mailing lists for official communication.
 - Students enrolled in the MSc program: RHSC-MS-[LIST@LISTS.UBC.CA](mailto:RHSC-MS-LIST@LISTS.UBC.CA)
 - Students enrolled in the PhD program: RHSC-PHD-[LIST@LISTS.UBC.CA](mailto:RHSC-PHD-LIST@LISTS.UBC.CA)
 - PostDocs list: RHSC-POSTDOCS-[LIST@LISTS.UBC.CA](mailto:RHSC-POSTDOCS-LIST@LISTS.UBC.CA)

LIBRARY AND LIBRARY CARDS

New Student Library Cards

At UBC your UBC card is also your student ID card and your voting identification for student elections. New student UBC/Library cards are issued at UBC Bookstore. Please call 604-822-2406 or visit <http://www.ubccard.ubc.ca> for more information on how to obtain this card either in person or online.

Returning Library Cards

Returning students must pay any fines and charges in order to renew their Library privileges. Fines can be paid via the Library’s online Payment System: <http://paynow.library.ubc.ca/>

The UBC Library

The UBC Library is a wonderful resource!

For information regarding the UBC library for graduate students, go to <https://services.library.ubc.ca/user-guides/graduate-students/>

For help finding the right information sources for a literature review, go to <https://guides.library.ubc.ca/litreviews>

The librarian specializing in Rehabilitation Sciences is Rachael Bradshaw, who is located in Woodward Library, 2198 Health Sciences Mall
Tel: 604-822-2884
Email: rachael.bradshaw@ubc.ca

GETTING STARTED

Students can view and register in Rehabilitation Sciences courses prior to the beginning of the academic term via Workday Student: <https://workday.students.ubc.ca/>

For elective courses, consult the [UBC Graduate Calendar](#) for options and discuss the final choices with your supervisor. Students are responsible for ensuring that they have registered for the appropriate courses.

Full-time MSc students must register for the thesis **RHSC 549** in the first term of their graduate program and maintain continuous registration in their thesis from that point until completion of their program.

PhD students must register for their thesis **RHSC 699** in the first term of their graduate program and maintain continuous registration in their thesis from that point until completion of their program.

Registration in the MSc & PhD thesis must occur in September for the Fall and Winter terms (Term 1 and 2) and in May for the Summer term. IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO REGISTER IN THEIR THESIS COURSES USING THE WORKDAY STUDENT WEBSITE PROVIDED ABOVE.

It is very important that Enrolment Services and our program have your current contact information. If you have a new address or other contact information, please update the information on Workday Student and inform the Graduate Program Coordinator.

TUITION AND OTHER COSTS

Information regarding tuition fees can be found on the UBC calendar: <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=14,266,773,1450>

Students must be registered in at least one course each term until graduation. Registration will be blocked for non-payment of fees.

ANTI-BULLYING AND HARRASMENT CERTIFICATE

The Faculty of Medicine requires all UBC staff and students to complete an online certificate module around anti-bullying & harassment on campus. This module can be found here:

<https://wpl.ubc.ca/browse/srs/mandatory/courses/wpl-srs-bulhar>

Please email a copy of your certificate to us for filing: rehab.gradprogram@ubc.ca

CRIMINAL RECORD CHECKS

UBC is subject to the requirements of the Criminal Records Review Act, which means that all students who are enrolled in programs that include a practicum component involving work with children or vulnerable adults will have to undergo a criminal record check before they will be permitted to register in the practicum. Please visit this website for more information:

<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/crime-prevention/criminal-record-check>

TCPS 2 online module

The TCPS 2 Tutorial Course on Research Ethics (CORE) provides an applied approach to the guidance provided in TCPS 2. This self-paced course is a media-rich learning experience that features interactive exercises and multi-disciplinary examples. CORE consists of ten online modules ranging from Core Principles to REB Review. It is designed primarily for the use of researchers and REB members. Please visit this website for more information:

<https://tcps2core.ca/welcome>

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

There are general entrance scholarships, four-year fellowships and affiliated awards. Each year, the availability of the awards and scholarships is subject to change. Information on available funding is updated on our website on a regular basis. Please go to:

<https://rehab.med.ubc.ca/awards-and-funding/>

Another good resource is the Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies at <http://www.grad.ubc.ca>. Their website allows you to enter keywords into your search for funding.

For more detailed information, please see the [Scholarships and Awards section](#) in this Handbook.

RISe Enrollment:

Research Information Services (RISe) is UBC's online research ethics portal. You will need ethics approval to conduct any research at UBC. In order to access RISe for the first time, you will need to login using your Campus-Wide Login (CWL) to create your RISe account, and then request a

Researcher Account Number. Once you have logged in, email risesupport@ors.ubc.ca with the following information:

- First/middle/last name
- Email address
- Telephone number
- UBC Department and role (i.e., MSc/PhD student)
- UBC employee and/or student ID

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Each year, there are opportunities for graduate students to become teaching assistants for undergraduate courses offered in the MPT and MOT programs. These positions are usually offered to full-time students who have particular expertise or interest in the clinical area covered in the course. Employment guidelines follow the policies established by the teaching assistants' union, [CUPE 2278](#).

TA contact information below:

- For postings in the Entry level Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT), please contact:
 - Michael Lee at michael.lee@ubc.ca or Tracy Henderson at tracy.henderson@ubc.ca
- For postings in the Entry level Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) students, please contact:
 - Dr. Alison Grieg at alison.grieg@ubc.ca or Andrea Hardaker at andrea.hardaker@ubc.ca

More information regarding **teaching and research assistantships** can be found [here](#).

Instructional Skills Workshops for Grad Students

You are encouraged to attend *Instructional Skills* workshops (ISW), which are offered to graduate students free of charge. These three-day ISWs are 24-hour professional development sessions designed for graduate students interested in developing and enhancing their instructional skills. The workshop consists of teaching practice, theory application, and topical sessions specifically relevant to Teaching Assistants and Graduate Students at UBC. During the workshop you will teach three short lessons and receive feedback from your peers. For further information, please call 604 827 0360 or visit the Centre for Teaching, Learning and Technology website:

<https://ctl.ubc.ca/programs/all-our-programs/instructional-skills-workshops/>.

MSC PROGRAM

Objectives of the Program

The MSc program is designed to prepare individuals to conduct research independently and in collaboration with other scientists. Students will investigate a question related to rehabilitation sciences and develop skills that permit a critical analysis of problems, which can be related to clinical practice, or to development of theory.

Upon completing the program, it is expected that graduates will be able to:

1. critically evaluate the scientific literature relevant to rehabilitation
2. analyze and critique theoretical constructs
3. demonstrate knowledge of appropriate quantitative and qualitative methods of inquiry
4. perform a rehabilitation-related research project that
 - a. demonstrates familiarity with the core literature relevant to their area of study
 - b. incorporates a suitable study design, methodology and data collection
 - c. applies appropriate statistical or analytical tools and approaches in data analysis and interpretation
5. defends the research project in the format of a written thesis and an oral defence

Program Length

University regulations state a minimum of three terms and a **maximum of five-years** for the completion of a Master's degree. The average time for a RHSC MSc student is 2.5 years to complete coursework and thesis requirements.

Part-time Master's studies can be available to MSc students. Students who wish to be classified as part-time must obtain approval from their proposed supervisor and graduate program advisor as part of the admission process. For students approved for part-time studies, the RHSC program follows the part-time status guidelines set out in:

- [UBC Academic Calendar - Master's Student Classifications](#)
- [Faculty of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies - Part-Time Student Status](#)

MSC THESIS

The Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies has guidelines for the various parties involved in the graduate student thesis. This includes descriptions of the role of the thesis supervisor, the student and other members of the supervisory committee and detailed information on the thesis itself.

THESIS COMMITTEE

1) Supervisory Committee

A supervisory committee should be established as soon as possible. Selection of members is usually determined by discussion between the supervisor and the student as well as willingness of the invited Faculty member. At least half of the supervisory committee, which includes the supervisor, must be [UBC G+PS members](#). A good working guideline for the Master's thesis committee is to consist of your supervisor plus 2-3 members. Keep in mind larger committees introduce difficulties with scheduling meetings, reaching consensus, etc.

Supervisory committees should be established early in accordance with your degree timeline, but no later than the Thesis Proposal defense date. Once established, complete the [Supervisory Committee form](#) (Appendix F) and send to the RHSC Program Coordinator.

Non-Members of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (G+PS) as supervisory committee members: For service on master's committees, the approval of the graduate program advisor or department head suffices.

2) Thesis examination committee (for final thesis defence only)

- A minimum of two examiners (excluding the Chair) must be present (either in-person or via tele- or video-conference) at the examination: one designated member of the supervisory committee and an external examiner. The external examiner is a person who was not involved in the advising of the student in his or her research, or any aspect of the thesis project.
- The external examiner needs to be external to the examining committee, but does not have to be external to RHSC. This person can be a RHSC faculty member (research or teaching stream), G+PS member or external to the university. The supervisor can select this person.
- No external chair is required for the MSc thesis defence. The thesis supervisor will act as the de facto Chair for the examination and will ask questions on behalf of the external examiner in the event that they cannot attend the examination either in person or electronically (phone or computer). The Chair may ask their own questions, but this is not a requirement.
- A final vote from all present examiners plus the Chair determines the outcome based on a simple majority.

THESIS PROPOSAL AND PROPOSAL DEFENCE

After approval from the supervisor, students submit a written thesis proposal to members of their supervisory committee, who will provide timely written feedback (e.g., tracked changes on the proposal), and a thesis proposal presentation meeting will be scheduled. Note that not all supervisory committee members will require to see the document before the defence. This must be confirmed at a supervisory committee meeting.

The graduate student will prepare a 20-30 minute presentation including statement of the problem, review of relevant literature, proposed methodology, hypotheses and/or research questions, and proposed data analysis procedures. This meeting will be open to all graduate students and faculty members. The supervisory committee and other members of the audience may ask questions regarding the proposal.

The following checklist can be used as a guide for the process surrounding the MSc Research Proposal defence:

Have the proposal document approved by the supervisor. Format and length should be decided by the student and the supervisor (generally, 10-20 pages, including a literature review and detailed methods sections). This should be done approximately 2-3 weeks before an anticipated proposal defence date.

Following approval from the supervisor, the supervisor sends the proposal document to the supervisory committee members.

Note: it is not required that all supervisory committee members “sign off” on the document before proceeding to the proposal defence.

Decide on a date for the thesis proposal defence. The supervisor is responsible for ensuring that all examination members are aware of the date, location and start time of the exam. The supervisor is also responsible for making any room bookings. To book rooms, please send request to pt.bookings@ubc.ca or osot.roombooking@ubc.ca.

The student completes the [Thesis Abstract Form](#) (Appendix G) and sends it to the [RHSC Program Coordinator](#) no later than 10 business days before the proposal defence.

The completed thesis abstract form is emailed out by the [RHSC Program Coordinator](#) to the faculty and student email lists.

The oral proposal defence involves a 20-30 minute presentation by the student, followed by questions from the supervisory committee and audience.

The student and audience leave the room to allow the committee to deliberate on the result. The following 4 options are available:

1. Pass = successful completion of the examination with no areas needing formal remediation. Minor revisions with no reservations moving forward are acceptable. It is assumed that these revisions can be addressed during normal learning and degree progression.

2. Conditional Pass (worth 0.5 strikes – see “[Withdrawal from Program](#)” below) = required to undertake minor remedial work, as described in writing by the committee, that requires a formal supervision process. This work must be reviewed by the supervisor, and, if required, at least one member of the committee. The individual(s) responsible for oversight will be determined by the supervisory committee. One month will be given to complete the remedial work. No re-examination is required.

3. Remediation and Re-examination (2 strikes) = required to undertake minor or major remedial work as described in writing by the committee. This work must be reviewed by at least two members of the committee. Up to two months will be given to complete the remedial work. A re-examination with an examination committee will be required upon satisfactory completion. A failure to satisfactorily complete the remedial work in the allotted time frame, or a failure to successfully complete the oral re-examination, will result in a “Fail” for this component of the program.

4. Fail (3 strikes) = The student will be required to withdraw from the program for Academic Reasons.

If the result is a ‘Pass’, the supervisor sends the [RHSC MSc Proposal Exam Completion Memo](#) (Appendix H) to the [RHSC Program Coordinator](#) confirming the successful completion of the proposal defence. The student may now identify themselves as an “MSc Candidate”

WRITTEN MASTER’S THESIS

The thesis must be prepared according to the [Thesis Preparation guidelines](#) of the Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (G+PS). The guidelines specify rules for all aspects of production including margins, spacing, and how to present figures.

The thesis can be formatted in a traditional format with separate chapters for the Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion. An alternative format is the manuscript-based thesis. In this

case, major chapters can be comprised of the manuscript(s) to be published from the MSc thesis research. For the manuscript-based thesis, introductory and concluding chapters are required to provide context and to describe connections between the manuscript(s) and the aims of the MSc research. Usually, a single reference list is required for all chapters. Templates and instructions for traditional and manuscript-based theses are available on the [G+PS website](#).

THESIS DEFENCE

A thesis defence is **required** by RHSC program for completion of the program. Students can apply to graduate, but are unable to close their program until their final thesis has been submitted to [cIRcLe](#) and approved. For more information regarding **graduation and thesis submission deadlines** visit the G+PS [Deadlines page](#) and search for Thesis Final Submission under Deadline Type.

The graduate student will prepare a 20-30 minute presentation including statement of the problem, review of relevant literature, methodology used, hypotheses and/or research questions, data analysis, results and conclusions. This meeting will be open to all graduate students and faculty members. The supervisory committee and other members of the audience may ask questions regarding the defence. It is expected that the final MSc thesis defence would not exceed 2 hours in duration unless there are extenuating circumstances.

The following checklist can be used as a guide surrounding the process of the final MSc thesis defence and steps following successful completion of thesis requirements:

Things to do before the final MSc thesis defence:

- Have the thesis document approved **for content** by the supervisor.

In writing the thesis document, be sure to follow the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies [structure guidelines](#) and [formatting guidelines](#), as the final submission will need to comply with these. The student should also be aware of [thesis basics](#), [ethical basics](#), and the [FAQ](#) regarding thesis preparation. The student also has the option of having UBC Grad studies perform a [Pre-Review](#) of the thesis to ensure that things are on the right track. Other resources include [these samples](#) for guidance during this stage of thesis preparation.

- Following approval by the supervisor, the supervisor will send the thesis document to the examination committee for feedback (note: the examination committee must include 1) at least one member of the supervisory committee other than the supervisor, and 2) an external examiner who had no involvement with the thesis).

