

## Frequently Asked Questions

Interested in our Master of Gender Studies or our Graduate Diploma in Gender Studies? Below you will find answers to some of the most commonly asked questions.

### **1. What is the deadline to apply?**

*The application deadline is January 15 for Fall admission.*

### **2. Do I need to have background in Gender Studies before applying to this program?**

*Yes.*

*As noted in the MUN calendar, "Admission [to the Master of Gender Studies program] is limited and competitive. To be considered for admission, an applicant will normally hold an Honours Degree or equivalent, and will have a breadth of knowledge in Gender Studies satisfactory to the Graduate Studies Advisory Committee." (Regulation 15.2.1)*

*The graduate program in Gender Studies – both the Master of Gender Studies and Graduate Diploma in Gender Studies – offer the opportunity to pursue Gender Studies at an advanced level. We expect students to have some coursework background in Gender and/or Women's Studies.*

*We consider not only an applicant's coursework background, but also their grades, writing sample, and references. In very rare cases, we may consider relevant professional background. Such background would normally include specific expertise related to gender studies, for example, extended leadership of a non-governmental organization working in the area of women, gender, and sexuality.*

*In our assessment process, we also take into consideration areas of faculty research and supervision expertise and their availability to take on new supervisees.*

### **3. Will you look through my paperwork before I submit my application?**

*No. We do not pre-assess application materials. We only consider materials that have been submitted through MUN's electronic application system.*

### **4. What do I need to do in order to submit a strong application?**

*We strongly encourage you to read the following pages in detail:*

- 1. For general information about the graduate program in Gender Studies, including program completion options and the titles of completed theses, projects and internships, look here: <http://www.mun.ca/genderstudies/programs/graduate/>*

2. *For helpful advice in preparing a strong application to our program, please read this page:*  
[http://www.mun.ca/genderstudies/programs/graduate/Graduate\\_Application\\_Guidelines.php](http://www.mun.ca/genderstudies/programs/graduate/Graduate_Application_Guidelines.php)
3. *If you are applying from overseas, please look here:*  
[http://www.mun.ca/genderstudies/programs/graduate/Applying\\_from\\_Overseas.php](http://www.mun.ca/genderstudies/programs/graduate/Applying_from_Overseas.php)

*We also encourage you to read carefully through any guidelines available through the School of Graduate Studies, Memorial University (<https://www.mun.ca/become/graduate/programs/genderstudies.php>).*

### **5. What is the difference between the Master of Gender Studies and the Graduate Diploma in Gender Studies?**

*The **Master of Gender Studies** is a two year graduate degree program that includes required coursework (5-6 graduate courses), a required public presentation, and a final thesis, project report, or internship report. There are three options for completion: thesis, project, or internship. The Master of Gender Studies can be completed either full time or part time.*

*The **Graduate Diploma** program is a part time program that includes 3 graduate courses. While students who successfully complete these courses can apply to our Master of Gender Studies degree program, the Graduate Diploma itself is not a graduate degree.*

### **6. What are departmental areas of research and supervision expertise?**

*Our faculty teach, supervise, and research in many areas including life writing, postcolonial and decolonial feminisms, feminist theory, Indigenous feminisms, autoethnography, Newfoundland and Labrador studies, reproductive justice, maternal feminisms, social media feminisms, transgender studies, visual art and aesthetics, folklore and tradition, visual ethnography, and more.*

*Interested in learning more about the program and/or about the research that current students and graduates of our program have undertaken? For general information about the graduate program in Gender Studies, including program completion options and the titles of completed theses, projects and internships, look here:*

<http://www.mun.ca/genderstudies/programs/graduate/>

### **7. Do I need to identify a supervisor prior to admission into the program?**

*No. Successful applicants are assigned an Advisor for the first year of their program. During their second term in the program, they will identify a supervisor (or supervisors) to support their thesis, project, or internship goals.*

**8. Will I automatically get into the program if I meet the minimum requirements?**

*No. The graduate programs in Gender Studies are competitive and we are only able to accept the top students.*

**9. Do I need to prove English proficiency?**

*Yes. Please contact the School of Graduate Studies for more information about this.*

**10. I'm having problems with the application process. Can you help?**

*Please contact the School of Graduate Studies for assistance.*

**11. What kind of funding is available to accepted students?**

*In previous years, accepted students have been awarded baseline funding (provided that their grade point average met a certain minimum threshold). The Department of Gender Studies also has a few small scholarships and, in addition to this, is often available to award some Graduate Assistantships. Sometimes, individual professors have access to external research funding.*

*However, we cannot guarantee any of this funding from year to year and also encourage you to seek out alternate funding sources. If you are a Canadian citizen or permanent resident, we encourage you to familiarize yourself with the funding opportunities available through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada ([www.sshrc.ca](http://www.sshrc.ca)).*

*Please note that there is no funding available to students who wish to complete the Master of Gender Studies part time. Nor is there funding for Graduate Diploma students.*

Thank you for your interest in our graduate programs. We look forward to receiving your application.