

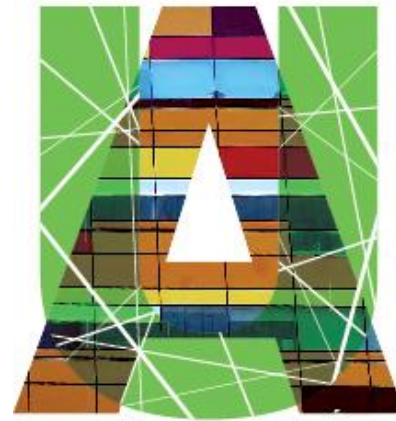
# YOUR APPLICATION FOR MN STUDIES FACULTY OF NURSING

Dr. Kara Schick-Makaroff  
Associate Dean Graduate Studies

Tracy Quigley  
Anna Hnit  
Graduate Program Administrators



UNIVERSITY  
OF ALBERTA



**BEST** *in Canada*  
**TOP TEN**  
*in the world*

**NURSING**

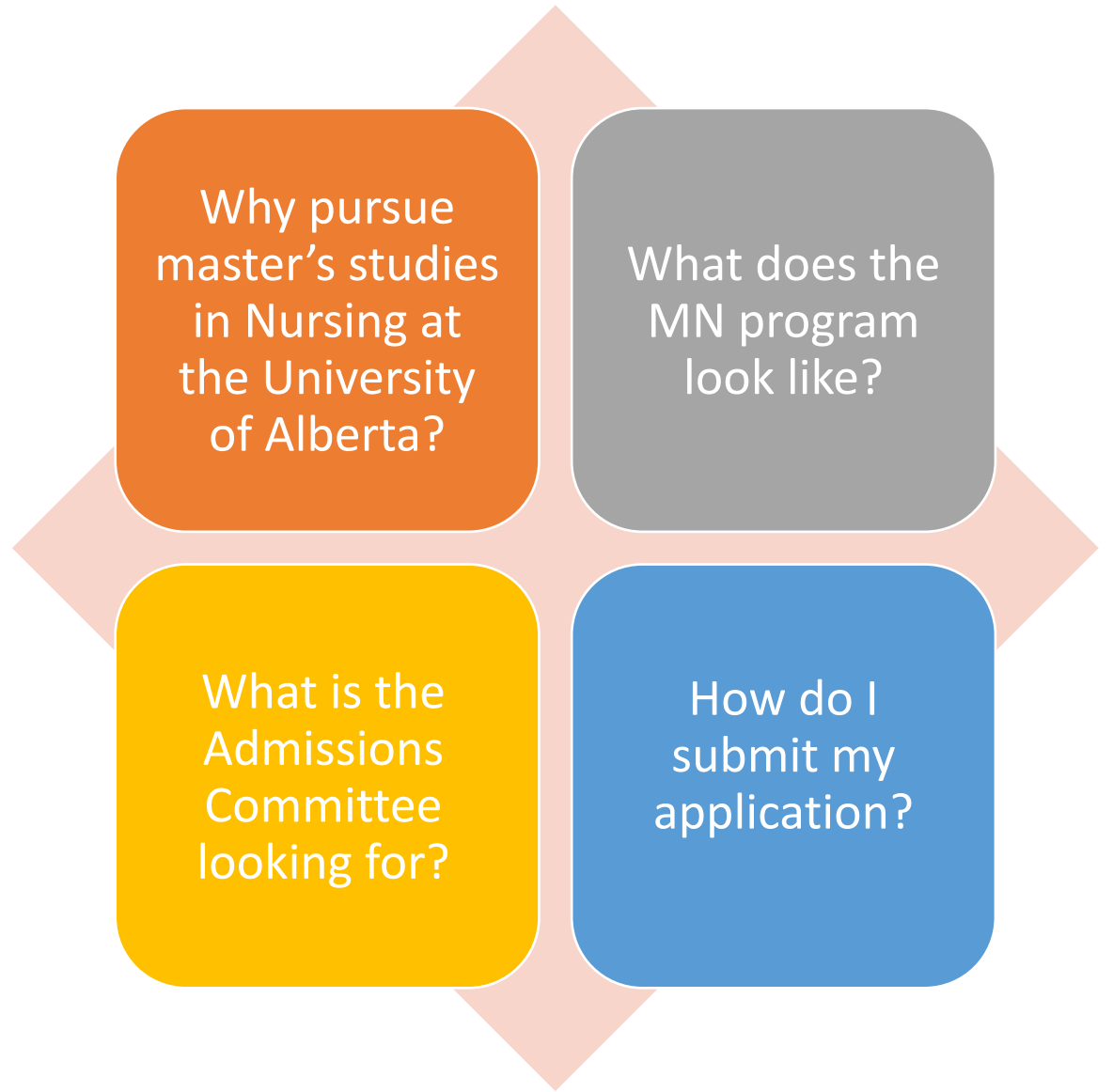
The University of Alberta respectfully acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, a traditional gathering place for diverse Indigenous peoples including the Cree, Blackfoot, Métis, Nakota Sioux, Iroquois, Dene, Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe, Inuit, and many others whose histories, languages, and cultures continue to influence our vibrant community.



