The Institute of Medical Science (IMS) offers stimulating, research-intensive MSc and PhD programs in one of four areas of research: basic sciences, clinical sciences, health systems and services, and population health research. Each stream offers a variety of multidisciplinary studies in fields such as cardiovascular sciences, neuroscience, bioethics, stem cell biology, respiratory medicine, transplantation and psychiatric and brain health. This breadth is also reflected in our elective courses - from neuroanatomy to regenerative medicine and cardiovascular science.

Our programs are full-time and offer an immersive graduate training experience. We specialize in multidisciplinary translational research with bench-to-bedside clinical applications. Under the mentorship of one of our world-renowned faculty, IMS students receive specialized graduate training and exposure to Toronto’s finest cutting-edge biomedical research. Students can also participate in numerous Graduate Collaborative Specializations that provide more opportunities to develop multidisciplinary research skills and collaborations.

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**Master of Science (MSc)**

In addition to completing a thesis, students take 2.0 FCE*:
MSC1010H (MSc Student Seminars in Translational Research, 0.5 FCE), two 0.25 FCE courses and 1.0 FCE elective. Students successfully finish this program in 2 years.

**Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)**

In addition to conducting independent and original research that will form their thesis, students complete 2.0 FCE: MSC1011H (PhD Seminar Series in Translational Research, 0.5 FCE), two 0.25 FCE courses, and 1.0 FCE elective. Students typically complete this program within 5 years.

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* Full course equivalent. A typical 0.5 FCE is over one term (13 weeks), meeting 1-2 times per week. A typical 1.0 FCE is over two terms (26 weeks), meeting 1 – 2 times per week.
Alumni profile

Alaa Youssef, PhD
Graduated 2021

During my graduate training I developed many transferrable skills such as understanding research problems and identifying research methodologies, gathering evidence, problem-solving, collaborating with teams, and most importantly, communicating and learning from others. I apply these skills, today, studying organizational readiness to implement and use artificial intelligence (AI) in healthcare to promote diagnostic excellence in patient care.

My training in mixed-method research well-positioned me to investigate how organizational processes and policies influence technology adoption and integration in clinical workflow. Moreover, the plethora of extra-curricular opportunities during my graduate training allowed me to develop my leadership and communication skills, enabling me to build collaborations and lead educational initiatives in my current position.

My advice to all prospective students is to enjoy your graduate training in all its highs and lows. Get to know your lab, mentors and research team very well. Most importantly, try to engage and meet other people, push yourself out of your comfort zone by building connections and seeking advice when needed; you will be surprised by how inspiring and illuminating people’s research and career journeys can be.