

# Family Relations and Applied Nutrition: MSc, PhD

## Family Relations and Human Development

Family Relations and Human Development is a field of study offered by the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition. We are a unique, interdisciplinary academic unit focused on integrating research and practice.

[uoguelph.frhd](http://uoguelph.frhd)

The field of Family Relations and Human Development (FRHD) offers an MSc and a PhD, which involve a combination of course work and a research thesis. For the PhD the completion of a qualifying exam is also required.

### RESEARCH CAPACITY

Building on core theory and methodology courses to support thesis work, this scientist-practitioner orientation prepares graduates to pursue an academic or professional career in a variety of settings.

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- An honours bachelor's degree, or equivalent
- A minimum 75% average in the last 2 years of study
- Grades of at least 75% in applied statistics and social science research methods courses
- For PhD, master's degree with a research-based thesis

### ELIGIBILITY

We welcome students with diverse backgrounds such as psychology, sociology and other social sciences, healthcare, applied health, health promotion, human development, cultural and Indigenous studies, sexuality and gender studies, education and developmental sciences.



*Sarina conducted her Family Relations and Human Development MSc research with Indigenous youth that reside in urban settings, to explore how they create and maintain culturally safe and significant spaces in the city. As cities increasingly become home to those who identify as Indigenous and given the importance of Indigenous resurgence and longevity, Sarina qualitatively explored this group to better understand their wants, needs, and dreams to inform a positive Indigenous futurity. As a young Métis woman, she holds this research close to her heart.*

### FACULTY

Dr. Kimberly Anderson  
 Dr. John Beaton  
 Dr. Andrea Breen  
 Dr. Samantha Burns  
 Dr. Susan Chuang  
 Dr. Tuuli Kukkonen  
 Dr. Scott B. Maitland  
 Dr. Robin Milhausen  
 Dr. Orion Neustifter  
 Dr. Michèle Preyde  
 Dr. Tricia van Rhijn  
 Dr. Carla Rice  
 Dr. Olga Smoliak  
 Dr. Kimberly Squires  
 Dr. Kimberley Wilson

Please see our [Faculty Research Pages](#) to determine if your research interests are compatible. We strongly recommend that you contact faculty prior to your application to discuss shared interests and include these in your statement of research interest.

**Application Deadline:**  
 January 10, 2026

### ARE YOU INTERESTED IN:

- Child, Adolescent and/or Adult Development
- Gerontology
- Parent-Child and Family Relations
- Human Sexuality
- Program Evaluation, Intervention, Research Methodology

### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Direct service or supervisory capacity in government
- Community and human services
- Academia
- Private sector or public agency work
- Research related positions

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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