- Decide on a date for the thesis defence. The supervisor is responsible for ensuring that all examination members are aware of the date, location and start time of the exam. The supervisor is

also responsible for making any room bookings. To book rooms, please send request to pt.bookings@ubc.ca or osot.roombookings@ubc.ca.

The student completes the [Thesis Abstract Form](#) (Appendix G) and sends it to the [RHSC Program Coordinator](#) no later than 10 business days before the thesis defence.

The completed thesis abstract form will be emailed out by the RHSC Program Coordinator, along with notification of the date, time, and location of the thesis defence.

Prior to the defence, the thesis document must be approved by the examination committee. All examination committee members must provide the supervisor, in writing, their approval for the student to proceed.

The oral thesis defence involves a 20-30 minute presentation by the student, followed by questions from the supervisory committee and audience.

The oral thesis defence involves a 20-30 minute presentation by the student, followed by questions from the supervisory committee and audience.

The student and audience leave the room to allow the committee to deliberate on the result. The following 4 options are available:

1. Pass = successful completion of the examination with no areas needing formal remediation. Minor revisions with no reservations moving forward is acceptable. It is assumed that these revisions can be addressed during normal learning and degree progression.

2. Conditional Pass (worth 0.5 strikes – see “[Withdrawal from Program](#)” below) = required to undertake minor remedial work, as described in writing by the committee, that requires a formal supervision process. This work must be reviewed by the supervisor, and, if required, at least one member of the committee. The individual(s) responsible for oversight will be determined by the supervisory committee. One month will be given to complete the remedial work. No re-examination is required.

3. Remediation and Re-examination (2 strikes) = required to undertake minor or major remedial work as described in writing by the committee. This work must be reviewed by at least two members of the committee. Up to two months will be given to complete the remedial work. A re-examination with an examination committee will be required upon satisfactory completion. A failure to satisfactorily complete the remedial work in the allotted time frame, or a failure to

successfully complete the oral re-examination, will result in a “Fail” for this component of the program.

4.Fail (3 strikes) = The student will be required to withdraw from the program for Academic Reasons.

In the event of a ‘Pass’, at least one member of the examination committee must sign the [Master's Thesis Approval](#) form (**the student should bring this to the defence**).

If minor revisions are required, have the examination committee member(s) sign the form at this time. The supervisor will withhold their signature until all revisions have been completed satisfactorily.

Things to do AFTER the MSc thesis defence:

The student must complete any revisions to the written thesis document, as requested by the examination committee.

The student must review the [G+PS Thesis Final Submission](#) webpage and email the following forms to the [RHSC Program Coordinator](#): i) signed [Master's Thesis Approval](#) form (from the defence), ii) completed [Thesis Submission Cover Sheet](https://www.grad.ubc.ca/forms/thesis-dissertation-submission-cover-sheet) before submitting the thesis on cIRcle for approval.

The student should discuss with the supervisor whether a delay in publication of the thesis is required (this may be necessary when trying to get the work published, or for other reasons). If so, the [Delay in Publication form](#) must be completed, submitted to, and approved by the G+PS **BEFORE** the thesis is submitted to UBC’s cIRcle.

Once G+PS approves the Delay in Publication, you must do the following when submitting your thesis to cIRcle:

- a) Type ‘EMBARGO’ in front of the thesis title
- b) On the page where you upload your thesis file, go to "File Availability"
- c) Choose “Embargo” and enter the date when the thesis becomes publicly available

For full details and instructions see: [How To Request a Delay in Publication](#)

Back up to a thumb drive any important personal documents saved on your H-Drive prior to CIRCLE submission. Server access, including to your personal H-drive, will be lost once the thesis is submitted to cIRcle and your academic program is closed.

❑ The student must electronically submit their completed and formatted thesis to UBC's cIRcle and await approval from the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. Thesis submission instructions: [https://wiki.ubc.ca/Library/Circle/Uploading Electronic Theses and Dissertations](https://wiki.ubc.ca/Library/Circle/Uploading_Electronic_Theses_and_Dissertations)

Completing the click-through cIRcle Non-Exclusive Distribution License is done while submitting the thesis to cIRcle.

Some important reminders while submitting to cIRcle:

- a) In the section 'Description Stage 2', the highest affiliation is the 'Faculty of Medicine' and the other affiliation is the 'Department of Physical Therapy' or 'Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy', depending on the home Department of your supervisor."
- b) In the section 'Description Stage 2', the program is 'Rehabilitation Sciences'.

❑ **The student must apply for graduation** (follow these [guidelines](#)).

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this program are to:

- Prepare students to conduct independent and collaborative research in the discipline of rehabilitation sciences.
- Facilitate students to conduct significant and original research which will contribute to the body of evidence-based rehabilitation practice.
- Prepare rehabilitation scholars and scientists for leadership roles in academia, public health, education and industry.
- Fill a societal demand for the need of doctoral trained individuals in the discipline of rehabilitation to fill current and expected faculty vacancies in Canada.
- Enhance the links between theoretical advances and practice through the development of the conceptual knowledge base of rehabilitation.
- Develop leaders in rehabilitation research who can initiate and complete original, innovative and effective rehabilitation treatments.

Program Length

University regulations state a minimum of two years and a **maximum of six-years** for the completion of a Doctoral degree. The average time for a RHSC PhD student is 5.5 years to complete coursework and thesis requirements.

Part-time PhD studies can be available to RHSC PhD students. Students who wish to be classified as part-time must obtain approval from their proposed supervisor and graduate program advisor as part of the admission process. For students approved for part-time studies, the RHSC program follows the part-time program guidelines set out in:

- [UBC Academic Calendar - Doctoral Student Classifications](#)
- [Faculty of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies - Part-Time Student Status](#)

PhD Supervisory Committee

The PhD Supervisory Committee consists of 3-4 faculty members, including supervisor, and at least half of the committee must be UBC G+PS members. Committees can be larger; however, this should be considered in the best interest of the student as larger committees may be difficult to coordinate schedules, reach a consensus, etc.

Supervisory committees should be established early in accordance with your degree timeline, but no later than when the Comprehensive Approval Memo is sent to the RHSC Program Coordinator.

Once your committee is established, complete the [Supervisory Committee form](#) (Appendix F) and send to the RHSC Program Coordinator.

Non-UBC G+PS members for Doctoral committees need to be nominated and approved prior to setting the comprehensive exam. This can be done by completing the following steps:

1. Complete the UBC G+PS "[Recommendation for Non-G+PS Member to Join Supervisory Committee' Form](#)
2. Obtain the Nominee's current CV (PDF file)
3. Obtain a statement from the Nominee assenting to serve on your committee and accepting [committee membership responsibilities](#)
4. Obtain a memo from your Supervisor indicating the particular qualifications that make the nominee suitable for your committee

Submit these forms to the RHSC Program Coordinator for processing and obtaining of approvals from the Faculties of Medicine and Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies.

For further information regarding Forming your Supervisory Committee, please visit the following pages:

- [FoM Supervision Approval](#)
- [UBC G+PS: The Supervisory Committee](#)
- [UBC G+PS: Non-Members of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies as Supervisory Committee Members](#)

PhD Examination Committee (for final PhD defence only)

The Examination Committee normally consists of:

- an [External Examiner](#) (who is not required to attend the oral defence)
- two [University Examiners](#) (one of which may be from RHSC), both of whom are typically at the rank of Associate Professor or above
- two or three Members of the Candidate's [Supervisory Committee](#) (including the Research Supervisor)
- an [Examination Chair](#) (this individual is organized by G+PS)

PHD COMPREHENSIVE EXAM OVERVIEW

Students generally complete their comprehensive examination within 24 months (36 months for part-time doctoral students) from the date of initial registration. The Comprehensive Examination process will include written work and an oral examination. G+PS provides guidelines but does not specify requirements for the comprehensive exam process (see [website](#)). Requirements of the comprehensive exam process are determined by the RHSC program.

Once the student has met with their supervisor and the committee members and the topics have been decided upon, the supervisor fills out the [PhD Comprehensive Exam Approval memo](#) (Appendix I), outlining the specific parameters of the exam, and submits to the RHSC Program Coordinator for vetting by the program chair. **Approval memo should be submitted prior to the student beginning the comprehensive exam process.**

Once the comprehensive exam has taken place, the chair of the exam is responsible for completing the [PhD Comprehensive Exam Completion memo](#) (Appendix J) and returning this document to the [RHSC Program Coordinator](#).

REQUIREMENTS OF RHSC WRITTEN AND ORAL COMPREHENSIVE EXAM

The comprehensive exam process should not exceed 4 months (except for part-time doctoral students whose process may take longer as negotiated between the student and supervisory committee), which includes the preparation period, the written portion and the oral exam. The length of time and exam dates are negotiated between the student and the supervisory committee.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the comprehensive exam is for students to demonstrate their ability to:

- critically evaluate and synthesize concepts, theory and research literature in their area of concentration/study
- demonstrate depth and breadth of knowledge in their discipline with an emphasis on the main topics covered by their dissertation
- effectively communicate knowledge of these topics both orally and in written form

PROCESS

An individualized learning plan will be developed for the student that is specific to their interests, past experience, and skill development, pre-requisite to the conduct of their thesis. The learning plan will identify the content areas/skills the student wants to develop over a period of several months and what written work will assist the student to meet the learning objectives. The supervisor, in collaboration with the other supervisory committee members, will identify a **minimum of three content areas**, ensuring that they represent the depth and breadth of the student's field of study. In some cases, the student may need some time to make progress on

negotiated learning objectives prior to moving on to the written and oral components of the comprehensive exam, e.g., learning to use lab equipment or assessment tools and analyze data. When this is the case, time considerations will be clearly specified in the learning plan and will not be part of the exam timeline. Students/supervisors may consult the Graduate Program Chair for guidance in judging the scope and content of the comprehensive exam.

WRITTEN COMPONENT

The written component is structured to help the student learn material in preparation for the oral examination and demonstrate competency in the field of study, using activities that are relevant to the student and documented in the learning plan.

Feedback/supervisor or committee member involvement

Learning is a primary purpose of the exam and this does not need to be a solitary process; a student's learning may be enhanced by formative feedback. The thesis supervisor can guide the student through the comprehensive exam process, by, for example, assisting the student to develop an outline for the written component and advising regarding organization of content. The committee can act as a resource for the student by, for example, being available for discussions with the student and facilitating synthesis of material by the student.

The reading list/requirements for all papers should be identified before the writing phase.

At least two and no more than three content areas will comprise the written component. Note that some items naturally cover more than one content area, e.g., a grant or scholarship application may address both a methodological content area and summarize the state of knowledge on the topic under study, and some items are more comprehensive than others. **However, the minimum number of distinct documents required for the written component is one (1).** Additional document requirements are permitted, and will vary based on the relative scope of the items selected. **It is possible that the written component be Chapter 1 for the final dissertation.**

Other examples of acceptable written items are:

1. Collection and analysis of data in the lab and the development of a report of findings.
2. Writing a grant application focused on the student's doctoral thesis.
3. A grant review.
4. A review article suitable for submission to a peer reviewed journal. The review should present a systematic and comprehensive analysis and synthesis of the literature in an area. The length of the article will depend on the journal to which it is submitted.
5. A paper focused on issues related to the thesis topic; options include a critical literature review, essay addressing debates in a reading area, analysis and interpretation of available data.

6. A list of questions that each will be addressed by a literature review and a brief synthesis of the literature (i.e. 2-5 pages of text per component).

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN COMPREHENSIVE EXAM WRITTEN WORK AND THE THESIS

It is important to define the relationship between the written comprehensive exam document(s) and the thesis. The written document(s)/work can be related to the thesis and required course topics, but should not duplicate course assignments. The written document(s) and three content areas can be used as a component of the dissertation.

If the student chooses to write a grant proposal that contains their thesis research, and the supervisor and committee agree, the oral comprehensive exam and the thesis proposal defence may be held on the same day. Each component is evaluated independently, i.e., passing the oral examination does not necessarily mean acceptance of the grant proposal.

Under this model, students are still expected to follow the comprehensive and thesis proposal procedures outlined below. In the oral exam, the rounds of questioning should give each committee member opportunity to ask questions related to the broader Rehabilitation Science context of the proposed research and related to the candidate's project and progress.

The exam chair is responsible for sending the comprehensive exam completion memo and the thesis proposal completion memo to the RHSC Program Coordinator. Upon pass, the supervisor submits the Advancement to Candidacy form to the RHSC Program Coordinator. In case of a fail, a new exam is scheduled.

EVALUATION OF WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

Each completed document will be reviewed by **all members** of the examination committee to determine whether the written submissions:

- address the learning objective(s)
- demonstrate logical development of arguments and defence of positions
- show evidence of critical and analytical thinking
- demonstrate substantive knowledge of the field(s)
- contain arguments and explicit stances that are derived from a theoretical or historical perspective of a discipline related to rehabilitation science
- fairly represent cited sources and authors
- demonstrate competence in communication (parsimony, clarity, and accuracy of language use)

The committee will decide whether the work represents a pass, a conditional pass or a fail. It is sufficient for the written component to demonstrate a fundamental understanding of principles

that may be probed for greater depth during the oral exam. In some cases, the type of written work selected will go on to joint revision by the student and one or more committee members, e.g., a manuscript for publication. Therefore, it is not the goal of the written work to be ready for submission, but rather, to be ready for further collaborative development. **The student must receive a pass on the written component prior to undertaking the oral examination.**

ORAL COMPONENT

The supervisor will arrange for a chair of the oral component of the comprehensive exam. A chair is required and must be a RHSC faculty member outside of the supervisory committee who is a member of G+PS. The chair will not be an examiner, will vote only if there's a tie, and is responsible for sending the comprehensive exam completion memo to the RHSC Coordinator.

If necessary, the chair or supervisor can clarify the examination process via email or conference call prior to the exam date. The order and timing of questions from each of member of the examination committee will be determined. After returning to the room, the student will be examined by the examination committee, usually in two rounds of questioning. The student is asked to leave the room and the committee determines whether the student passed the exam and if remedial work is required.

The oral examination should be no longer than 2 hours.

The student will leave the room to allow the committee to deliberate on the result. The following 4 options are available:

1. Pass = successful completion of the examination with no areas needing formal remediation. Minor revisions with no reservations moving forward is acceptable. It is assumed that these revisions can be addressed during normal learning and degree progression.
2. Conditional Pass (worth 0.5 strikes – see [“Withdrawal from Program”](#) below) = required to undertake minor remedial work, as described in writing by the committee, that requires a formal supervision process. This work must be reviewed by the supervisor, and, if required, at least one member of the committee. The individual(s) responsible for oversight will be determined by the supervisory committee. One month will be given to complete the remedial work. No re-examination is required.
3. Remediation and Re-examination (2 strikes) = required to undertake minor or major remedial work as described in writing by the committee. This work must be reviewed by at least two members of the committee. Up to two months will be given to complete the remedial work. A re-examination with an examination committee will be required upon satisfactory completion. A

failure to satisfactorily complete the remedial work in the allotted time frame, or a failure to successfully complete the oral re-examination, will result in a “Fail” for this component of the program.

