There are many opportunities for undergraduate students to get involved in research on aging. There are projects on both the Fort Garry and Bannatyne campuses and in many different disciplines.

Below are a few opportunities for 2022. If you are interested in a project, please contact the researcher directly. Contact information is below.

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<tr>
<th>Principal investigator</th>
<th>Contact information</th>
<th>Research area(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stephanie Chesser</td>
<td>Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management</td>
<td>I use qualitative research methodologies to examine ways that we can go about creating more inclusive communities and societies. One of my current research projects involves an examination of the impact of COVID-19 public messaging on older peoples’ experiences of internalized ageism (i.e., when a person adopts thinking based on social norms/expectations that devalue and marginalize older people) and how these messages might alter their attitudes and behaviours throughout the pandemic. Another current project involves an exploration of ways the University of Manitoba could become more family-friendly, based on the experiences and perspectives of students, staff, and faculty who are involved in some form of dependent caregiving (e.g., a child, a parent, a sibling, a partner).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Stephanie.Chesser@umanitoba.ca">Stephanie.Chesser@umanitoba.ca</a></td>
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<td>Amine Choukou, Assistant Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:amine.choukou@umanitoba.ca">amine.choukou@umanitoba.ca</a></td>
<td>My research examines the role of technology in increasing social connection between older adults with dementia and their caregivers. We are currently studying the effects of telepresence robots in combating social isolation and promoting healthy living of both non-indigenous and indigenous older adults. This project is an opportunity for a student from any applied health or humanities discipline to contribute to different components of this research. BIPOC students and students living with disabilities are encouraged to apply.</td>
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<td>Todd Duhamel, Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:todd.duhamel@umanitoba.ca">todd.duhamel@umanitoba.ca</a></td>
<td>Women’s heart health, physical activity and cardiovascular screening research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christine Kelly, Associate Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:christine.kelly@umanitoba.ca">christine.kelly@umanitoba.ca</a></td>
<td>Come join my research team! We presently have a study exploring directly-funded, or self-managed, home care in Canada. In directly-funded care, people receive funds to arrange their own home care services. We are using qualitative methods to explore this important policy topic across the country. I have secondary research activities related to intersectionality in qualitative research, disability movements, and disability art. Students attend weekly meetings with graduate students and staff where you will be exposed to all stages of the research process, and your opinions will be greatly valued.</td>
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<td>Debbie Kelly, Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Debbie.Kelly@umanitoba.ca">Debbie.Kelly@umanitoba.ca</a></td>
<td>Project: Age-related Spatial Memory Decline in Humans The ability to navigate to familiar and unfamiliar places is of fundamental importance to humans. Yet, the majority of older adults will experience a decline in their ability to accurately navigate, and these spatial difficulties differ for men and women. Despite the impact of such age-related changes, the underlying biological and cognitive processes associated with spatial memory decline are not fully understood.</td>
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The general objective of our proposed research is to determine whether the decline in spatial memory, commonly reported in normal aging, is influenced by how individuals use specific spatial cues within real-world and virtual reality environments. Our proposed research will examine how spatial cue use changes across the lifespan and whether the changes we see differ for men and women. The projected impact of this research is to better develop cognitive therapies to help people use spatial cues differently as they age, and to build important synergies with community planners to translate our research knowledge directly into changes in how living spaces are constructed.

**Shauna Mallory-Hill**  
Associate Professor  
Department of Interior Design, Faculty of Architecture and LEED AP BD+C  
S.Mallory-Hill@umanitoba.ca

Her research explores the impact of building design on occupant health, wellness and productivity. Her research is strongly person-centered with a concern for inclusion and stakeholder participation in design. Students employed under the undergraduate research award will have the opportunity to work alongside other graduate research assistants exploring the development of an ergonomic kitchen design to support aging-in-place.

**Zahra Moussavi**  
Professor  
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and Department of Psychiatry  
Zahra.Moussavi@umanitoba.ca

1. **Title: Investigating the effect of regiment cognitive exercises on aging individuals with mild dementia**

   This project involves working with aging population with some memory problems on a daily basis and helping them through cognitive exercises while also recording their performance.

2. **Title: Investigating the scalp resistance in correlation with cognitive status of individuals with dementia**

   As we apply transcranial alternating stimulation to our dementia population, it is possible to measure the scalp electrical resistance at the beginning of the session and the end of each therapy session and investigate whether it changes due to increased blood flow as a result of cognitive exercises.

**Kerstin Roger**  
Professor  
Department of Community Health Sciences, Max Rady College of Medicine, Rady Faculty of Health Sciences  
Kerstin.Roger@umanitoba.ca

Healthy aging, chronic illness across the lifespan, abuse of older adults
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| Ayesha Saleem          | Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management
ayesha.saleem@umanitoba.ca
The Children's Hospital Research Institute of Manitoba
asaleem@chrim.ca | My research focuses on cell-to-cell communication as executed through extracellular vesicles (EVs) and its effect on metabolism using different models of health and diseases. We are looking for undergraduate students who can help with the analysis of EVs from young vs. old organisms, their molecular cargo, and their effect on recipient cells. |
| Kathryn Sibley         | Department of Community Health Sciences, Max Rady College of Medicine, Rady Faculty of Health Sciences
kathryn.sibley@umanitoba.ca | Optimizing fall prevention exercise for community dwelling older adults using a knowledge translation approach |
| Veronica Silva         | Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management
veronica.silva@umanitoba.ca | My research relates to the problem of falls in the aging population and how people use vision to keep their balance and walk safely. Vision provides crucial information about our surroundings that allows us to avoid obstacles, navigate on uneven terrains and even walk while engaged in another activity (e.g., talking, texting). The goal of my research is to understand how we use visual information to walk under varying conditions and how that changes as we age. URA students will assist with lab equipment setup, participant recruitment, data collection and analysis, while learning about 3D motion analysis, eye-tracking, visual attention, and aging. |
| Jonathan Singer        | Faculty of Kinesiology and Recreation Management
Jonathan.Singer@umanitoba.ca | My lab aims to understand how individuals control and maintain upright stability during normal activities of daily living and under situations that pose a considerable balance challenge. We use this information to identify the biomechanical factors that may lead to increased fall-risk among clinical populations, such as older adults and stroke survivors. The long-term goal is to use these findings to inform the development of exercise-based balance rehabilitation programs, targeted at an individual’s specific stability control challenges. |