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# AGENDA



# Why pursue master's studies in Nursing?



Re-energize your nursing career and pursue career aspirations!



Develop skills to advance nursing practice in your area of focus/expertise



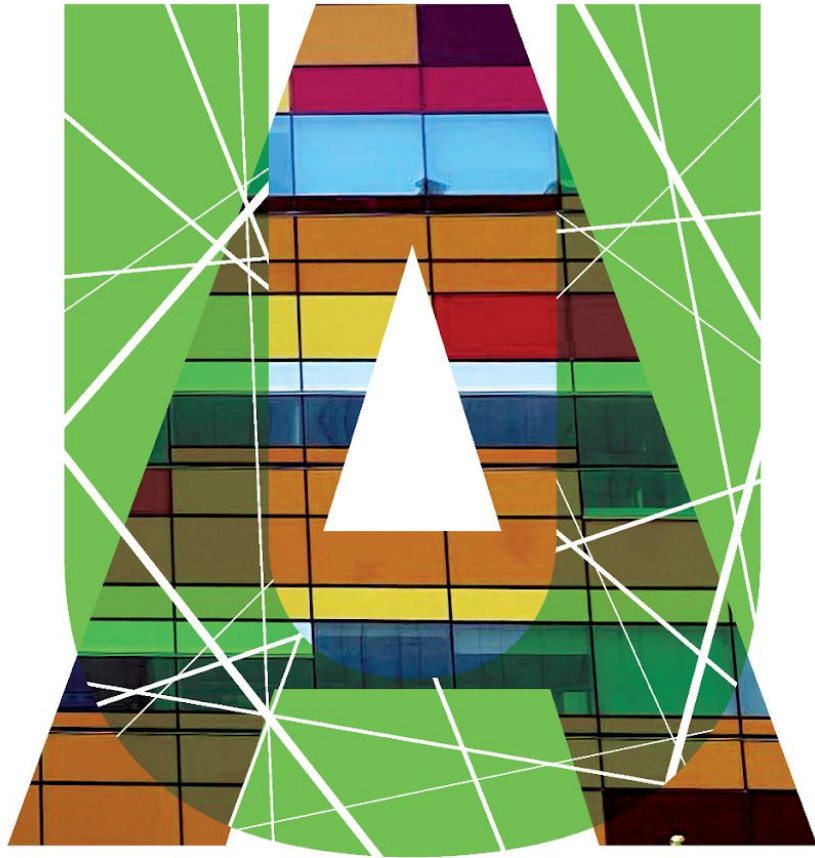
Move quickly into leadership roles in diverse settings