4. Fail (3 strikes) = the student will be required to withdraw from the program for Academic Reasons.

The oral examination chair sends the [RHSC Comprehensive Exam Completion Memo](#) (Appendix J) to the RHSC Program Coordinator confirming the successful completion of the proposal defence, no later than 10 days after the comprehensive exam.

PHD THESIS PROPOSAL DEFENCE

The PhD thesis proposal consists of two parts – a written document and an oral defence.

RHSC REQUIREMENTS

Written Component

The written thesis proposal is developed in consultation with the supervisor and committee. The thesis proposal should include:

- background theory/rationale (unless the written component of the comprehensive exam was Chapter 1)
- hypothesis, purpose and/or research question(s)
- methodology
- proposed analysis
- reference list

The length of the proposal can vary. As a general guideline, it will usually contain similar elements as a grant proposal in the faculty member’s particular discipline, including appendices if necessary. Please ask colleagues for examples of recent written PhD proposals. The timeline for completion of this stage will vary greatly depending on the student’s skill set, any piloting of proposed methodology, or other preparation. The supervisory committee is required to approve the written proposal before proceeding to the oral defence. Usually a 3-week time period is provided for review and feedback. Once the proposal is approved by members of the committee, an oral thesis proposal defense will be scheduled.

The following checklist can be used as a guide for the process surrounding the PhD Research Proposal defence:

Things to do before a PhD proposal defence:

- Have the proposal document approved by the supervisor. Format and length should be decided by the student and the supervisor (generally, 10-20 pages, including a literature review and detailed methods sections). This should be done approximately 2-3 weeks before an anticipated proposal defence date.
- Following approval from the supervisor, the supervisor sends the proposal document to the supervisory committee members. Note: it is not required that all supervisory committee members “sign off” on the document before proceeding to the proposal defence.
- Decide on a date for the thesis defence. The supervisor is responsible for ensuring that all examination members are aware of the date, location and start time of the exam. The supervisor is also responsible for making any room bookings. To book rooms, please send request to pt.bookings@ubc.ca for rooms in PT or osot.roombooking@ubc.ca for rooms in OSOT.
- The student completes the [RHSC Thesis Abstract form](#) (Appendix G) and sends it to the RHSC Program Coordinator no later than 10 business days before the proposal defence.
- The thesis abstract form is emailed out by the RHSC Program Coordinator to the faculty and student email lists.

Oral PhD Thesis Proposal Defence

The supervisor may act as the chair of this meeting. The graduate student will prepare a 20-30 minute presentation including statement of the problem, review of relevant literature, proposed methodology, hypotheses and/or research questions, and proposed data analysis procedures. This meeting will be open to all graduate students and faculty members. The supervisory committee and other members of the audience may ask questions regarding the proposal.

In the case that an examining committee member who is required for quorum can't attend the exam, the exam will need to be postponed and contact the doctoral exam coordinator. If they are late, the proposal defence must be delayed until they arrive. If they are not required for quorum and are late, they may not be permitted entry into the exam room. For external examiners, participation is encouraged by not required.

The following checklist can be used as a guide for the process surrounding the PhD Research Proposal defence:

- The oral proposal defence involves a 20-30 minute presentation by the student, followed by questions from the supervisory committee and audience.

The student and audience leave the room to allow the committee to deliberate on the result. The following 4 options are available:

1. Pass = successful completion of the examination with no areas needing formal remediation. Minor revisions with no reservations moving forward is acceptable. It is assumed that these revisions can be addressed during normal learning and degree progression.

2. Conditional Pass (worth 0.5 strikes – see “[Withdrawal from Program](#)” below) = required to undertake minor remedial work, as described in writing by the committee, that requires a formal supervision process. This work must be reviewed by the supervisor, and, if required, at least one member of the committee. The individual(s) responsible for oversight will be determined by the supervisory committee. One month will be given to complete the remedial work. No re-examination is required.

3. Remediation and Re-examination (2 strikes) = required to undertake minor or major remedial work as described in writing by the committee. This work must be reviewed by at least two members of the committee. Up to two months will be given to complete the remedial work. A re-examination with an examination committee will be required upon satisfactory completion. A failure to satisfactorily complete the remedial work in the allotted time frame, or a failure to successfully complete the oral re-examination, will result in a “Fail” for this component of the program.

4. Fail (3 strikes) = the student will be required to withdraw from the program for Academic Reasons.

If the result is a ‘Pass’, the supervisor sends the [RHSC Dissertation Proposal Exam Completion Memo](#) (Appendix K) to the RHSC Program Coordinator confirming the successful completion of the proposal defence.

ADVANCEMENT TO PHD CANDIDACY

A student is admitted to candidacy after successfully completing the comprehensive examination process and defending the thesis proposal. **This is required by G+PS to occur within 36 months (48 months for part-time doctoral students) from the date of initial registration.** See G+PS’ [Advancement to Candidacy](#) page for details. [Extension](#) of the time allowed to advance to candidacy may be permitted by the Dean of Graduate Studies in exceptional circumstances.

The faculty member is required to complete an [Advancement to Candidacy form](#) no later than 10 days after the Thesis Proposal Defense, to be signed by the RHSC Chair. This form requires listing of the Supervisory Committee Members. G+PS will review eligibility of Supervisory Committee

Members and provide approval or request additional information before Advancement to Candidacy is approved.

The student may now identify themselves as a “PhD Candidate”.

FINAL PHD DEFENCE

A comprehensive guide to the doctoral exam can be found on the G+PS [Final Doctoral Exam Overview website](#). There are numerous components of this phase of PhD completion and several checklists to guide both the supervisor and PhD Candidate. **It is highly recommended that students and supervisors become familiar with the procedures and timelines to ensure adequate planning and completion of the PhD dissertation.** G+PS regulates most aspects of this final stage and few exceptions are made to required procedures.

PURPOSE AND PROCESS

- to ensure that the Candidate is able to present and defend the dissertation and its underlying assumptions, methodology, results, and conclusions in a manner consistent with the doctoral degree being sought;
- to communicate the results of the work to the campus community.

After the written PhD Dissertation is approved by the supervisor, the supervisory committee members are required to review and approve it. The student should ensure that the [formatting requirements](#) are met. Approval by the supervisory committee may or may not require a committee meeting. Upon approval of all committee members, the thesis is submitted to G+PS, who will in turn provide it to the external examiner for review. A timeline calculator is provided on the G+PS [Tools for Planning the Doctoral Exam website](#) to estimate time required for the review process, oral examination and graduation. However, generally it will take approximately two months from the approval of the written document to the oral defence date.

Final oral defences can be scheduled online only or hybrid. Oral Defence booking requests must be submitted to the Doctoral Exams team using the Oral Defence Booking Request form at least 4 weeks prior to the proposed exam date. The Defence Booking Guide has information on what you will need to complete the Oral Defence Booking Request. Once an Oral Defence booking has been finalized by Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, the Candidate, Research Supervisor and Graduate Program will receive a confirmation email. At this point the exam booking is considered final. The Research Supervisor is responsible for ensuring all Examining Committee members (except the Chair) are aware of the date, time and location of the Oral Defence.

EXAMINATION COMMITTEE OF THE PHD DISSERTATION

The Examination Committee normally consists of:

- an [External Examiner](#) (who is not required to attend the oral defence)
- two [University Examiners](#)
- two or three Members of the Candidate's [Supervisory Committee](#) (including the Research Supervisor)
- an [Examination Chair \(this individual will be organized by G+PS\)](#)

See above links for the eligibility criteria for each of these members and the process for their selection.

The following can be used as a guide for the final PhD thesis defence. Note that UBC guidelines may change, so the student should familiarize themselves with the current process.

Things to do before a final PhD thesis defence:

PLANNING FOR A DEFENCE:

□ [The doctoral exam guide](#) provides an overview of the thesis process, and it is recommended that it be reviewed approximately **1 year** prior to the anticipated thesis defence. Typical preparation takes 4 months, according to Grad Studies. Please refer to the most up-to-date [Doctoral deadlines](#).

- The doctoral exam guide directs you to [FAQ](#) regarding planning. These questions will address important topics such as nomination of the external examiner and details of the oral defence.
- It is important to review the content regarding nomination of external examiner early as the timelines associated with Graduate Studies sending out the initial invitation (2 months prior to the date you are planning to **SUBMIT** the thesis) and the process for nominating an external examiner are not negotiable. The timelines set out by Graduate Studies regarding nomination of the external examiner (and the time allotted for written review of the thesis by the external examiner) will largely influence the date for the defence.
- The remainder of the [examination committee](#) should be discussed between the student and the supervisor at this time but does not need to be set formally with Graduate Studies until the time that the defence date is set. However, as faculty schedules can be quite committed, it is advisable that the supervisor begin to contact potential examination committee members internal to UBC approximately one month prior to the date you expect to have the thesis **SUBMITTED** to Graduate Studies.
- Check the [Preparation Tools](#) for the most recent timeline, and checklist for the Doctoral Exam.

THESIS PREPARATION:

Have the thesis document approved **for content** by the supervisor and supervisory committee. Typically, the supervisor will review prior to the full supervisory committee reviewing the thesis. Negotiate timelines with the supervisory committee, 3-4 weeks is commonly provided for the supervisory committee to review the thesis.

- In writing the thesis document, be sure to follow the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies [structure guidelines](#) and [formatting guidelines](#), as the final submission will need to comply with these.
- The student should also be aware of [thesis basics](#), [ethical basics](#), and the [FAQ](#) regarding thesis preparation.
- The student also has the option of having UBC Grad studies perform a [Pre-Review](#) of the thesis to ensure that things are on the right track. Other resources include [these samples](#) for guidance during this stage of thesis preparation.
- The [Koerner Library Thesis Formatting Services](#) is a very good resource for thesis templates and offers a typically very fast turnaround time in reviewing the thesis for appropriate formatting.

It is important to note that the CONTENT of the dissertation is approved by the supervisory committee, but the FORMAT of the thesis is approved by Graduate Studies. [BOTH must be completed PRIOR TO the thesis being submitted to the external examiner](#) by Graduate Studies.

After the thesis has been reviewed and approved by the supervisory committee members, the supervisor is required to complete a [Graduate Program Approval of Doctoral Dissertation for External Examination](#) form to be signed by the RHSC Grad Chair and RHSC program is required to email it to G+PS BEFORE the thesis is submitted for external examination.

AFTER THE THESIS IS SUBMITTED TO GRADUATE STUDIES

Once the thesis is submitted, Graduate Studies will send a copy of the thesis to the external examiner and will schedule a submission date for the external examiner's report. Once this date is agreed upon Graduate Studies will e-mail the supervisor regarding [scheduling the final oral defence](#). Although the student and the supervisor should already have an idea of the date(s) that would work best for everyone involved, it is only at this time that you can finalize the date/time.

The student completes the [RHSC Thesis Abstract form](#) and sends it to the [RHSC Program Coordinator](#) no later than 10 business days before the thesis defence. The thesis abstract form, along with notification of the date, time, and location of the thesis defence, will be emailed out by the Program Coordinator to the faculty and student email lists.

- The student prepares the [Doctoral Dissertation Approval form](#) for Examining Committee signatures.
- The oral thesis defence involves a 20-30 minute presentation by the student, followed by questions from the examination committee and audience.
- In the event of a 'Pass', at least one member of the committee signs the [Doctoral Dissertation Approval form](#) (bring this to the defence, though the Chair of the examination may bring as well).
 - If minor revisions are required, have the examination committee member(s) sign the form at this time. The supervisor will withhold their signature until all revisions have been completed satisfactorily.
 - If the student receives a 'Conditional Pass', the examination committee member(s) sign the form at this time, with the supervisor withholding their signature until all the required remedial work, as described in writing by the examination committee, has been completed. This work must be reviewed by at least two members of the examination committee. If acceptable, the supervisor will sign the form.
 - If the student receives a 'Fail', they will be required to perform a second thesis defence and may also require extensive revisions to the thesis document

Things to do after the PhD thesis defence:

- The student must complete any revisions to the written thesis document, as requested by the examination committee.
- The student should discuss with the supervisor whether a delay in publication of the thesis required (this may be necessary when trying to get the work published, or for other reasons). If so, a [Delay in Publication](#) form must be completed and submitted with the final thesis.
- Student submits the [Doctoral Dissertation Approval form](#) and [Dissertation Submission Cover Sheet](#) to RHSC Program Coordinator who checks the forms and submits them to G+PS. If you have any questions about preparing and submitting the final dissertation, check [here](#).
- The student should discuss with the supervisor whether a delay in publication of the thesis is required (this may be necessary when trying to get the work published, or for other reasons). If so, the [Delay in Publication form](#) must be completed, submitted to, and approved by the G+PS **BEFORE** the thesis is submitted to UBC's cIRcle.

Once G+PS approves the Delay in Publication, you must do the following when submitting your thesis to cIRcle:

- d) Type 'EMBARGO' in front of the thesis title

- e) On the page where you upload your thesis file, go to "File Availability"
- f) Choose "Embargo" and enter the date when the thesis becomes publicly available

For full details and instructions see: [How To Request a Delay in Publication](#)

Back up to a thumb drive any important personal documents saved on your H-Drive prior to CIRcle submission. Server access, including to your personal H-drive, will be lost once the thesis is submitted to CIRcle and your academic program is closed.

The student must electronically submit their completed and formatted thesis to UBC's CIRcle and await approval from the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. Thesis submission instructions: https://wiki.ubc.ca/Library/Circle/Uploading_Electronic_Theses_and_Dissertations

Completing the click-through CIRcle Non-Exclusive Distribution License is done while submitting the thesis to CIRcle.

Some important reminders while submitting to CIRcle:

- c) In the section 'Description Stage 2', the highest affiliation is the 'Faculty of Medicine' and the other affiliation is the 'Department of Physical Therapy' or 'Department of Occupational Therapy', depending on the home Department of your supervisor."
- d) In the section 'Description Stage 2', the program is 'Rehabilitation Sciences'.

The student must apply for graduation (follow these [guidelines](#))

DOCTORAL EXAMS TIMELINE WORKSHEET

Note that under ordinary circumstances this process will take four months. Please plan accordingly.

The timeline below represents the **MINIMUM** requirements to prepare for an exam.

