Research & PhD

LEADING THE WORLD THROUGH RESEARCH
The Times Higher Education QS World University Rankings consistently lists McGill as the #1 research-intensive university in Canada, the best public university in North America, and among the top 20 universities in the world. Our graduates and faculty include six Nobel Prize winners and 127 Rhodes Scholars. With students and faculty coming to McGill from as many as 160 countries, the University is a microcosm of today’s world fostering an unparalleled multicultural atmosphere.

Research at McGill University’s Desautels Faculty of Management is recognized around the globe for its innovation, influence and impact on organizations, markets and industry. From internationally renowned professors to associate and assistant professors, the Desautels Faculty is home to some of the world’s most esteemed management scholars recruited from universities such as Harvard, Wharton, MIT, INSEAD, and ESE Business School. They share their expertise through numerous research centres and consortia, and integrate their knowledge into the Faculty’s academic curriculums.

Cross-disciplinary research and the integration of applied research into curriculum development are supported through the Marcel Desautels Institute for Integrated Management. This unique approach provides a holistic and interconnected view of business, a vision that is critical in today’s complex business world. In tandem, the Business & Management Research Centre provides a multi-disciplinary research incubator, playing a range of catalytic roles in developing and partially funding a number of interdisciplinary research activities and events.

Desautels faculty have been awarded some of the most prestigious prizes from the Academy of Management, BSI Gamma Foundation, Q-Group, Canadian Securities Institute Research Foundation, and several are members of the Royal Society of Canada and the Order of Canada. Their insights greatly influence policy work in Canada and abroad and can be found in articles published in the world’s most prominent academic journals, including Organization Science, Strategic Management Journal, Management Science and Operations Research, Management Science, Journal of Marketing, Journal of Marketing Research, MIS Quarterly, Information Systems Research, Journal of Accounting and Economics, The Journal of Finance, and The Review of Financial Studies.
RESEARCH GRANTS INCLUDE THOSE AWARDED BY THE FOLLOWING GRANTING AGENCIES

- Canada Foundation for Innovation
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research
- Canadian Purchasing Research Foundation
- Fonds québécois de la recherche sur la société et la culture
- Fonds québécois de la recherche sur la nature et les technologies
- Gates Foundation Global Development Program
- Institut de Finance Mathématique de Montréal (IFM2)
- National Institutes of Health
- Natural Science Foundation
- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada
- Pan American Health Organization
- Public Health Agency of Canada’s Corporate Planning and Reporting Request for Standing Offer
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

FACULTY CHAIRS AND PROFESSORSHIPS

- Canada Research Chairs (CRC)
- James McGill Chairs – awards similar to CRC Tier I Chairs, which recognize a senior scholar’s status as outstanding and original researcher of world-class calibre and a leader in his or her field.
- REPAP Chair in Economics
- Bank of Montreal Chair in Banking and Finance
- S. Bronfman Chairs in Management
- Imasco Chair of Information Systems
- John Cleghorn Professor of Management Studies
- William Dawson Scholars – awards similar to CRC Tier II Chairs, which recognize a scholar developing into an outstanding and original researcher of world-class calibre, poised to become a leader in his or her field.
InvEstMent and RIsK ManaGeMent
SPECIALIZATION IN ACCOUNTING OR FINANCE

Investment management involves the professional management of various securities (shares, bonds and other securities) and assets (e.g. real estate), to meet specified investment goals. Multinational corporations and investment managers are faced with numerous obstacles in overcoming financial risks. The unit’s research in investment and risk management focuses on foreign exchange exposure and the timing, transactions, accounting and economic decisions firms must make when operating in many countries.

To provide a dynamic environment for the development of faculty and doctoral students in finance, The Desmarais Global Finance Research Centre develops research programs that address current issues confronting investors and organizations in financial economics. The Centre advances knowledge on domestic and international financial markets and improvements in the financial efficiency of corporations. Through seminars and conferences, it promotes collaboration and exchange of knowledge between academia and the financial community.

TECHnoloGy and InnoVatIon ManaGeMent
SPECIALIZATION IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS OR OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

From enterprise resource planning systems to flexible manufacturing technologies, technological breakthroughs are changing the fundamental landscape of industries, while radically altering the way organizations operate and compete in a global economy. Research in technology and innovation management can include evaluating operations technologies through their entire life cycle of innovation, design, implementation, improvement and phase-out.

The Management Science Research Centre plays a pivotal role in understanding, solving and anticipating challenges in operations and services. Members engage professional and academic expertise in economics, operations management, statistics, operations research and engineering to improve business performance, supply chain efficiency and hazard reduction and enhance overall interactions between operations and other functional areas in organizations.

MARKeting and ENTREPreneurshIP
SPECIALIZATION IN MARKETING

Marketing professors at the Desautels Faculty are focused on the real-world challenges of today’s complex business environment. Through rigorous research in marketing, our professors develop new insights into sustainable competitive advantages for the 21st century. Research emphasizes understanding the market and the formulation of successful strategies in all types of environments. The manner in which these activities are carried out is central to an organization’s or entrepreneur’s strategy.

The Marketing Research Lab provides faculty and doctoral students with resources to conduct experimental research on human behaviour. It includes new information technology resources for computer-aided experiments, as well as traditional resources for behavioural research. The main lab space is equipped with networked workstations for multimedia stimuli, several behavioural research software applications and a state-of-the-art Tobii eye-tracker.

The McGill Institute of Marketing builds relationships with a select group of organizations in a wide variety of industries that have an interest in marketing and provides an active forum where members can gather to exchange ideas and expertise.