Continue your studies toward PhD for academic and research career pathways

# Why pursue graduate studies in Nursing at the University of Alberta?

QS World University Rankings 2023  
<https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/university-subject-rankings/2023/nursing>



# NURSING

**1<sup>st</sup>**  
**in**  
**Canada**

**5<sup>th</sup>**  
***in the***  
***world***



**UNIVERSITY  
OF ALBERTA**



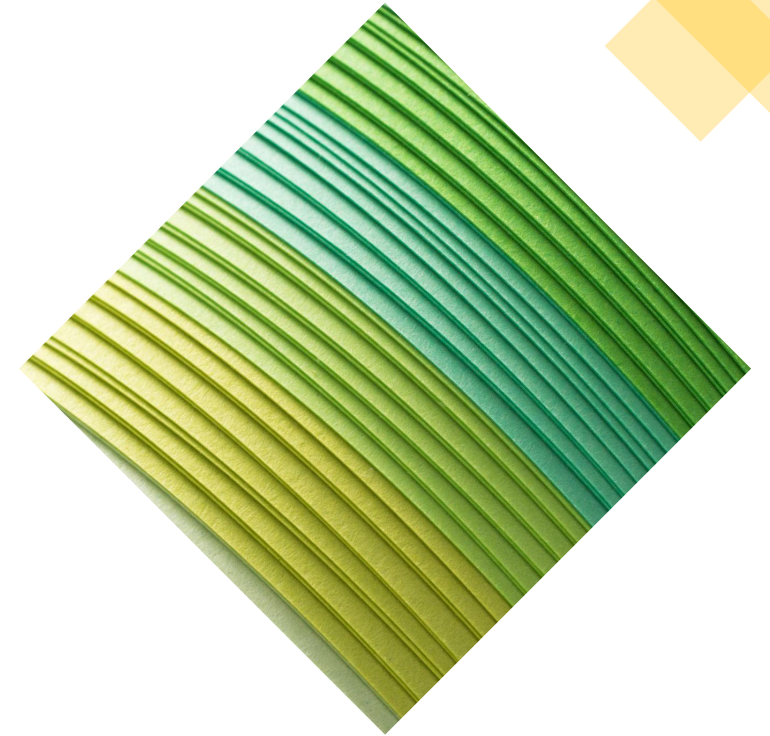
# Why pursue graduate studies in Nursing at the University of Alberta?

## Rich faculty history!

- Nursing school established in 1918
- Baccalaureate program opened in 1923

## Long-standing track record & reputation for graduate programs

- MN program established in 1975
- PhD program established in 1991 (first PhD Nursing in Canada)



- **Establish relationships with top Canadian Nursing faculty**
  - Award winning researchers and teachers
  - High impact programs of research (e.g. aging, frailty, social inequity, global health) addressing current health issues
- **Talented classmates become your professional network as distinguished alumni**
  - Classmates bring diverse perspectives and experience of nursing
  - Build life-long professional network for mentoring, support, and opportunities

Why pursue master's studies at the University of Alberta?

Reputation and Top Nursing Talent

Become a UofA Nursing Alumna!

# What does the MN program look like?



Both course-based and thesis-based options offer preparation for studies at the doctoral level



Part-time and full-time options:

Part-time – usually 3 years to completion

Full-time – complete within 20 months

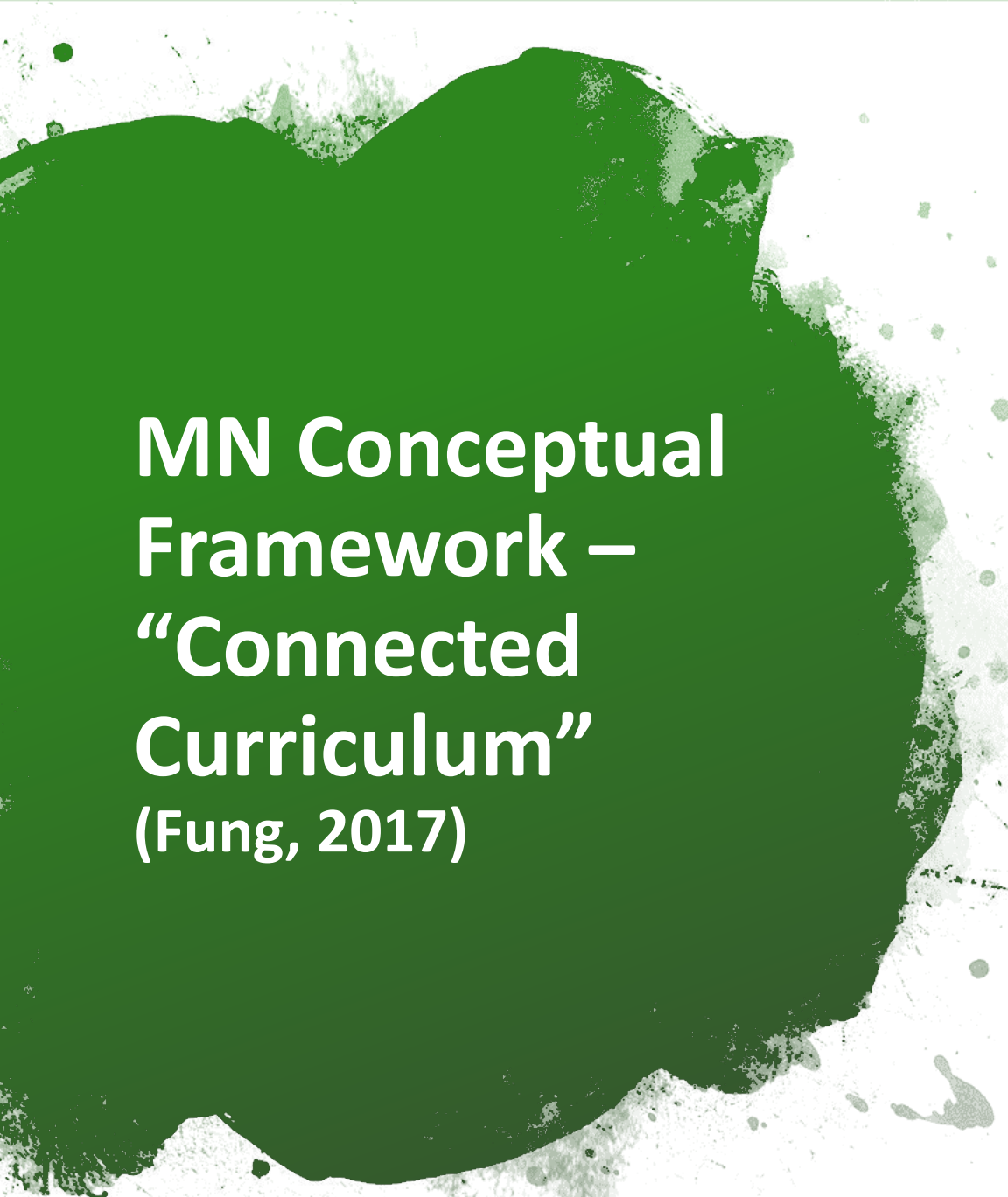


Flexible scheduling includes daytime and evening classes, and blended/hybrid classes. Students must be available to participate in regularly scheduled classes and seminars.

- Credit loads vary slightly

- Course based 36
- Thesis based 30
- NP Course-based 42
- NP Thesis-based 39





# MN Conceptual Framework – “Connected Curriculum” (Fung, 2017)

- Assumes that inquiry and research are intimately linked with learning & practice
- Connect students to each other, to faculty, to faculty research, to questions and issues in nursing, and to diverse ways of knowing and inquiring
- Students engage in “**Community of Inquiry**” **courses** to develop progressive skills: ask good questions, analyze information and current literature, and move through structured, guided, and independent approaches to research and inquiry.
- Courses build toward completion of capstone and thesis projects.