VERY IMPORTANT RESOURCES:

- [Doctoral Deadlines](#)
- [Doctoral Exam Guide](#)

For detailed version of the following timeline, download the [G+PS Planning Tool Checklist pdf](#)

TIMELINE	ACTION	IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS
<p>DATE A = _____</p> <p><i>(Subtract 2 months from Date B)</i></p>	<p>Submit Nominations for External Examiner of Doctoral Dissertation form for RHSC Chair signature</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Supervisor nominates 2-3 persons for the role of External Examiner, to be invited by Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies • RHSC Program Coordinator submits signed Nomination form to G+PS Doctoral Exams team • Check Doctoral Deadlines for submission deadlines.
<p>DATE B = _____</p> <p><i>(Add 2 months to Date A)</i></p>	<p>Submit Graduate Program Approval of Doctoral Dissertation for External Exam form for RHSC Chair signature</p> <p>Submit electronic copy of dissertation to G+PS Doctoral Exams team</p> <p>Student must have the format of the dissertation reviewed and approved by Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies before the dissertation will be accepted.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RHSC Program Coordinator submits signed approval memo to G+PS Doctoral Exams team • Student/Supervisor submits dissertation electronically to G+PS Doctoral Exams team • Memo should include the UBC worktag code for charging courier costs, if applicable • Check Doctoral Deadlines for submission deadlines. • Submitting the Dissertation for External Examination Instructions
<p>DATE C = _____</p>	<p>Schedule exam date with Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student/Research Supervisor must schedule an exam date with the Doctoral Examinations Coordinator via e-mail at graduate.doctoral@ubc.ca

<p>(After Date B / A minimum of 4 weeks before Date D)</p>	<p>Submit Approval of University Examiners for Doctoral Thesis form for RHSC Chair signature</p> <p>Submit Examination Programme, if necessary</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University Examiners must be contacted directly by the Research Supervisor or Department Head/Graduate Advisor. Their consent to serve should have been obtained and their availability to attend the Exam should have been determined by the Research Supervisor prior to submitting this form • RHSC Program Coordinator submits signed University Examiners form to G+PS Doctoral Exams team • Programme template must be completed and submitted via e-mail to doctoral exams
<p>DATE D =</p> <p>(A minimum of 6-7 weeks after Date B)</p>	<p>Anticipated date for the final oral exam</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research supervisor is responsible for ensuring that all committee members (except for the chair) are aware of the date and start time of the exam. • Check Doctoral Deadlines for submission deadlines.

<p>Date E (on or before) =</p>	<p>Complete revisions, as necessary</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair submits completed Chair's Report to G+PS, G+PS distributes it to Examining Committee members
<p>(Normally a maximum of 1 month after Date D)</p>	<p>Submit Doctoral Dissertation Approval (DDA) and Dissertation Submission Cover sheet to RHSC Program Coordinator</p> <p>Submit Request for Delay in Publication of Thesis form, if applicable</p> <p>Submit final dissertation on cIRcle</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research supervisor and two examiners sign DDA form. RHSC Program Coordinator checks the DDA and submits to G+PS with the Dissertation Submission Cover sheet. • Candidate submits final defended & approved dissertation to G+PS • Document Requirements for Final Submission

MPT/PHD STREAM

The [MPT/PhD stream](#) provides an option for outstanding students with an interest in both clinical and research training relevant to physical therapy.

Students must start with the MPT program and will be expected to transition into a PhD in the RHSC program.

The expected completion time is five years for both degrees.

MPT/PhD Stream Schedule

Year of study considered September → following August

Y1	MPT 1	Identify a faculty member in the Department of Physical Therapy who will act as your supervisor in the RHSC program (by June)
Y2	MPT 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Apply for doctoral funding (typically September)– Register your intent with the RHSC and MPT programs prior to December 1st– Apply to PhD in RHSC Program (January)
Y3	MPT 3 / PhD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– MPT and PhD programs run concurrently during Winter Term 1– The last placement is a research placement– Enroll in RHSC 500 (Winter Term 1)– Enroll in RHSC 502 and 530 (Winter Term 2)
Y4	PhD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Complete the comprehensive exam process
Y5	PhD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Advance to Candidacy and complete thesis work

NOTE: THE MPT PROGRAM IS A FIXED PROGRAM AT 26 MONTHS IN LENGTH.

Admission Requirements

To be considered for admission to MPT/PhD, prospective students must meet the following requirements.

- 4.0 GPA in undergraduate studies
- Average over 85% in each year of MPT courses
- Demonstrated research experience
 - Completion of a research-based Master's degree prior to starting the MPT program

OR

- Formal experience in a research setting that has produced a co-authored paper in a peer-reviewed journal relevant to physical therapy research. Note that preference will be given to students who have received research training as part of a Master's degree.
- Note: Candidates who demonstrate a high level of research experience may be exempt from taking RHSC 500
- Identification of a Physical Therapy faculty member who will supervise the research components of the MPT/PhD program. For a list of eligible faculty members, click [here](#).

For a complete list of requirements, please visit the following web pages:

[MPT Admission requirements](#)

[PhD in Rehabilitation Sciences Admission requirements](#)

Application Process

1. Secure a [supervisor](#).
2. Email the RHSC program (rehab.gradprogram@ubc.ca) to register your intent on applying to the MPT/PhD stream prior to December 1st of your second year, and attach the following documentation:
 - a one-page summary describing your research experiences
 - a curriculum vitae outlining education and research credentials. This can also include honours and awards, volunteer experience, as well as a list of published papers and scientific presentations
 - a brief overview of the research you are interested in conducting during your doctoral studies (250-word maximum)

*Candidates are strongly encouraged to identify a supervisor in the first year of their MPT program and apply for funding in September of their second year in the MPT program.

3. Complete the online application to the **Rehabilitation Sciences Research (RHSC) PhD program by January of your second year in the MPT program**. For a list of instructions and deadlines, click [here](#).
 - Example timeline: If you start the MPT program in September 2025, you should apply for funding in September 2026 and apply for the RHSC program by January 2027 to start the PhD portion by September 2027. You will then be enrolled concurrently in the MPT program and the PhD program for during the fall term of 2027. Please note, this timeline refers to academic years which span from September to August.

Students will receive an MPT degree and a PhD degree at the completion of each component.

GRADUATE COURSE/PROGRAM LENGTH EXTENSIONS

1) Extensions for a course

A one term extension will be granted for a maximum of two assignments for a single course, conditional upon agreement between the student and the course instructor. This extension **MUST** be requested, in writing, prior to the initial deadline for the assignment(s). The student will send an email to the instructor, Graduate Chair, and Program Coordinator requesting the extension and detailing the extenuating circumstances. The extension will not be considered granted until the instructor and Graduate Chair provide written confirmation, via email. A copy of the emails will be placed in the student's file, though will not have an impact on future progress through the program.

In exceptional circumstances, an additional one term extension may be granted. Again, the student will send an email to the instructor, Graduate Chair, and Program Coordinator requesting the extension and detailing the extenuating circumstances.

A third extension will not be granted under any circumstance. The student will be required to complete the course again in its entirety.

Refer to G+PS guidelines on [Deferred Standing](#).

2) Extensions to the overall program

Extenuating circumstances not of the student's making may justify allowing the student additional time to complete his or her degree program. A request for a one year's extension will be received favorably if it is fully justified and supported by the student's Graduate Program Advisor.

A student should discuss the possibility of an extension with his or her Supervisor and Graduate Advisor. Each request must be accompanied by a completed [Request for Program Extension form](#) and a memo justifying the request for extension, including a written report from the last Supervisory Committee meeting and a schedule (Extension Timeline) showing how the program will be completed in the extension period requested. **Extensions are granted for one year at a time and will not be granted beyond two years.**

Due to the justification required by the committee, this process should be started at least 3-4 months prior to the end of the term.

For additional details visit the G+PS provided webpage regarding [program extensions](#).

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Students who find it necessary to interrupt their graduate studies may apply to the Dean of the Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies for a leave of absence. Information regarding Leave of Absence process and Parental Accommodation (if applicable) can be found [here](#). Please note that scholarship funding will be paused during a leave of absence.

WITHDRAWAL FROM PROGRAM

Students can withdraw from the program given the following reasons:

❖ **Academic**

Students will normally be required to withdraw if they do not make adequate academic progress according to the timelines and policies set by their home graduate program and/or G+PS. When a student is required to withdraw, the academic record will indicate "required to withdraw for academic reasons".

The RHSC Program has implemented a "3 strikes and you are out" rule to objectively govern academic withdrawals. As described above during the oral examination processes (MSc and PhD proposal, PhD comprehensive exam, MSc thesis defence), the following options are available:

1. Pass = successful completion of the examination with no areas needing formal remediation. Minor revisions with no reservations moving forward is acceptable. It is assumed that these revisions can be addressed during normal learning and degree progression.
2. Conditional Pass (worth 0.5 strikes) = required to undertake minor remedial work, as described in writing by the committee, that requires a formal supervision process. This work must be reviewed by the supervisor, and, if required, at least one member of the committee. The individual(s) responsible for oversight will be determined by the supervisory committee. One month will be given to complete the remedial work. No re-examination is required.
3. Remediation and Re-examination (2 strikes) = required to undertake minor or major remedial work as described in writing by the committee. This work must be reviewed by at least two members of the committee. Up to two months will be given to complete the remedial work. A re-examination with an examination committee will be required upon satisfactory completion. A failure to satisfactorily complete the remedial work in the allotted time frame, or a failure to successfully complete the oral re-examination, will result in a "Fail" for this component of the program.

Note: students who fail a course (< 60% for MSc students, <68% for PhD students) may be provided the option to take the course again. This would constitute a remediation and re-examination scenario. The decision on whether there is an option to take the course again or receive an outright fail (3 strikes) is at the discretion of the course instructor and Graduate Program Chair.

4.Fail (3 strikes) = The student will be required to withdraw from the program for Academic Reasons.

Once a student has acquired a total of 3 strikes throughout the program, they will be asked to withdraw for academic reasons.

❖ **Non-registration**

A student who fails to register and/or becomes absent without leave from their program for two or more consecutive terms will normally be withdrawn from the program. The academic record will indicate "withdrawal - did not register."

❖ **Voluntary**

A student wishing to withdraw voluntarily from the University must notify the home Graduate Program in writing in order to obtain the approval of the dean, department head or director, and the graduate advisor in the home Graduate Program.

For more information regarding these withdrawals and the process involved, please visit [G+PS Withdrawal Policies and Procedures](#) and the [UBC Academic Calendar – Withdrawal](#).

FAST TRACKING TO THE PHD PROGRAM

Students who wish to transfer from a Master's to a Doctoral program must have completed one year of study in the Master's program with a minimum 80% average in twelve credits, of which at least nine credits must be at the 500 level or above and at least nine credits must be at 80% or above. The student must show clear evidence of research ability.

Those who wish to consider this option must meet the criteria established by the Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences as well as those established by the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies. Supervisors should advise students on the advantages and disadvantages of such a move to interested students. While it may reduce the time required (because one degree is obtained, not two) it may not provide the individual with enough time to obtain several publications, which is very important in obtaining national doctoral scholarships.

The student and supervisor must also be aware that once approved, the new official start date for the PhD program will be the date of commencement of the MSc program, NOT the PhD program. See [Transfer from Master's to Doctoral Programs without Completing Master's Requirements](#) section of G+PS's Transfer Degree or Program website for details.

RHSC Program Criteria (note, these may differ from G+PS criteria)

1. Achieve a minimum 80% average in twelve credits, of which at least nine credits must be at the 500 level or above
2. 80% in the required courses (RHSC 500, RHSC 502, and RHSC 530)
3. peer reviewed manuscript at least accepted, preferably as the first author
4. written documentation that the supervisor and supervisory committee unanimously support the transfer to the PhD program

Students must complete the [Transfer from Master's to Doctoral Graduate Program form](#) and submit to the RHSC Program Coordinator for processing.

MSc Requirements

A minimum of thirty (30) credits are required for the degree. This consists of 18 credits for the thesis and six credits for the required courses (RHSC 500 (2 credits), RHSC 502 (3 credits), and RHSC 530 (1 credit). Six elective credits from 300-level or above will be selected from courses offered across UBC.

Enrolment

The minimum course registration requirement is 5 RHSC students.

RHSC 549 Master's Thesis

- MSc students should register for their thesis course in the first term of their graduate program and maintain continuous registration in their thesis from that point until completion of their program.

PhD Requirements

PhD Thesis (0 CREDITS)

RHSC 699 PhD Thesis

- PhD students should register for their thesis in the first term of their graduate program and maintain continuous registration in their thesis from that point until completion of their program.

Required Core Coursework (6 credits)

RHSC 500, 502, 530 as required for the MSc program as stated above.

Appropriate coursework will be selected in consultation with the candidate's committee and will depend on the student's background and field of study.

Required Core Coursework for MSc and PhD

RHSC 500 - Advanced Concepts for Rehabilitation Research

- In this course students will explore scientific enquiry related to research methodologies that include both quantitative and qualitative approaches.
- If students have taken a similar course at the graduate level, they can apply for an exemption. The process of exemption requires the student to provide course materials (course outline, assignments, etc.) to the course instructors who teach both the quantitative and qualitative methods. A student must request an exemption at least 4-6 weeks prior to the course start date.

RHSC 502 - Rehabilitation Theory

- Through discussion and critical analysis, the students will develop an advanced understanding of knowledge creation and knowledge translation in rehabilitation sciences.

RHSC 530 - Research Proposal

- Development, appraisal and formatting of a research proposal.
- Emphasis on research writing and critical analysis of a variety of research proposal formats.
- If PhD students have taken a similar course at the graduate level, they can apply for an exemption. The process of exemption requires the student to provide course materials (course outline, assignments, etc.) to the course instructor. A student must request an exemption at least 4-6 weeks prior to the course start date.

RHSC Electives

Note, not all courses will be offered in any given year. Please check with the RHSC Program Coordinator for a listing of courses offered in each academic year.

Detailed descriptions can be found on our [RHSC Courses website](#).

