



# RESEARCH MASTER IN GERONTOLOGICAL SCIENCES

## Gerontology is the future

The world population is ageing. International organizations, such as the World Health Organization, consider the ageing population as one of the major topics that need immediate and thorough attention. Progressive ageing of the population is a worldwide phenomenon nowadays. The Research Master in Gerontological Sciences provides students with the necessary knowledge, insights and methodologies to critically answer the various biological, biomedical, psychological and social questions concerning ageing societies, without neglecting intercultural aspects.

## Boost your scientific career

The Research Master in Gerontological Sciences paves the way for a successful doctorate in Gerontology by providing theoretical, but also methodological knowledge and skills for research into ageing and older people. Highly educated people can transfer pertinent knowledge about ageing and the older people to different settings/ environments from a multidisciplinary perspective.

PhD holders in Gerontology can be engaged in the various universities as a postdoc fellow or a senior academic staff. The university is obviously not the only place where research is conducted. Alumni can also build a research career at the Flemish and Federal research institutions. In addition, PhD holders in Gerontology can be engaged in policy functions and doctorate holders are desired in services from the welfare and health care that focus on innovation, quality, development and implementation of clinical pathways and guidelines and / or research.

During the Research Master of Gerontological Sciences, the students will write two articles (one review article in the first year and one original research article in the second year) and submit them for publication in an international peer-reviewed journal. In addition, they will have to deliver a research proposal for a doctoral fellowship at the end of the first semester of the second year, which may be submitted in one of the known channels (FWO PhD fellowship fundamental research, FWO PhD fellowship strategic basic research, ...).

## Unique and interdisciplinary research

The Research Master in Gerontological Sciences is unique in its kind in Belgium and surroundings. It is the only programme that studies the field of gerontology on a broad and multidisciplinary basis. It offers a wide spectrum of scientific aspects that is essential to understand the field of gerontology. The programme investigates the biogerontological and biomedical basis underlying the ageing process. But it also discusses the psychological, social and health policy aspects of older persons, like for example ethical themes and intercultural aspects. Students are stimulated to start from the principle of 'free inquiry' in order to reflect critically on current gerontological problems

The university is obviously not the only place where research is conducted. Alumni can also build a research career at the Flemish and Federal research institutions. In addition, PhD holders in Gerontology can be engaged in policy functions and doctorate holders are desired