# Three Clusters of MN Course work for both thesis and course-based students:

## 1. Core Courses (3 Credits each)



NURS 595  
FOUNDATIONS OF  
SCHOLARSHIP/CRITICAL  
THOUGHT



NURS 596  
RESEARCH  
FOUNDATIONS



NURS 597  
UNDERSTANDING  
COMPLEX SYSTEMS



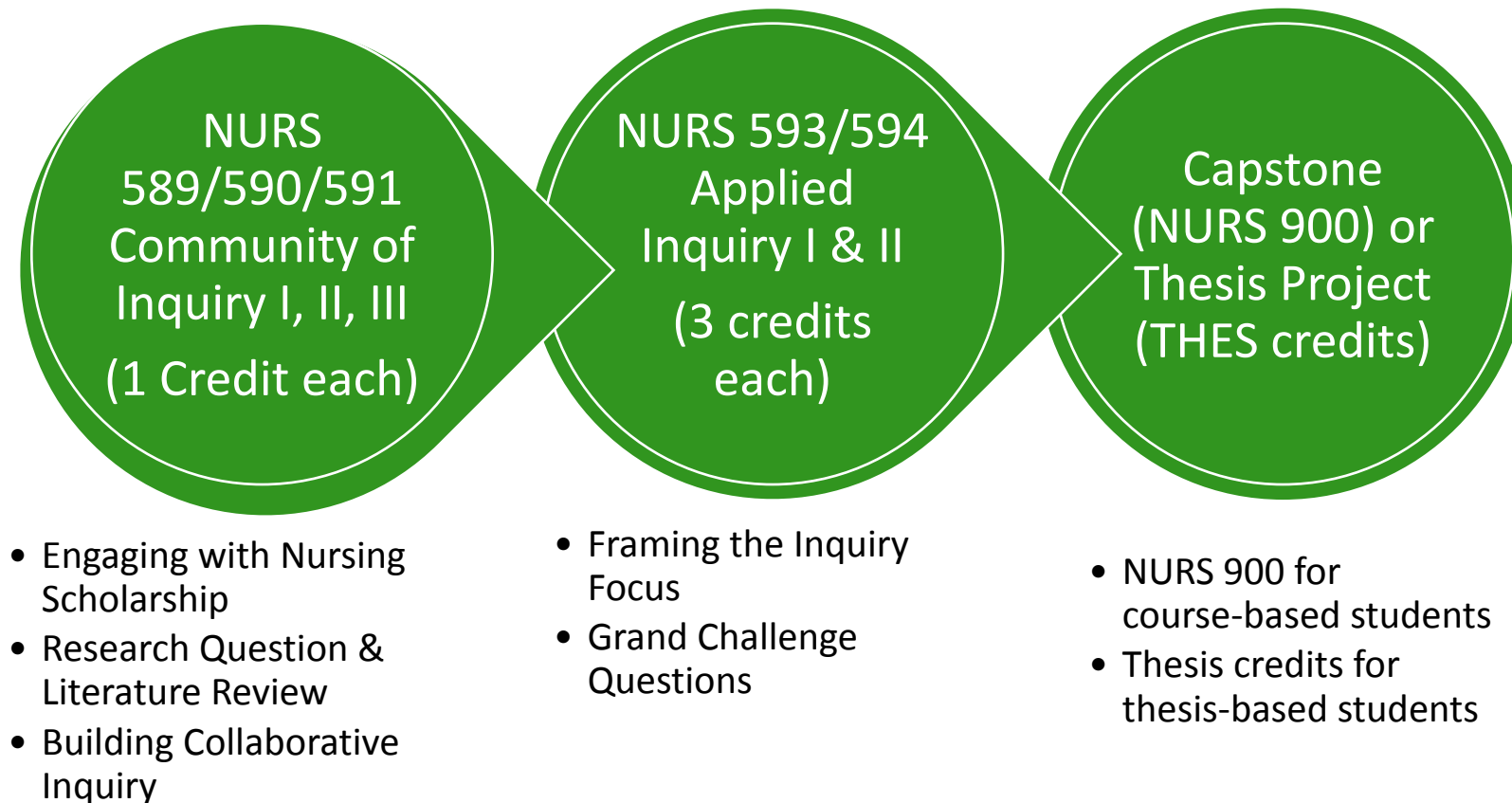
NURS 598  
TRANSLATING  
KNOWLEDGE



NURS 599  
PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS  
IN NURSING INQUIRY

## 2. Community of Inquiry courses

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### 3. Students select one of four Advanced Focus areas of study 2 courses (6 credits)

\*Clinical-NP (8 courses -  
24 credits + 800 clinical  
hours)

- **Education**
  - NURS 558: Perspectives on Nursing Pedagogy
  - NURS 559: Approaches to Learning and Teaching Innovation in Nursing
- **Leadership**
  - NURS 568: Advanced Nursing Leadership in Health Systems
  - NURS 569: Nursing Power and Policy in Health Care Leadership
- **Research** (Thesis option only)
  - NURS 578: Knowledge Synthesis
  - NURS 579: Operationalizing Research Design
- **Clinical-NP** (Adult, Family All Ages, Neonatal)

# Example Timetable for Full-time Studies

	Core Courses							
	Community of Inquiry							
	Advanced Focus							
FULL TIME - 3 courses / term	Year 1				Year 2			
Course Name	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
NURS 595 Foundations of Scholarship/Critical Thought								
NURS 596 Research Foundations								
NURS 593 Applied Inquiry I: Framing the Inquiry Focus								
NURS 597 Understanding Complex Systems								
NURS 598 Translating Knowledge								
NURS 599 Philosophy & Ethics in Nursing Inquiry								
Advanced Focus A (Leadership OR Education OR Research)								
Advanced Focus B (Leadership OR Education OR Research)								
NURS 594 Applied Inquiry II: Grand Challenge Questions								
NURS 589 Community of Inquiry I: Engaging with Nursing Scholarship 1 Credit								
NURS 590 Community of Inquiry II: Topic & Lit Review 1 Credit								