Course	Course Title	Credits
RHSC 504	Directed Studies in Rehabilitation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete the Directed Studies Contract (Appendix C) and submit to RHSC Program Coordinator at time of registration.	3-6
RHSC 506	Current Topics in Rehabilitation Sciences <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Placeholder for faculty members who choose to teach on a specific topic they specialize in.	3
RHSC 514	Introduction to Neuroimaging: Basic concepts and applications to research and practice <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This course is aimed towards students with a clinical or science background who wish to learn about basic neuroimaging tools used in clinical and research settings.• This is a survey course designed to introduce neuroimaging tools and their basic application in understanding neurological function and neurological disorders.	3
RHSC 515	Physical Activity in Health and Chronic Conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To explore the epidemiology, measurement, physiology, and adoption of physical activity in the prevention and treatment of chronic conditions.	3
RHSC 516	Biomechanics in Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation	3

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biomechanical analysis of human movement as it pertains to musculoskeletal disorders. Hands-on human movement assessment. 	
RHSC 517	<p>Society and Human Occupation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explores society's influence on human occupation, conceptualized as all activities people do based on need, obligation, or preference. • As the core construct of the discipline of occupational science and practice of occupational therapy, human occupation is examined for its impact across social, ethical and productive aspects of society 	3
RHSC 519	<p>Neurotrauma</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges with translational approaches and clinical issues facing people living with spinal cord and traumatic brain injury as they transition into the community 	3
RHSC 520	<p>Neurorehabilitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Therapeutic approaches and strategies in rehabilitation for persons with common neurological conditions. 	3
RHSC 537	<p>Randomized Intervention Trials in Rehabilitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designing and implementing randomized intervention trials in the rehabilitation context. 	3
CPSC 544	<p>Human Computer Interaction: DFP Fundamentals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross-disciplinary foundations for the human-centered design of interactive technologies. 	3
CPSC 554K	<p>Topics in Human Computer Interaction - DFP Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A team-oriented design project course in which student teams work on a partner-supported project, where the partners come from industry, government, not-for-profit, and research groups. 	3

ONLINE COURSES

While UBC MRSc and Graduate Certificate in Rehabilitation (GCR) students have precedence so that they can be assured of completing their program of study, MSc and PhD students are welcome to take the following courses if space is available.

- [RHSC 501 Evidence for Practice \(3\)](#)
- [RHSC 503 Reasoning and Decision-Making \(3\)](#)

- [RHSC 505 Measurement for Assessment, Planning and Evaluation \(3\)](#)
- [RHSC 507 Developing Effective Rehabilitation Programs \(3\)](#)
- [RHSC 509 Facilitating Learning in Rehabilitation Contexts \(3\)](#)
- [RHSC 581: Writing to Enhance Practice \(3\)](#)
- [RHSC 583: Applying Research to Practice \(1.5\)](#). Topics vary year to year. For current topics please review the [RHSC 583](#) page on the MRSc website.

For more information about the courses please visit the Curriculum/Courses page on the [Rehabilitation Sciences Online Program website](#).

Students must consult with their supervisor before registering, and email the Program Coordinator of the Rehabilitation Science Online programs at info@mrsc.ubc.ca to check whether space is available.

NON-REHABILITATION SCIENCE ELECTIVES OFFERED BY OTHER UBC DEPARTMENTS AND FACULTIES

Students may select graduate courses from other programs on campus, with the agreement of their supervisory committee and, if required, permission of the department offering the course. A maximum of 6 credits of approved 300- and 400-level courses may be credited toward a graduate degree.

Electives from other universities

Students in good standing at UBC may take elective courses at other universities that are approved by their committee as long as they meet Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies' standards and transfer credit limit. No tuition fee is charged if the courses are covered by the [Western Dean's agreement](#); however, students may be required to pay student society fees. Students may be charged if the Western Dean's agreement or a similar agreement does not cover the course fees. Authorization forms are available from G+PS.

ASSIGNMENTS, GRADES AND EVALUATION

ASSIGNMENTS

Assignments are due on the date assigned, unless you have negotiated an extension with the instructor before the due date. A penalty may be applied to papers handed in late.

Assignments should be typed and should contain correct spelling and grammar and are expected to be original and referenced appropriately.

Please be careful to avoid plagiarism. The UBC Calendar defines plagiarism as:

*...a form of academic misconduct in which an individual submits or presents the work of another person as his or her own. Scholarship quite properly rests upon examining and referring to the thoughts and writings of others. However, when excerpts are used in paragraphs or essays, the author must be acknowledged through footnotes or other accepted practices. **Substantial plagiarism** exists when there is no recognition given to an author for phrases, sentences, and ideas of that author, which are incorporated into an essay. **Complete plagiarism** exists when an entire essay is copied from an author, or composed by another person, and presented as original work.* (for more information, see the on-line UBC Calendar at <http://students.ubc.ca/calendar/>)

In order to avoid academic misconduct, you must:

1. credit an author for his/her ideas, whether you are using direct quotes, or have paraphrased ideas from the work;
2. complete assignments independently unless they are explicitly described as group projects (i.e., you can discuss projects with your colleagues but research and writing must be completed on your own);
3. hand in unique assignments. You may not submit the same paper, presentation or assignment more than once (whether at UBC or at another institution).

The penalties for academic misconduct are described in the UBC Calendar at

<https://vancouver.calendar.ubc.ca/campus-wide-policies-and-regulations/student-conduct-and-discipline/discipline-academic-misconduct>

USE OF GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (A.I.) IN COURSES

Use of generative artificial intelligence (A.I.) tools should be avoided unless otherwise specified by your course instructor. Instructors will detail the permissibility of A.I. use in their course syllabus. For further information, please review UBC Guidance on generative A.I.:

<https://genai.ubc.ca/guidance/>

GRADES

The passing mark in graduate courses is 60% for a Master's Degree and a minimum of 68% (B-) must be achieved in all coursework taken for credit for a PhD. However, only 6 credits of course work at 60% may be counted towards a Master's Degree. All other courses must have grades of at least 68%. Supplemental exams are not available to graduate students.

As stated above, students who fail a course (< 60% for MSc students, <68% for PhD students) may be provided the option to take the course again. This would constitute a remediation and re-examination scenario (2 strikes). The decision on whether there is an option to take the course

again, or receive an outright fail (3 strikes), is at the discretion of the course instructor and Graduate Program Chair.

APPEALS

From time-to-time students may disagree with a final grade assigned by an instructor. Students should discuss this issue with the instructor in question. If the issue is not resolved, the student should appeal to the Chair of the Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences. Students, who wish to pursue the matter beyond the steps outlined, should consult the UBC Calendar at <http://www.calendar.ubc.ca/vancouver/index.cfm?tree=3,54,111,969> for procedures regarding Appeals. The Manager, Student and Administrative Services may be consulted for further information.

EVALUATION OF COURSES

Students are asked to evaluate courses in the Program. Evaluations are taken very seriously, but are most useful when comments are constructive and specific, and when the number of students completing forms is sufficiently high to be a valid indicator of the group's response to content and teaching.

ANNUAL EVALUATION OF STUDENT PROGRESS

The progress of students will be reviewed at least once a year. Students must complete the RHSC Graduate Student Annual Progress Report by March 31 each year. The form is listed on the [RHSC Forms & Resources](#) page or in Appendix D.

EVALUATION OF THESIS SUPERVISORS

Each graduate student will complete an evaluation report of their supervisor by March 31 each year. Feedback given remains anonymous from supervisors and the RHSC Program Coordinator is the only person who sees the reports submitted by the students. This evaluation is done through a [Qualtrics survey](#).

Your feedback is important for faculty; results from evaluations are often used as merits for career progression and promotion. Students are asked to prioritize the completion of this evaluation.

USE OF GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) IN FUNDING APPLICATIONS

The use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools (e.g., ChatGPT) for grant applications does not automatically equate to academic misconduct at UBC, nor within the Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences (RHSC).

While AI may have its place in health research, in terms of using AI for grant applications, RHSC's position aligns with the CIHR that ultimately, "...applicants are responsible for writing their applications themselves".¹

This does not necessarily rule out the use of AI to support grant applications. Where and when AI is used, RHSC guidance aligns with the Tri-council draft guidance on the use of AI, in that "... applicants are responsible for ensuring that information included in their grant applications is accurate and complete and that all sources are appropriately acknowledged and referenced... applicants are required to clearly state if and where application material has been generated by AI",² to the best of their knowledge.

Importantly, applicants should be aware that using AI may lead to the use of information without proper recognition of authorship.² Please refer to UBC's Principles on When and What to Cite from Generative AI (<https://guides.library.ubc.ca/GenAI/cite>).

RHSC encourages trainees to learn more about the use of AI in academia, especially along the lines of data privacy when using publicly available AI. The following are a list of useful resources:

Published literature:

Seckel E, Stephens BY, Rodriguez F. Ten simple rules to leverage large language models for getting grant. *PLoS Comput Biol.* 2024; 20(3): e1011863

Websites:

<https://genai.ubc.ca/guidance/>

<https://academicintegrity.ubc.ca/chatgpt-faq/>

References

¹ Canadian Institutes for Health Research. What you need to know for the Fall 2023 Project Grant competition [Internet]. Canada: CIHR; [date modified 2023 July 20; cited 2024 October 16].

Available from: <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/53582.html>

² Government of Canada. Draft guidance on the use of artificial intelligence in the development and review of research grant proposals [Internet]. Canada: Government of Canada; [date modified 2024 April 10; cited 2024 October 16]. Available from: <https://science.gc.ca/site/science/en/interagency-research-funding/policies-and-guidelines/use-generative-artificial-intelligence-development-and-review-research-proposals/draft-guidance-use-artificial-intelligence-development-and-review-research-grant-proposals>

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

See **Timeline** below for comprehensive list of awards adjudicated by the RHSC Awards Committee.

Award recipients should familiarize themselves with the UBC Award Holder's Guide for essential procedural and policy information: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/awards/award-guidelines>.

Graduate Support Initiative (GSI)

The Graduate Support Initiative is a system for funding graduate students through entrance scholarships, multi-year funding packages, tuition awards and scholarship top-ups. GSI funding cannot be used as payment for employment; nor will it replace funding for TA-ships. It will automatically be put towards tuition and fees each term, with any remaining funds provided to the student.

The amount awarded is at the discretion of the supervisor for MSc students and PhD students and to be discussed with them. GSI is limited to MSc students within the first 36 months of their program, PhD students within the first 60 months of their program, and students with scholarship funding less than \$27,000 MSc, or \$40,000 PhD. A maximum of \$27,000 (MSc) or \$40,000 (PhD) of combined GSI and scholarship funding will be offered to any given student (for example, if an MSc student has a \$17,000 scholarship, the maximum GSI amount that they can receive will be \$10,000).

The Four-Year Doctoral Fellowship (4YF-G)

The Four-Year Doctoral Fellowship program will ensure UBC's best PhD students are provided with financial support of \$18,200 per year plus tuition for a maximum of four years of their PhD studies or until the end of their 5th year, whichever comes first. This program allows UBC to continue to attract and support outstanding domestic and international PhD students, and provide those students with stable, base-level funding for the four years of their PhD studies and research. The RHSC program is given a quota at the start of each year. The Awards Committee then meets and adjudicates eligible PhD students for this award. There is no application required; incoming PhD

students and PhD students in their 1st and 2nd year are automatically considered on the basis of their admissions applications. Please click [here](#) for more information.

4YF-U and 4YF-T

Four-year fellowships are also awarded via the Killam and Tri-Council scholarships. These awards are adjudicated by a different process and students can only hold these awards for the first 4 years of their PhD, which is different than the 4YF-G.

For more information about 4YF-U and 4YF-T please visit the [4YF Guidelines](#) website under 'Further Information'.

Vanier Scholarships

The Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships (Vanier CGS) program is designed to attract and retain world-class doctoral students by offering them a significant financial award to assist them during their studies at Canadian universities. Vanier Scholars demonstrate leadership skills and a high standard of scholarly achievement in the social sciences and humanities, natural sciences and engineering, and health-related fields. Canadian and international students are eligible to be nominated for a Vanier Scholarship, which is valued at \$50,000 per year for up to three years. More details can be found here: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/awards/vanier-scholarship>

Canada Graduate Scholarships (CGS) Awards – Doctoral and Master’s

The CGS-D and CGS-M awards (also known as Tri-Council or Tri-Agency funding) competitions are held in the fall of each year. These awards include funding from NSERC, SSHRC, and CIHR. More information can be found on the [G+PS Canada Graduate Scholarships – Doctoral](#) and [G+PS Canada Graduate Scholarships – Master’s](#) websites.

Affiliated Fellowships

The Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies offers approximately 50 Affiliated Fellowships each year to meritorious students. The competitions are held in the fall of each year and are adjudicated in conjunction with the CGS awards. More information can be found here: [Affiliated Fellowships – Master’s Program](#), and [Affiliated Fellowships – Doctoral Program](#).

NOTE: All Vanier, Tri-council, and 4YF scholarship holders are responsible for completing an [annual progress report](#) in order to renew their appointment.

Department and Program Awards

There are five departmental awards to which students can apply at the beginning of Fall term. These awards are the following:

- Margaret Hood Scholarship in Occupational Therapy

- Jane Hudson Scholarship in Physical Therapy
- Louise McGregor Memorial Scholarship in Neurorehabilitation
- Arthritis Society Vancouver Branch Scholarship
- Arthritis Society Vancouver Community Group James Kwan Scholarship

Details and award amounts can be found on the [RHSC Awards webpage](#). Award amounts are subject to change yearly. The amounts are updated during the Summer term and the award is typically recommended by the Fall term.

RHSC Travel Awards

Research trainees participating in the Graduate Program in Rehabilitation Sciences are eligible for a one-time travel award to disseminate their findings.

- Up to \$1000 will be available for MSc students
- Up to \$1000 will be available to PhD students
- Up to \$1000 will be available to Post-Doctoral Fellows appointed in the Depts of Occupational Science & Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy

Students will be able to apply for the travel award up to 1 year after attending the conference as well as up to 1 year after the completion of their degree.

For more information, please visit the RHSC Travel Award section under Rehabilitation Sciences Internal Funding Opportunities: <https://rehab.med.ubc.ca/awards-and-funding/> (or Appendix L)

Award Timelines:

Below, you will find a detailed timeline of when these awards typically have their application deadlines, as well as further information about each award.

