

What Can I Do with My Degree In...

# Bachelor of Arts in Family Studies & Gerontology?



## Know What's Expected

Family Studies and Gerontology explores policies on aging, family life education, the dynamics of family relationships and developing exceptional community programs. If you major in Family Studies and Gerontology, employers will expect that you have knowledge on family dynamics, development, and individual and population aging. French may also be an asset in some positions.

## Transferable Skills

- Problem solving and analytical skills
- Written and spoken communication skills
- Knowledge of current social trends
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Ability to listen, clarify, question, and respond comprehensively
- Community service work

## What Employers Want to See

Contributions you make to your community reflect well on you as an individual. Employers are looking for students who are dedicated, hard working, and show a commitment to their interests. By getting involved on-campus (for societies visit [mountstudents.ca](http://mountstudents.ca)) or off-campus early in your degree, you will not only show credibility in your area of interest but also a willingness to work towards goals.

You can also build your Mount Co-Curricular Record (CCR) with these activities at [msvu.ca/CCRP](http://msvu.ca/CCRP) and present this official document to future employers.

## Necessary Skills

- Strong communication skills
- Researching and writing skills
- Reporting skills
- Word processing and editing skills
- Knowledge of current social trends

## Where Can You Work?

A Family Studies and Gerontology Major offers a broad background in the humanities, arts, and social sciences. Graduates from Family Studies and Gerontology programs may find careers in health, sciences, community services, government services or education.

A Family Studies and Gerontology degree is also a great stepping stone for further education. Visit the Bachelor of Arts—Family Studies and Gerontology Major webpage for more information.

## Possible Job Titles

- Family Life Educator
- Outreach Worker
- Family mediators
- Continuing Care Assessor
- Policy Specialist in Family and Aging
- Program Specialist in Family and Aging
- Social Worker
- Teacher
- Employee Assistance Professional

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## Where Can I Volunteer?

Volunteering provides a great opportunity to get involved in your field of study and make some great connections. Here are a few options for you to consider:

- Schools
- Libraries
- Senior Care Homes
- Local Non-Profit Organizations
- Student Societies
- Students' Union

Visit [msvu.ca/ccrp](http://msvu.ca/ccrp) for more local organizations.

## Online Job Resources

Many organizations will promote their job opportunities online. Visit the Job Search Resources page at [msvu.ca/careerplanning](http://msvu.ca/careerplanning) for links to frequently used job boards.

## Professional Associations

Professional associations are a great way to network within your field of study. Not only do these organizations help get you connected, they also help keep you well-informed. Many also have discounted student membership rates.

- American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences

[www.aafcs.org](http://www.aafcs.org)

- Association for Gerontology in Higher Education

[www.aghe.org](http://www.aghe.org)

- Canadian Association on Gerontology

- [www.cagacg.ca](http://www.cagacg.ca)

- Gerontological Society of America

[www.geron.org](http://www.geron.org)

- National Council on Family Relations

[www.ncfr.org](http://www.ncfr.org)

## MSVU Career Services

At the Mount, we offer a variety of career related services, workshops, resources and opportunities for students. Whether you need help making a career decision, are looking for a job, or are wondering what you can do with your degree, we can help you plan a realistic career path and perform a successful job search.

Drop by Career Services to book an appointment with a Career Counsellor, schedule a resume critique with a Career Assistant, or just explore our resources!

### Career Services

Mount Saint Vincent University  
McCain 306

166 Bedford Hwy | Halifax, NS | B3M 2J6

For General Inquiries: [\(902\) 457-6765](tel:9024576765)

For an Appointment: [\(902\)-457-6139](tel:9024576139)

[www.msvu.ca/careerplanning](http://www.msvu.ca/careerplanning)

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