Two centres dedicated to furthering entrepreneur education, The Dobson Centre for Entrepreneurial Studies at Desautels and the International Business Families Centre (HEC-McGill), cater to entrepreneurial activity at McGill, HEC and in the greater Montreal community. Both centres contribute to entrepreneurial education and provide resources that support and develop entrepreneurs from Canada and abroad.
Global strategy and leadership draws on a number of disciplines, including strategy, organizational behaviour, entrepreneurship and international business. To grow profitably in the 21st century, all enterprises must continuously innovate, leverage international trade and manage in an increasingly integrated and competitive global economy. Research in this area includes how to expand a firm internationally, manage a multi-cultural workforce, launch a new venture and promote sustainable development.

Through conferences, seminars, articles and working papers, the Centre for Strategy Studies in Organizations promotes the execution and dissemination of research on issues central to organizations. The Centre’s members employ diverse approaches to strategy and strategic change research, including longitudinal/qualitative and advanced quantitative methods. Issues focus on the formation of strategic direction, the coordination of organizational activities and the relationship between organizations and society.

The Faculty is committed to further developing and strengthening its international activities through the Power Corporation Centre for International Management Studies. This Centre maintains a global network of institutional contacts that support the Faculty’s teaching and research on international subjects. It initiates innovative management education programs and contributes to fundraising efforts with alumni and international organizations.

Desautels is also dedicated to the advancement and understanding of globalization, international management and firm competitiveness. Through the Program for International Competitiveness, the Faculty promotes the development and delivery of new and innovative business models and capacity building initiatives that create globally savvy students, managers, policy makers and globally competitive enterprises.

McGill University is renowned as a world-wide leader in health care research, and the Desautels Faculty recognizes the importance of better health care management by supporting several major global research initiatives in health care in the areas of information systems, strategy and organization, marketing, and operations management.

Funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, the Collaborative Research and Training Experience (NSERC-CREATE) Program on Healthcare Operations and Information Management consist of senior researchers from McGill, University of British Columbia, University of Ottawa, Queen's University, University of Toronto, and Université de Montréal. This unique collaborative PhD Program trains selected students in healthcare operations and information management. Headquartered at McGill’s Desautels Faculty of Management, the NSERC-CREATE Program brings together experts on healthcare processes, operations research, information systems and telecommunications engineering. It is supported by 40+ collaborators from across Canada, each representing one or more stakeholders in the health sector.

The McGill World Platform for Health and Economic Convergence forms an enduring worldwide knowledge-to-action community devoted to addressing the social determinants of health, closing the health equity gap and harnessing the power of business to achieve health and wealth for all. Through conferences and think tanks, leading academics, professionals and policy makers from health, nutrition, finance, urban planning and social work unite to integrate health concerns into business and improve food and nutrition security, economic empowerment and access to health-promoting work environments.
The PhD Program in Management at McGill’s Desautels Faculty of Management offers the best of American and European approaches to doctoral studies. Combining structured coursework with student autonomy, the Program creates a harmonious and cooperative environment between students, faculty and four collaborating universities: McGill University, École des Hautes Études Commerciales (HEC, affiliated with Université de Montréal), Concordia University, and Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM).

Doctoral students have access to over 250 professors qualified to direct doctoral research, as well as the vast library resources of the four institutions. Courses are offered in English and in French and the multicultural, metropolitan atmosphere of Montreal provides a stimulating research environment, with numerous centres, industrial consortiums and multinational corporations.

Each year, the Program receives approximately 200 applications from around the world and selects approximately 12 to 15 students for admission. It hosts approximately 80 full-time doctoral students at one time. Graduates have been successfully placed at leading institutions such as HEC (France, Lausanne and Montreal), Harvard, Cambridge, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, International Monetary Fund, INSEAD, Merrill-Lynch, New York University, and Penn State University.
PHD CANDIDATES SPECIALIZE IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS, AND INTEGRATION OF THEIR RESEARCH INTO THE CURRICULUM OF THE DESAUTELS PROGRAMS AND COLLABORATION WITHIN FOUR AREAS OF RESEARCH ARE ENCOURAGED.

PHD PROGRAM STRUCTURE:

- Two core courses common to all disciplines: pedagogy and research methods based on specialization, plus one statistics requirement for all students;
- at least four courses in major area;
- at least two courses in minor (support) area;
- one research paper;
- comprehensive exam;
- dissertation proposal;
- dissertation.

LENGTH OF PROGRAM:

4 to 6 years

FACULTY RESOURCES:

Approximately 40 McGill professors are directly involved in teaching and/or supervision of the PhD Program.

PROGRAM FUNDING:

Doctoral candidates receive $20,000 CDN/year in funding for 4 years. In the first year candidates are expected to assist professors in their area of specialization by performing research and teaching tasks (e.g. tutorials, office hours, grading, programming, etc.). This work will not exceed 15 hours per week. In years 2, 3 and 4, students are funded by a combination of various sources, including teaching and research work. Funding is conditional on academic performance, and students are required to apply to all funding competitions for which they are eligible.

KEY ADMISSIONS CRITERIA:

- Undergraduate and master's transcripts (Candidates typically hold a master's degree. Individuals possessing a qualified undergraduate degree will also be considered, and will be required to take additional management graduate courses during their first year in the PhD Program);
- GMAT (or the GRE General Test) and TOEFL scores (if applicable);
- at least two reference letters, preferably from professors who can assess the candidate's research potential;
- a description of previous research experience and/or publications.

TUITION FEES:

Students are required to pay tuition fees. Please refer to website below for more information.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

January 15th for September admission (January admission not available).

WEBSITE:

www.mcgill.ca/desautels/phd

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