SEPTEMBER

- a) CGS-D (Doctoral Tri-council funding) and Affiliated Fellowships (CIHR, SSHRC, NSERC)
 - CGS-D and Affiliated Fellowships-Doctoral competitions are run and adjudicated together
 - We receive a quota annually for how many students we can put forward to the UBC competition; G+PS then decides who is forwarded to the national competition
 - This number is the TOTAL number of students across the two competitions (CGS-D and Affiliated)
 - Agency deadline: mid- September

- b) UBC Affiliated-Doctoral Awards

- A large number of UBC-adjudicated awards given annually
- Canadian citizens and permanent residents are required to apply to the Tri-Agency CGS-D program to be considered for Affiliated funding
- We receive a quota annually for how many students we can put forward to the UBC competition
- Criteria are based on publication record, transcripts, previous awards, service
- Affiliated Fellowship-Doctoral deadline: mid-September

c) Vanier Scholarship

- Awarded to outstanding students based on a combination of leadership and academic excellence
- We receive a quota annually for how many students we can put forward to the UBC competition, who then decide who is forwarded to the national competition
- Applicant deadline is usually the first week of September

OCTOBER

- a) RHSC Internal Awards (Jane Hudson, Margaret Hood, Louise McGregor, Arthritis Society)
- Internally-adjudicated awards given annually using the same criteria as the UBC Affiliated Awards
 - Eligibility:
 - Hudson – students who are also physiotherapists holding valid license
 - Hood – students who are also occupational therapists holding valid license
 - McGregor – student must be conducting research in neurorehabilitation
 - Arthritis Society Vancouver Branch – student must be conducting research in Rheumatology
 - Arthritis Society James Kwan – student must be conducting research in Rheumatology

DECEMBER

a) MSc Tri-Council and Affiliated funding (SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR)

- Canadian citizens and permanent residents are required to apply to the Tri-Agency CGS-M program to be considered for Affiliated funding
- We receive allocations (guaranteed funding) and quota annually for how many students we can put forward to the UBC competition; G+PS then decides who is forwarded to the national competition
- This number is the TOTAL number of students across the Tri-Agency & Affiliated competitions
- CGS-M & Affiliated-M deadline: first week of December

JANUARY

a) [Indigenous Graduate Fellowships](#)

- Multi-year fellowships awarded to Master's and doctoral Indigenous students based on academic merit
- Provides a stipend of \$18,200 per year for doctoral students or \$16,175 for Master's students. AGF recipients are eligible to receive tuition funding.
- Criteria based on academic excellence, research ability or potential and communication, interpersonal and leadership abilities
- Intended to complement graduate funding programs such as 4YF and GSI programs

FEBRUARY

a) UBC Four-year Fellowship (4YF)

- Incoming PhD students and PhD students in their 1st and 2nd year are automatically considered for this award. The amount is four years in duration and includes at least \$18,200 per year stipend plus a tuition waiver each year. Currently we receive two awards per year, though this number is based on enrollment and tri-council funding success
- Applications are adjudicated 1-2 weeks after the January 15th admissions deadline and based on information detailed within the application form at the time of application. For example, students who commenced study in January will still be considered for the award, but their application will be adjudicated based on information provided at the previous June admissions meeting.
- Students must apply for Tri-council funding until no longer eligible or until they are successful in receiving external funding.
- Students cannot hold a 4YF and Tri-council funding concurrently

b) [CAGS/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Awards](#) and [UBC Dissertation Prize](#)

- Recognizes Canadian doctoral dissertations that make unusually significant and original contributions to their academic field, completed and accepted by G+PS the previous year
- Applications submitted to Graduate Programs who submit their nominations to G+PS
- Value: \$1,500 plus travel expenses to CAGS conference
- UBC Dissertation Prize recipients are chosen from those nominated to the CAGS/ProQuest Distinguished Dissertation Award

Value: \$1,000

c) [Governor General's Gold Medal](#)

- Gold medals are awarded to outstanding academic record as a doctoral student and a master's student completing a thesis from January 1 -December 31 of previous year.
- Applications submitted to Graduate Programs who submit their nominations to G+PS
- Winners are presented with a medal and certificate at the Spring convocation ceremony

APRIL

a) [Spring Graduate Awards Competition](#)

- A number of university awards are available to current graduate students. The value of funding ranges from \$150 to \$22,000.
- Criteria based on academic excellence, research ability/potential and communication and leadership abilities.

JUNE

a) [British Columbia Graduate Scholarship \(BCGS\)](#)

- Programs that received a BCGS allocation from their disciplinary Dean's Office are responsible for selecting their BCGS recipients.
- Programs submit their recommendations to G+PS
- Value: \$17,500
- Application procedures are set by graduate programs

b) [BPOC Graduate Excellence Award](#)

- Programs receive allocations from their disciplinary Dean's Office and are responsible for selecting their BPOC recipients.
- Awards are assigned to outstanding incoming graduate students who self-identify as Black or Person of Colour according to the priority table listed in the above link
- Programs submit their recommendations to G+PS
- Value: minimum \$1,500

GRANTS

Research trainees may submit to various granting agencies to obtain extramural funding for their studies and research. In doing so, university approval is required and must be in the name of your supervisor. If this is the case, please be aware that in addition to fulfilling the signature requirements of the agency to which you are applying, you must also fulfill the signature requirements of the University.

Before submitting a proposal, you must understand the specific requirements of:

- Your faculty, department or unit;
- The University, including the Overhead Policy; and
- The funding agency, whose requirements may vary among specific programs.

By University Policy, all proposals for external funding for research and other projects must be signed in the following order by:

1. Principal Applicant (and co-applicants if any)
2. UBC Department Head (or Director of a School or Institute)
3. Faculty of Medicine, Dean of Research (located in offices of FoM, 3rd floor of IRC)
4. Director Research Services on behalf of the President of UBC (located in the Office of Research Services)

Obtaining these signatures can take 5-10 working days so this process should be started early. Detailed information including required documentation and forms can be found on the UBC Office of Research Services website (<https://ors.ubc.ca/proposal-submission>).

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Each year, there are opportunities for graduate students to become teaching assistants for courses offered in the MPT and MOT programs. The available TA positions are posted internally each March by the administrative managers in each department. These positions are usually offered to full-time students who have particular expertise or interest in the clinical area covered in the course. Employment guidelines follow the policies established by the teaching assistants' union, [CUPE 2278](#).

- For postings in the Entry level Master of Occupational Therapy (MOT), please contact: Michael Lee at michael.lee@ubc.ca or Tracy Henderson at tracy.henderson@ubc.ca
- For postings in the Entry level Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) students, please contact: Dr. Alison Grieg at alison.grieg@ubc.ca or Andrea Hardaker at andrea.hardaker@ubc.ca

More information regarding **research assistantships** can be found [here](#).

POLICIES RE: PHOTOCOPYING, DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT

ACCESS COPYRIGHT AGREEMENT

Photocopying is governed by the Copyright Act in Canada, which grants a copyright owner the sole right to authorize copying of his/her works. Permission of a copyright owner is not required when you are making one copy of the following for the purpose of private study and research:

- a periodical article of a scientific, technical or scholarly nature from a book or periodical issue containing other works;
- a newspaper article or entry from an encyclopedia, dictionary, annotated bibliography or similar reference work;
- a short story, play, poem or essay from a book or periodical containing other works
(adapted from *Copying Right*, p. 2)

The following copying is prohibited under the Act:

- copying of more than 10% of a work;
- copying an entire chapter if it is equal to more than 20% of the work;
- copying a complete book; published workbooks; or print music published for use by choirs, orchestras, bands, and similar groups (adapted from *WARNING*, June 1995).

The Canadian Copyright Act is available in the Law Library. *Copying Right* is available for review at the Main Library.

DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT

It is the policy of the School and the University to provide an environment that is free from discrimination and harassment. The School will enforce this policy vigorously. According to the UBC Policy on Discrimination and Harassment:

“Discrimination” and “Harassment” refer to intentional or unintentional behaviour for which there is no reasonable justification. Such behaviour adversely affects specific individuals or groups on the basis of characteristics defined by the 1992 B.C. Human Rights Act. These characteristics include age, race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, political belief, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, and unrelated criminal convictions.

“Harassment” also includes “Sexual Harassment.” “Sexual Harassment” is unwanted sexual behaviour, particularly sexual behaviour accompanied by promises of academic or employment opportunities or by threats of loss of such opportunities.

(2000 UBC Policy Handbook, Policy #3)

Procedures

In the first instance all issues regarding discrimination or harassment should be directed towards the Chair of the Graduate Programs. If there is a perceived conflict, students should refer to the Department Head to whom their supervisor is responsible.

They will listen, in confidence, to your concerns, and will determine whether complaint procedures under the UBC policy apply. If the complaint procedures apply, the Ombudsperson and/or Equity Advisor will attempt an informal resolution with your permission.

Mediation. If the informal process is unsatisfactory, mediation may be necessary.

Formal Investigation. You may apply for a formal investigation if you do not wish to proceed with informal resolution of the problem, or with mediation.

For more information, please contact:

NAME	PHONE	E-MAIL / WEBSITE
Equity Office	604-822-6353	
Associate Dean (Equity), Faculty of Medicine	604-822-5821	med.equity@ubc.ca
Graduate & Postdoctoral Wellbeing Support Coordinator	n/a	Alisha Lettman Wellbeing for graduates Graduate & Postdoctoral Education
Counselling Services	604-822-3811 or 604-822-9260	http://students.ubc.ca/counselling
Disability Resource Centre	604-822-5844	disability.resource@ubc.ca
First Nations House of Learning	604-822-8940	https://fnhl.ubc.ca/longhouse/
Graduate Student Society (GSS)	604-822-3203	https://gss.ubc.ca
Student Health Service	604-822-7011	https://students.ubc.ca/health/student-health-service
Women Students' Office	604-822-2415	https://womenscentre.ams.ubc.ca/

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY ACT

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act was proclaimed in force for universities in the province in November 1994.

The Protection of Privacy part of the Act stipulates that personal information may be released ONLY to the person the information is about, or with written consent, to a third party. Such written consent must be specific about:

- to whom the information may be disclosed; and,
- for what purpose the information may be used.

Personal information means recorded information about an individual including:

- name, address or telephone number;
- race, national or ethnic origin, colour, religious or political beliefs;
- age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status or family status;
- an identifying number, (e.g., student number, SIN);
- fingerprints, blood type or inheritable characteristics;
- health care history, including a physical or mental disability;
- educational, financial, criminal or employment history;
- anyone else's opinions about the individual; and personal views or opinions, except if they are about someone else.

The Freedom of Information part of the Act gives you the right to request access to any records, which contain personal information about you, unless the information is exempt from disclosure under the Act.

USEFUL WEBSITES

- ❖ The Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca>
- ❖ Policies and Procedures: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/faculty-staff/policies-procedures>
- ❖ Academic Progress: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/faculty-staff/policies-procedures/academic-progress>

- ❖ ADMISSIONS:
 - Requirements by G+PS: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/prospective-students/application-admission/admission-requirements>
 - Conditional Acceptance Program: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/prospective-students/application-admission/conditional-admission-program>
 - International Student Evaluation Manual: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/faculty-staff/international-student-evaluation-manual>
 - Newly Admitted Grad Student: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/current-students/newly-admitted>

- ❖ FUNDING:
 - Scholarships, Awards and Funding: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/scholarships-awards-funding>
 - Award Opportunities: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/scholarships-awards-funding/award-opportunities>
 - Awards FAQ: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/scholarships-awards-funding/awards-faq>

- ❖ STUDENTS:
 - Masters and Doctoral Thesis Examination Processes: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/faculty-staff/policies-procedures/examinations-masters-theses-doctoral-dissertations>
 - Comprehensive Examination and Candidacy: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/faculty-staff/policies-procedures/comprehensive-examination-candidacy>
 - Working while studying: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/faculty-staff/policies-procedures/working-while-studying>
 - Reinstatement: <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/faculty-staff/policies-procedures/reinstatement>

Appendix A – RHSC New Student Checklist

RHSC New Student Checklist

Congratulations on your admission into the UBC Rehabilitation Sciences Program. We are looking forward to welcoming you to the program in the fall. Here are some things you can get started on prior to the start of the term.

Please send completed certificates and items for tasks 1 to 5 (below) to the RHSC Program Coordinator at rehab.gradprogam@ubc.ca before the start of your term as one email.

Please include the following in the subject line:
Full Name, Degree, Student # - Completed New Student Checklist

Ex. (Jane Smith, MSc, 12345678 – Completed New Student Checklist)

1) Complete the UBC Anti-Bullying & Harassment Certificate

<https://wpl.ubc.ca/browse/srs/mandatory/courses/wpl-srs-bulhar>

Please click the above link and complete this short module. It will take you approximately 20 minutes. Send your certificate of completion to the RHSC Program Coordinator.

If you already completed this course in September 2020 or later, you are not required to complete this again. Please send your certificate of completion to the RHSC Program Coordinator.

If you took this course prior to September 2020, please complete this course again and send your certificate of completion to the RHSC Program Coordinator.

2) Complete the TCPS 2: CORE (Course on Research Ethics) Online Module

<https://tcps2core.ca/welcome>

Complete TCPS2 CORE (required for RHSC 500) and send your final certificate to the RHSC Program Coordinator.

If you've already completed this course, you are not required to do it again, please send your certificate of completion to the RHSC Program Coordinator. (If you completed this module prior to 2010, it is encouraged you go through the online module again as a refresher for your research.)

If this is your first time completing TCPS 2 CORE, allocate around 2.5 - 3 hours to complete the eight topics as part of the online module. Please send your certificate of completion to the RHSC Program Coordinator when you are done.

3) Complete the RHSC Student-Supervisor Expectations Checklist

It is never too early to meet with your supervisor to get information regarding their expectations, course work and research study ideas for your thesis – the sooner, the better. We highly recommend that you meet with them (even by phone or video conference) BEFORE your official entry into the program.

Complete the [RHSC Student-Supervisor Expectations form](#) with your supervisor and send to rehab.gradprogram@ubc.ca.

4) UBC Student Email Address

<https://it.ubc.ca/services/email-voice-internet/ubc-student-email-service?upn=>

Please register and send your **UBC Student email address** to the RHSC Program Coordinator to be added to the RHSC mailing list. Important information regarding program deadlines, awards, opportunities, and events will be sent to this address.

5) Criminal Record Check

<https://justice.gov.bc.ca/eCRC/>
Access Code: 3WV6RPVSPT

All incoming students at UBC who are enrolled in programs that include a practicum component involving work with children or vulnerable adults **are required** to undergo a criminal records check. This includes the Rehabilitation Sciences program. The cost is \$28 CAD.

Click the link above and fill out the information required for the criminal record check—please send your record check or letter of completion to the RHSC Program Coordinator. Processing of your Criminal Record Check request may take up to 3 weeks. Please plan accordingly to meet the RHSC deadline for certificates.

If you've previously obtained a Criminal Record Check (January 2021 to present) you may send a copy of that version to the RHSC Program Coordinator.

6) Apply for a UBC Student Card

<https://ubccard.ubc.ca/obtaining-a-ubccard/students>

Please sign up for a physical UBCcard (not the digital version). This will ensure you have access to various buildings, facilities (libraries, fitness centres, etc...), e-commerce purchases, and/or meal plans during your time on campus.

If you are unable to be on campus in the spring of 2022 (January – April) due to COVID-19, apply for a digital UBCcard. You can transfer to a physical card once you are on campus.

7) Register in your thesis course

<https://workday.students.ubc.ca/>

MSc students must register for the thesis **RHSC 549** in the first term of their graduate program and maintain continuous registration in their thesis from that point until completion of their program.

PhD students must register for their thesis **RHSC 699** in the first term of their graduate program and maintain continuous registration in their thesis from that point until completion of their program.