NURS 591 Community of Inquiry III: Building Collaborative Inquiry 1 Credit								
Course based students:								
NURS 900 Capstone					Capstone			
Elective (1 course)						Elective		
Thesis Based Students:								
Thesis			Thesis					

# Highly successful MN students may apply to bypass to PhD by the end of Year 1

## MN Bypass to PhD

- Complete core MN courses and progress to PhD program after first year of MN studies
- For MN students with outstanding academic achievement on admission & in core MN courses
- Students apply during first year of MN with support of a graduate supervisor willing to supervise the proposed PhD program of studies

# Post-Masters Nurse Practitioner

- Graduates of MN programs who subsequently wish to pursue NP studies and licensure may apply to complete Advanced Clinical-NP Focus courses **after** completing their MN studies in another advanced focus stream or at another university
  - This route enables new grads to complete an MN while working to meet the prerequisite of 4500 clinical hours in advance of NP studies
- 8 clinical courses (24 credits) and 800 clinical hours
- Studies completed over 20 consecutive months







# Graduate student funding

- Graduate students in nursing are strongly encouraged to be prepared to self-fund their studies as there is no guaranteed funding for graduate students.
- The University of Alberta has a significant award and funding program for graduate students, with awards offered both by the Faculty and the University. Please consult the website of the [Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research](#) for additional information.
- Graduate student funding may be available from the Faculty of Nursing through a program of graduate teaching and research assistantships.
- Some graduate supervisors may be able to provide funding through the external grants that support their research projects.
- Graduate supervisors will assist students to apply for funding from sources that are appropriate to the student's program of studies and level of academic achievement.

# Tuition and Fees

**Domestic students: approximately \$12,000 - 15,000**

**International students: approximately \$22,000 - 24,000**

- Fees are for the entire program
- Includes instructional and non-instructional fees. Does not include cost of living estimates
- Based on 2023-2024 tuition rates
- Difference in fees could be attributed to focus area, distance or on-campus non-instructional fees, thesis-based or course-based program

Tuition and Fees:

<https://www.ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/current-students/tuition-and-fees/index.html>

The background of the slide features three large, overlapping circles in a medium green color, set against a dark gray background. The circles are arranged horizontally, with the middle circle overlapping the other two. A white horizontal band runs across the center of the image, containing the title text.

# Application & Admissions Process



**APPLICATION DEADLINE  
for admission for graduate studies  
commencing Fall 2024:**

**January 15, 2024**

# Admission Requirements for MN studies

- An undergraduate degree in Nursing with an admission GPA of at least 3.0 on the 4-point scale from the University of Alberta, or an equivalent institution (calculated on the last ★60 credits of graded coursework completed).
- Three letters of reference.
- An undergraduate course in each of statistics and research methods, with a minimum grade of B (or equivalent), preferably completed within the past six years.
- Where applicable, applicants must provide proof of English Language Proficiency
- Advanced Clinical – Nurse Practitioner focus – Must provide evidence of 4500 hours of RN experience and hold a current RN license from a Canadian jurisdiction throughout the program.

# What is the Admissions Committee looking for?

- Grade Point Average (3.0 – 4.0)
- Grades achieved in undergraduate research and statistics courses
- Do the reference letters offer a compelling description of a candidate who can be successful in the program?
- Is the information provided on the “Background document” presented in a complete, concise and compelling manner?
- Find a balance between offering thorough answers and limiting answers to ~ ½ page per question.

# The “Background Document” is your introduction to the Admissions Committee

- Has the applicant described their past experience and motivation for graduate studies?
- What are the applicant’s short- and long-term career plans?
- Evidence of leadership and professional engagement:
  - Involvement in nursing activities such as projects and committees in the employment or community settings?
  - Participation in professional nursing organizations or specialty groups?
  - Experience on research projects, research assistantships, quality improvement projects?
  - Recognition and scholarship awards received?
  - Teaching experience as a preceptor, community speaker, guest lecturer?
- Explain how these activities have been meaningful to you or raised questions that have prompted your curiosity.



# How do I submit my application?

- **Application deadline: January 15, 2024**
- All documents, including all reference letters must be received by this date
- Application to Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research
  - Create an account and submit all required documents as pdf online
  - <https://www.ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/prospective-students/apply-for-admission/index.html>
- Required background document for Master of Nursing
  - Entire application is reviewed by Faculty of Nursing Admissions Committee
  - <https://www.ualberta.ca/nursing/programs/graduate-student-resources-and-services/forms-and-guidelines.html>
- \$135 non-refundable application fee

# Choosing referees for your reference letter:

- Three reference letters are required
  - Normally two academic references; one personal/work reference
- Examples of possible referees:
  - An academic who supervised your work/volunteer contribution on a project.
  - A faculty member who taught you a class and can speak to your academic excellence.
  - An academic who knows of you through committee work or student leadership activities.
  - A clinician who supervised you in clinical practice (eg. Practicum, UNE or other employment).
  - A former teacher or community service organization leader who can attest to your strengths/contributions.
- An email with a secure link will **only** be sent to your referees **after** you submit and pay for your application.
- Reference letters need to be in PDF and must be on your referee's institutional or business official letterhead or it will not be accepted.

## MN Admission Criteria and Application Process

Contact:  
Faculty of Nursing Graduate Office  
[Nursing.graduate@ualberta.ca](mailto:Nursing.graduate@ualberta.ca)



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