

Competencies & Requirements for Masters of Disability and Community Studies

Specialization Requirements	MDCS
Description	<p>Community Rehabilitation and Disability Studies (CRDS) examines the intersection between community, disability, chronic illness, and marginalizing conditions within a social justice framework. The goal is to generate research, leadership, capacity, innovation, and partnerships. The graduate program attracts professionals across disciplines and sectors.</p>
Additional Admission Requirements	Have a proven academic performance.
Required MDCS Courses	<p>CORE 603.15 – Foundations & Futures of Disability & Community Studies CORE 603.12 Politics of Inclusion & Exclusion: A study of law, policy, and ethics CORE 603.13 Leadership & Innovation 1 half credit Quantitative Research Methods Course CORE 676 – Consultation in Human Services & Systems CORE 603.18 Social Construction & Health Capacity CORE 624.20 Specialization Theory & Practice: A collaborative inquiry capstone 3 half courses – Specialization electives</p>
Recommended CRDS Electives for MDCS	<p>CORE 603.08 Law in Community Rehabilitation CORE 603.02 Advance Seminar – Assessment & Intervention for Families with Children with Special Needs CORE 603.03 Advance Seminar-Career Development & Adult Onset Disabilities CORE 603.04 Community Rehabilitation & the Aging Process</p>
Specialization Topics Such As:	<p>CORE 691.04 Adapting Curriculum & Instruction from K - 12 CORE 691.32 Challenging Behaviours in the Classroom: Inclusive Education CORE 691.33 Collaboration, Ethics, Management: Inclusive Education CORE 691.39 Mental Health & Addictions CORE 691.42 Health Research, Emerging Technologies & Marginalized Groups CORE 691.44 Bioethics & People with Disabilities CORE 691.45 Advocacy, Leadership & Innovation CORE 691.49 Autism & Social Policy</p>
Practicum/Internships Available through Independent Studies – MDCS	
Specialization Competencies	<p>A. Role of Applied Researcher, Evaluator & Inquiry Based Leader</p> <p>1. Analyzes health discourse and social problems as social constructions.</p>

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	<p>2. Demonstrates knowledge of interdisciplinary, social inquiry and evaluation methods in specialization topic.</p> <p>3. Conducts an evaluation of a social program..</p> <p>4. Writes and presents a report to stakeholders.</p>
	<p>B. Role as Communicator</p> <p>1. Demonstrates skills in writing research & policy reports and manuscripts for peer review.</p> <p>2. Delivers multi-media presentations to academic, professional, & community audiences.</p> <p>3. Communicates and builds partnerships across disciplinary and sectoral boundaries.</p>
	<p>C. Role as Scholar</p> <p>1. Demonstrates knowledge of specialization from relevant disciplines, theoretical and research perspectives, methods and practices that lead to social transformation.</p> <p>2. Communicates research to policy audiences so that implementation is encouraged.</p>
	<p>D. Role as Collaborator/Facilitator</p> <p>1. Within participatory frameworks, build partnerships amongst consumers, communities, sectors, professions and academics that facilitate inter-professional and trans-disciplinary research and practice.</p>

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	<p>E. Role as Program Leader</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Designs and implements evaluation, policy, and intervention research from participatory and capacity building lens. 2. Implements ongoing inquiry and research processes to inform practice and policy. 3. Promotes innovative solutions to social problems that incorporate multiple partners, consumer participation, and trans-disciplinary perspectives.
Potential Career Path	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research manager, associate, or analyst for an academic and/or community based program of research • Policy analyst for a Federal, Provincial., Territorial or local government department • Director, CEO, Manager of human/health program or portfolio across Canada in Justice, Education, Health, Employment, Social Services • An academic faculty appointment in universities, colleges, or polytechnic schools or an academic department committed to trans-disciplinary education and research in disability studies and health capacity • Program development officer, program evaluation manager, or researcher in not for profit community based organizations or charitable foundations in Canada or abroad • Owner/Operator/Contractor of community based services/support (eg: employment, long term rehabilitation)
Potential Research Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trans-disciplinary mental health care • Power and politics of acquired brain injury • Family function after Traumatic Brain Injury • Care giving and mediation • PTSD in soldiers across two cultures: Israel and Canada • Senior immigrants and mother work • Birthmother of a child with fetal alcohol syndrome • Participatory development in a Third World country • Family centered care • Cystic Fibrosis: The sibling perspective • ADD/ADHD: Being a sibling • Resiliency and trauma in Holocaust survivors from the former Soviet Union • Concepts of health and disability in a Laos village • Meanings of Eating: Changes with illness

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gender Socialization and alcohol misuse• MD's Attitudes/Knowledge of Elder suicides