8) Responsible Conduct of Research Course (RCR) – Faculty of Medicine

<https://grad-postdoc.med.ubc.ca/current-students/research-conduct-course/>

Complete the RCR course (mandatory for Faculty of Medicine graduate students) and send your final certificate to the RHSC Program Coordinator.

If you've already completed this course, you are not required to do it again, please send your certificate of completion to the RHSC Program Coordinator.

The course is **offered three times each academic year** and is comprised of two face-to-face sessions and an online component to be completed between these two sessions. All three sessions must be complete to receive the full certificate of completion signed by the Associate Dean, Graduate and Postdoctoral Education.

9) Visit the Faculty of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies (G+PS) Newly Admitted Website

<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/current-students/newly-admitted>

This site has great information on things to do before and after registration and during your first few weeks, first month and first year, as well as pre-arrival webinars, residence housing, and living in Vancouver. Also provided in this link is an interactive checklist to help keep track of important first steps as you begin your UBC studies.

10) Come and say hi! (Or virtually say hi!)

Drop by the RHSC Admin Office located in the Koerner Pavilion Building, 2211 Wesbrook Mall, third floor, room T121, if you need help during your first few days. Otherwise, please feel free to email the RHSC Program Coordinator at rehab.gradprogram@ubc.ca if you have any questions or concerns.

Welcome, and looking forward to seeing you soon.

A joint program with the Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy and the Department of Physical Therapy

Appendix B - [Student/Supervisor Expectations](#)

Re: Checklist of Expectations

It is recommended by the University of British Columbia (Policy #85 on Scholarly Integrity) that research conditions for all involved in a research team be outlined before the team members become engaged. The Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences believes that the relationship between a graduate student and his/her supervisor can only be improved by early and open communication of expectations on the part of both student and supervisor. We have accordingly generated the attached “checklist of expectations” that is designed to comply with UBC’s policy on the communication of expectations and which takes into account the Graduate Studies policies on the duties of graduate students and their supervisors. We expect that every incoming student and his/her supervisor read and discuss the list, add to it if necessary, initial the papers, and submit copies to Program Assistant to be filed in the students’ files. It is our hope that the discussion of expectations will head off any misunderstandings that might otherwise arise, and foster an ongoing spirit of open communication.

Graduate Student / Supervisor Expectations

The document is for students and their supervisors. Ideally, supervisors and students will discuss the document, retain copies of the document, and have a copy of the document placed in a student’s file. Discussion of expectations can foster open communication between supervisors and students and prevent misunderstandings that might otherwise arise. This document is not a replacement for University rules. To the extent that any statements in this document contradict University of British Columbia policies, rules, or regulations, the University of British Columbia policies, rules and regulations prevail. Ultimately, successful completion of a graduate program of study is the student’s responsibility.

Mutual understanding of expectations between students and their supervisors is critical to the success of a graduate program. This document is intended to be read and discussed by students and their supervisors at the onset of the students’ programs. This document may be re-visited and modified over time as necessary, with any revised versions held by students and supervisors and kept on students’ files. Students undertaking work at the master’s level will find some of the points outlined are specific to doctoral students.

As your supervisor, you can expect me to:

- Demonstrate commitment to your research and educational program, and offer stimulation, respectful support, constructive criticism, and consistent encouragement.
- Assist with identification of a research topic that is suitable for you and manageable within the scope of your degree.
- Have sufficient familiarity with your field of research to provide guidance as a supervisor.
- Assist you in gaining access to required facilities or research materials for your projects.
- Discuss your financial support issues and assist with scholarship applications and/or providing advice on academic employment opportunities.
- Provide guidance in the ethical conduct of research and model research integrity.
- Discuss with you the implications of engaging with activities/work unrelated to your thesis topic.
- Provide information about my availability for meetings and expectations about preparation for meetings.
- Assist you in planning your research program, setting a time frame, and adhering as much as possible to the schedule.
- Encourage you to finish up when it would not be in your best interest to stay longer.
- Be accessible for consultation and discussion of your academic progress and research at a minimum of once a term. [On average, our meetings will be held _____.]
- Minimize my expectations for activities/work that may interfere with your thesis completion.
- Institute a supervisory committee (with appropriate input from you) and prepare for committee meetings, which will occur on a regular basis (at least once a year) to review your progress and provide guidance for your future work.
- Support you in your preparation for the comprehensive examination and admission to candidacy which will be completed within 36 months of program initiation.
- Act as a resource about managing program requirements, deadlines, etc.
- Attend your presentations in appropriate venues and join in associated discussion.
- Submit recommendations for external examiners and university examiners for the doctoral dissertation within the time frames required by the Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.
- Acknowledge your contributions, when appropriate, in published material and oral presentations [Discuss policy regarding authorship, etc. of papers] in accordance with good scholarly practice and the University of British Columbia scholarly integrity policies.

- Provide reasonable expectations about work day hours and vacation time in accordance with University of British Columbia policies.
- Clarify my preferred style of communication with students about areas, such as student independence, approaches to conflict, direct questioning, and mentoring.
- Explain my expectations for mode of address, professional behavior (e.g. punctuality), when to seek assistance, response to constructive criticism, and academic performance expectations.
- Assist you to overcome any cultural difficulties with norms and expectations.
- Respond thoroughly (with constructive suggestions for improvement) and in a timely fashion to submitted, written work.
- Promote a research environment that is safe and free from harassment.
- Assist in managing conflict or differences among members of the supervisory committee.
- Make arrangements to ensure adequate supervision if I am absent for extended periods, e.g. more than a month.
- Encourage you to present your research results within and outside the University. [Approximately how often? _____.]
- Provide mentoring in academic writing.
- Provide advice and mentorship with respect to career opportunities, which may be assisted by resources, skills, professional development, and other avenues.
- Other:

supervisor signature	supervisor print name	date

student signature	student print name	date

I, the supervisor, can expect of you, the student to:

- Be committed and show dedicated effort in gaining the necessary background knowledge and in carrying out your research project.
- Develop, in conjunction with myself, a plan and a timetable for completion of each stage of the thesis project, and to work assiduously to adhere to a schedule and to meet appropriate deadlines.
- Meet with me when requested and to report fully and regularly on progress and on results.
- Give serious consideration to and respond to advice and criticism received from myself and other members of the supervisory committee.
- Data from research projects are the property of the University of British Columbia. Researchers have an ethical obligation to funding bodies, research participants and society in general to ensure that study findings are shared broadly. Unpublished data are typically made available to other members of the research team usually within a 6–12-month period of a student's convocation if no progress has been made to publish the findings. Authorship order may change but the student would remain as a coauthor.
- Contribute to the maintenance of a workplace that is tidy and safe, and where each individual shows tolerance and respect for the rights of others.
- Provide guidance in the ethical conduct of research and model research integrity.
- Be thoughtful and reasonably frugal in using resources.
- Read and understand the policies outlined in the Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences' Student Handbook.
- Conform to the University and departmental requirements for your program. This includes ensuring that you meet at least yearly with your supervisory committee.
- Meet agreed standards and deadlines of the funding organization to the extent possible when financing has been provided under a contract or grant.
- Keep orderly records of your research data and to leave the original records in the lab when you leave UBC.
- Develop a clear understanding concerning ownership of intellectual property (refer to UBC policy on Patents and Licensing, https://universitycounsel.ubc.ca/files/2022/05/Inventions-Policy_LR11.pdf and the University Industry Liaison Office, www.uilo.ubc.ca).
- Confirm that use of generative A.I. writing (e.g., LLM's) in any documents produced for publication or proposals is either:
 - Allowed and must be expressly discussed with and approved by your supervisor and committee; or
 - Not allowed unless expressly discussed with and approved by your supervisor and committee.
- Take the required safety training programs (see Orientation Checklist).

- Apply to the University or to granting agencies for financial awards, if you have not already done so.
- Work at least regular workday hours on your research project after coursework has been completed, with at least 2 weeks vacation.
- Discuss policy on:
 - Use of computers and equipment for personal reasons
 - Lab etiquette and attire
 - Career plans
 - Authorship
- Other:

supervisor signature	supervisor print name	date

student signature	student print name	date

RHSC 504- Directed Studies in Rehabilitation (3-6 credits)

This course involves independent study of a project related to rehabilitation sciences which is consistent and supportive of the educational and professional goals of the graduate student.

Each 3-credit directed study should reflect a minimum of 80 hours of work on the part of the student. Directed study can be supervised by any School of Rehabilitation Sciences faculty member who is a member or associate member of the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Direct contact with the Faculty member can vary dependent on the focus of the course. A guidelines is shown below:

Suggested Credit Value of Directed Study:

- () 2 credits – _ Instructor estimates approx 27 hours of direct contact time with student
- () 3 credits – _ Instructor estimates approx 40 hours of direct contact time with student
- () 4 credits – _ Instructor estimates approx 53 hours of direct contact time with student
- () 6 credits – _ Instructor estimates approx 80 hours of direct contact time with student Six credit study must extend over two terms.

Responsibilities of the Student:

1. Complete "Directed Study Contract". This should be completed and signed by both the student and the Directed Studies Supervisor prior to registration for directed study credit. The deadline for completion of the study contract is one week after the term begins.
2. Distribute signed copies of the directed study contract to the Directed Studies Supervisor (deadline: one week after the term begins).
3. Schedule a minimum of four appointments with Supervisor. The first appointment (prior to or during the first week of the term) should be to review the student's directed study contract; the second and third should be to review progress; and the fourth (during the last week of the term) should be a final evaluation session.
4. Meet contract commitments and submit written work to Supervisor prior to the last week of the term.

Responsibilities of the Directed Studies Supervisor:

1. Review directed study contract prior to the end of the first week of the term.
2. Meet with student a minimum of four times during the term to facilitate the identification and accomplishment of directed study objectives and activities.
3. Inform the student at the beginning of term about the required referencing format for the paper.
4. Inform the student at the beginning of term how course work will be evaluated.
5. Provide student with evaluation of directed study.

DIRECTED STUDY CONTRACT (RHSC 504)

Name of Student _____ Student # _____

Proposed Interval of Directed Study:

Winter Session () Term 1 (Sep-Dec) () Term 2 (Jan – Apr)
Summer Session () Term 1 (May – Jun) () Term 2 (Jul – Aug)

Title or topic of study _____

A. OBJECTIVES

1.

2.

3...

B. ACTIVITIES (Describe methods to be used to accomplish objectives.)

1.

2.

3...

C. OUTCOMES (Explain planned measurable methods of evaluation documenting achievement of objectives, i.e., faculty written assessment, a written or oral report, etc.)

Due Date

Marks Allocated

1.

2.

3...

Student_____

Date_____

Directed Studies Supervisor_____

Date_____

Chair of Research Graduate Programs_____

Date_____

Copies with signatures to:

1. Directed Studies Supervisor
2. Student
3. Administrative Assistant for RGP Chair (to student's file)

Completion of Course:

Students are expected to complete Directed Studies within the contracted term. If not completed, the student has ***one additional term*** to successfully complete contracted activities. After this time period, except under extenuating circumstances, and with approval from the Chair of Research Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences, a grade of 0% will be assigned.

Appendix D - Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Student Progress Report

SECTION A - To be completed by the student annually

Students will complete the report form in response to the following questions:

1. **Accomplishments over the past year**
 - a. What progress was made during the previous year toward completing the program requirements (courses, comprehensive examination, thesis, etc.)? Did the progress meet or surpass the objectives set at the beginning of the year? Please explain.
 - b. What progress was achieved during the previous year with respect to professional development in the program of studies (conference presentations, publications, etc.)? Also, list your awards history.
 - c. What program requirements (courses, comprehensive examination, thesis, etc.) still need to be completed? Please specify the completion deadlines for outstanding program requirements, including the specific objectives for meeting these in the next year.
2. **Plan for the Coming Year**
 - a. What progress do you plan to make in the coming year toward completing the program requirements (courses, comprehensive examination, thesis, etc.)?
 - b. What are your learning objectives with respect to professional development for the coming year and what steps will you need to take to meet these objectives?

SECTION B – To be completed by the Thesis Supervisor

Thesis Supervisors should complete the questions on the form and provide additional comments regarding the student's progress. If progress is not satisfactory, please attach documentation outlining the assessment of the progress.

SECTION C - To be completed by the Program Graduate Advisor

The Program Graduate Advisor needs to review and sign the report. If progress is not satisfactory, the Graduate Advisor and/or the Thesis Supervisor should attach documentation outlining what measures have been or will be taken to redress the situation.

Please return completed forms to the Rehabilitation Sciences [Program Coordinator](#).

REHABILITATION SCIENCES GRADUATE STUDENT PROGRESS REPORT

Last Name:	First Name:	Year for Report:
Start Date in Program:	Degree Program: <input type="radio"/> MSc <input type="radio"/> PhD <input type="radio"/> MPT/ PhD	
Supervisor:	Thesis Committee Members:	
SECTION A Student's Report (Refer to the questions outlined in the instructions.)		

1. Accomplishments over the past year

	First Author	Co-Author
Peer Reviewed Papers	Total this year:	Total this year:
	Total:	Total:
Peer Reviewed Presentations	Total this year:	Total this year:
	Total:	Total:

Last Name: _____ **First Name:** _____ **Year for Report:** _____

Start Date in Program: _____ **Degree Program:** MSc PhD MPT/PhD

Supervisor: _____ **Thesis Committee Members:** _____

SECTION A Student's Report (Refer to the questions outlined in the instructions.)

2. Plan for the Coming Year (attach a separate page as necessary):

Date: _____ **Signature (Student):** _____

SECTION B Thesis Supervisor's Comments

1. **How often do you meet with the student?** Weekly Monthly Every two months Rarely or Never
2. **When do you expect the thesis to be submitted (date)?**
3. **What is your general assessment of the student's progress during the past year?**
 Excellent Very Good Good Fair Inadequate (attach relevant documents)

Please provide details on the student's research progress:

Thesis Supervisor (Printed Name)

Signature

Date

SECTION C Program Graduate Advisor Comments

- Fully Satisfactory Report**
- Unsatisfactory Report (Please indicate what measures have been or will be taken to redress the situation and attach any relevant documents.)**

Graduate Advisor
(Printed Name)

Signature

Date

Appendix E - Supervisor Evaluation Form

NOTE: This is to be completed anonymously on a Qualtrics survey. Please see our website for the link: <https://rehab.med.ubc.ca/current-students/forms-resources/students/>

Graduate Supervisor Evaluation

Name of Supervisor	Date
<p>If the question below is not applicable to your situation please leave the question response area blank.</p>	
	1 = Disagree strongly 2 = disagree somewhat 3 = neutral 4 = agree somewhat 5 = agree strongly
1. The supervisor treats the graduate student with respect	
2. The supervisor provides assistance with the selection and planning of a suitable and manageable research topic.	
3. The supervisor has sufficient familiarity with the field or research to provide guidance and/or willingness to gain that familiarity.	
4. The supervisor is accessible for discussion of my work and progress.	
5. The supervisor makes arrangements to establish a supervisory committee and convenes a meeting at least annually to evaluate the student's progress.	
6. The supervisor responds in a timely and constructive manner to written work submitted by the student (G+PS) guidelines recommend a turnaround time not greater than 3 weeks).	
7. The supervisor makes reasonable arrangements to ensure that the research resources needed for the thesis project are available to the student.	
8. The supervisor helps to ensure that the research environment is safe, healthy and free from harassment, discrimination and conflict.	

Name of Supervisor	Date
<p>9. The supervisor assists the student to be aware of current program requirements, deadlines and sources of funding.</p>	
<p>10. The supervisor encourages the student to make presentations of research results within the University and/or to outside scholarly or professional bodies as appropriate.</p>	
<p>11. The supervisor acknowledges appropriately the contributions of the student in presentations and in published material, and in many cases via joint authorship.</p>	
<p><i>Comments to Supervisor</i> PLEASE NOTE: WRITTEN FEEDBACK GIVEN IN THIS SECTION WILL BE PROVIDED TO YOUR SUPERVISOR EVERY TWO YEARS (IF REQUESTED) AND IN A POOLED FASHION TO ENSURE ANONYMITY OF RESPONSES.</p>	
<p><i>PLEASE CHECK THIS BOX IF YOU HAVE COMMENTS THAT YOU WISH TO BE PROVIDED VIA A CONFIDENTIAL FACE TO FACE MEETING THE GRAD CHAIR.</i> <input type="checkbox"/></p>	

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM VIA EMAIL TO <mailto:rehab.gradprogram@ubc.ca>

RHSC Supervisory Committee Form

Student Information

Last Name	First Name		Today's Date
Degree (Master's or PhD or MPT/PhD)	UBC Student Number	Program Start Date	Anticipated Program End Date

Supervisory Committee

Supervisor Name	Department Rehabilitation Sciences	Date	G+PS Member? Yes
Co-Supervisor Name (if applicable)	Department	Date	G+PS Member?
Committee Member #1 Name	Department	Date	G+PS Member?
Committee Member #2 Name	Department	Date	G+PS Member?
Committee Member #3 Name	Department	Date	G+PS Member?

If a committee member is NOT a G+PS member, please also fill out the table below:

Committee Member #1 Name	University/Organization	Job/Position Title	Email
Committee Member #2 Name	University/Organization	Job/Position Title	Email

RHSC Program Office Only

Date Entered into RHSC Student Database	Date Entered into FoM Supervisor Approval Portal	Date Entered into SISC
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Supervisory Committee

All graduate students are required to have a Supervisory Committee. Supervisory committees are to be composed primarily of research faculty members who hold tenure stream professorial board appointments. Adding any committee member who does not have a research, tenure stream professorial board appointment at UBC requires the approval of the Graduate Advisor and G+PS. The proposed committee member must 1) provide expertise that is not already available from a UBC faculty member, 2) provide an independent voice from other committee members, and 3) have the qualifications to supervise graduate research at the standard of excellence at UBC. A memo from the supervisor, addressing all three criteria, is required for approval.

Master's students must have a minimum of three faculty members on their committee (including the supervisor). Committee members are usually UBC faculty members holding the rank of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Professor. Two committee members can be either an adjunct member of RHSC or some other UBC academic unit or a non-RHSC UBC research faculty with a tenure stream professorial board appointment.

Doctoral students must have a minimum of three faculty members on their committee (including the supervisor). Committee members are usually UBC faculty members holding the rank of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Professor. Two committee members can be either an adjunct member or honorary professor of RHSC or some other UBC academic unit or a non-RHSC UBC research faculty with a tenure stream professorial board appointment.

A justification for non-G+PS committee members should be provided to the Graduate Advisor along with the committee form. Special permission allows for supervisory committees to include senior instructors, honorary faculty, adjunct faculty, off-campus professionals and/or faculty members from other universities so long as the majority of the committee consists of UBC faculty holding the ranks above. A letter justifying the appointment and a copy of the individual's curriculum vitae should be submitted to the Graduate Coordinator.

Supervisory committees must conform to the policies listed in this section and should be formed within the first academic term. Students should consult with their supervisor regarding faculty members suitable to act as members of their committee. Choice of members of the supervisory committee is a joint decision between the student and supervisor. Once the student's supervisory committee has been formed, students are required to fill out the Supervisory Committee Form, which must be signed by the student, the supervisor, and the Graduate Advisor. Requested changes to supervision should follow the policies laid out by G+PS (<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/faculty-staff/policies-procedures/supervision>).

Research Student Abstract Form

Student's Name:

Supervisor's Name:

Advisory Committee:

External Examiner (for administrative use only – please leave blank):

Please select one:

- MSc Proposal
- MSc Defence
- PhD or MPT/PhD Proposal
- PhD or MPT/PhD Defence

Title of presentation:

Date:

Time:

Location:

Zoom Link:

Meeting ID:

Passcode:

Brief Abstract:



a place of mind
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Appendix H – MSc Proposal Exam Completion Memo

MEMO FOR MSc PROPOSAL EXAM

DATE:

MEMBERS OF THE EXAMINATION COMMITTEE:

SUPERVISOR:

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

EXTERNAL MEMBER: (optional)

MSc STUDENT:

Please be advised the master's student, _____ completed his/her proposal exam

The exam was undertaken on _____ and was chaired by _____. It began at _____ and finished by _____. The examination committee asked two/three rounds of questions. The order of questioning was _____, _____, _____, _____.

At [insert time], the student was asked to leave the room while the committee deliberated about his/her performance. The Examination Committee Members were unanimous/not unanimous about their decision to provide the student with a **Pass/Conditional Pass/Fail**. [could include a few details]

[describe steps for follow-up, if any]

Supervisor Signature

Please complete this memo and provide a copy to the RHSC Program Coordinator and the Chair of the RHSC Graduate Programs.

If result is a Conditional Pass, complete the following section once revisions are complete and re-submit to RHSC Program:

Conditions met as described above

Comps passed on: [insert date]

DATE:

1. Written Components

2. Description of link between written components and proposed dissertation topic

3. Proposed timeline for comprehensive examination process

4. Supervisory Committee Members:

5. Anticipated oral exam chair:

Student:

Signature

Name (please print)

Date (yyyy/mm/dd)

Supervisor:

Signature

Name (please print)

Date (yyyy/mm/dd)

Program Chair:

Signature (must be different from above)

Name (please print)

Date (yyyy/mm/dd)

Appendix J - PhD Comprehensive Exam Completion Memo

MEMO FOR PhD COMPREHENSIVE EXAM COMPLETION

DATE:

MEMBERS OF THE EXAMINATION COMMITTEE:

SUPERVISOR:

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

EXTERNAL MEMBER: (optional)

PhD STUDENT:

Please be advised the doctoral student, _____ completed his/her written comprehensive exams that were comprised of:

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

The written exams were deemed to be sufficient to progress to an oral exam.

The oral exam was undertaken on _____ and was chaired by _____. It began at _____ and finished by _____. The examination committee asked two/three rounds of questions. The order of questioning was _____, _____, _____, _____.

At [insert time], the student was asked to leave the room while the committee deliberated about his/her performance. The Examination Committee Members were unanimous/not unanimous about their decision to provide the student with a **Pass/Conditional Pass/Fail**. [could include a few details]

[describe steps for follow-up, if any]

Comprehensive Exam Chair Signature

Please complete this memo and provide a copy to the RHSC Program Coordinator and the Chair of the RHSC Graduate Programs.

If result is a Conditional Pass, complete the following section once revisions are complete and re-submit to RHSC Program:

Conditions met as described above

Comps passed on: [insert date]

Appendix K - PhD Dissertation Proposal Defence Completion Memo

MEMO FOR PhD PROPOSAL EXAM

STUDENT:

DATE:

MEMBERS OF THE EXAMINATION COMMITTEE:

SUPERVISOR:

SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

EXTERNAL MEMBER: (optional)

PhD STUDENT:

Please be advised the PhD or MPT/PhD student, _____ completed his/her proposal defence.

The defence was undertaken on _____ and was chaired by _____. It began at _____ and finished by _____. The examination committee asked two/three rounds of questions. The order of questioning was _____, _____, _____, _____.

At [insert time], the student was asked to leave the room while the committee deliberated about his/her performance. The Examination Committee Members were unanimous/not unanimous about their decision to provide the student with a **Pass/Conditional Pass/Fail**. [could include a few details]

[describe steps for follow-up, if any]

Supervisor Signature

Please complete this memo and provide a copy to the RHSC Program Coordinator and the Chair of the RHSC Graduate Programs.

If result is a Conditional Pass, complete the following section once revisions are complete and re-submit to RHSC Program:

Conditions met as described above

Comps passed on: [insert date]

GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN REHABILITATION SCIENCES

TRAVEL AWARD CRITERIA AND APPLICATION

Research trainees participating in the Graduate Program in Rehabilitation Sciences are eligible for a one-time travel award. Each student is eligible for 1 award during their program. Each Post-Doctoral Fellow is eligible for 1 award during their employment. Below is an explanation of what funds are available to students:

- Up to \$100 will be available for MSc students
- Up to \$1000 will be available to PhD students
- Up to \$1000 will be available to Post-Doctoral Fellows
- Students will be able to apply for the travel award up to **1 year** after attending the conference as well as up to 1 year after the completion of their degree

Please note: Students holding scholarships that have a research/travel allowance (including, but not limited to, CIHR Doctoral awards, Mitacs fellowships) are ineligible to apply for the RHSC Travel Award, but are still eligible for the G+PS Graduate Student Travel Fund.

Eligibility Criteria

Please review the following eligibility criteria carefully. You must meet all criteria in order to be eligible for the RHSC Travel Award:

- present at a symposium or conference a refereed/invited paper of which he/she is the first author and the School is acknowledged;
- at the time of the conference, you must be registered as a full-time student or present during or within one year of completing training program. If you are no longer currently registered in the MSc or PhD degree, please indicate the date of the presentation _____ and your completion date _____;
- have applied for a travel grant from the Faculty of Graduate Studies (if a full-time student). See more information at [G+PS Graduate Student Travel and Research Dissemination Fund](#) . Students are required to submit a copy of their G+PS travel fund application.

Use this space or an additional page to provide explanation if any of the criteria or steps in application process were not met. Providing an explanation does not guarantee that these criteria or processes will be waived.

Signatures provided by the Supervisor and Chair indicate that research trainee has met all criteria or student has met most criteria and sufficient explanation has been provided for those criteria waived.

Research Trainee Supervisor

Graduate Program Chair

Date: _____

**Graduate Programs in Rehabilitation Sciences
GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN REHABILITATION SCIENCES TRAVEL FUND**

Procedure & Payment Information

Applications for reimbursement will be accepted only after travel is completed. Otherwise, there is no deadline for submission. It normally takes two to four weeks for Financial Services to process travel requisitions.

Eligible Expenses

- Travel (at economy airfare prices)
- Accommodation
- Conference registration
- Meals

For information about per diem rates and other eligible travel expenses please see UBC Policy #83 - Travel and Related Expenses at <http://www.bridge.ubc.ca/pdf/Forms/UBCTravelPolicy.doc>

Application for Reimbursement

Students must submit the following to the RHSC Program Coordinator rehab.gradprogram@ubc.ca:

- Completed Application Form (below) - must be signed by student **and** faculty supervisor.
- Completed checklist (below) with signatures.
- Proof of conference presentation - a copy of the conference program (preferred), letter, or e-mail listing student's name and the title of student's poster/presentation
- Complete conference program agenda, if claiming meals. Actual meal receipts or per diem can only be claimed for meals not provided or included in conference registration.
- The G+PS graduate student travel award application form:
<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/forms/graduate-travel-fund-application>
- A copy of the approval or denial letter from the G+PS travel award (**if a full-time student**).
- Scans of original, itemized, and dated **receipts** for reimbursement of air travel and/or other expenses to be reimbursed:
 - Redacted credit card statement or missing receipt statement is acceptable if you misplace receipt(s). See application below for further details.
 - Copy of airline tickets or itinerary/airline receipt. (Invoice or itinerary/receipt must show ticket number, breakdown of cost and form of payment). If a boarding pass was provided, please submit with receipts.
- Reimbursement will occur through the Workday. Students must accept their travel award in Workday once processed. Funds will then be direct deposited to the student's personal account.

GRADUATE PROGRAM IN REHABILITATION SCIENCES STUDENT TRAVEL FUND- APPLICATION

Last Name:	First Name:
UBC Student No:	
E-mail Address:	

Please check all that apply:

Graduate Registration

- I was registered as a full-time UBC graduate student at the time of the conference

Research Graduate Student Travel Fund Application

- I have completed all relevant sections of the Graduate Student Travel Fund Application
- I have signed and dated the Graduate Student Travel Fund Application
- My faculty supervisor has signed and dated the Graduate Student Travel Fund Application on _____(date)

Proof of Presentation

- I have included a copy of the conference program (preferred), letter, or e-mail listing my name and the title of my poster/presentation
- I have highlighted my name and the title of my poster/presentation.

Receipts

- I have attached original, itemized, and dated receipts.
- I have included a missing receipt memo if necessary*
- I am claiming meal expenses, and therefore I have submitted a copy of the **complete** conference program

*Missing receipts: for small expenses with no receipt, claimant can submit a memo attesting to the loss of the receipt and that the expense will not be claimed through other sources. Samples:

https://bog3.sites.olt.ubc.ca/files/2019/03/9_2019.03_Policy-83.pdf

Previous Travel Claims

- Yes, I have previously received funds from the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FOGS) Graduate Student Travel Fund. **If yes, please note that you are eligible to receive funding FROM FOGS only ONCE PER DEGREE PROGRAM.**
- I have attached a copy of G+PS Travel Fund approval/decline letter

UBC has a contract with a travel agents and airlines which offer special rates to students who are making university-related travel. For further information on travel rates for students at UBC please refer to <http://supplymanagement.ubc.ca/travel>

GRADUATE PROGRAM IN REHABILITATION SCIENCES STUDENT TRAVEL FUND- APPLICATION (Page 2)

Conference Title:	
Conference Location: (City and Country)	
Start Date of Conference:	
End Date of Conference:	
Title of Paper/Poster Presented:	

	\$ Amount	Currency	Office Use Only
Airline:			
Car Rental:			
Mileage:			
Other Transportation:			
Meals (if not included in conference registration) Receipts or per diem:			
Accommodation			
Conference Registration:			
TOTAL EXPENSES:			

I hereby certify that the travel expenses claimed above comply with UBC policy #83 (Travel Policy)

Student Signature:
Date: