

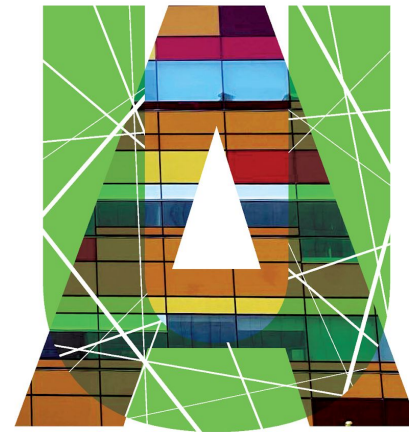
YOUR APPLICATION FOR MN-NURSE PRACTITIONER STUDIES

Dr. Kara Schick-Makaroff
Associate Dean Graduate Studies
Anne Summach, NP
NP Program Coordinator

Tracy Quigley
Anna Hnit
Graduate Program
Administrators



**UNIVERSITY
OF ALBERTA**



NURSING

1st in Canada **5th** *in the world*



**UNIVERSITY
OF ALBERTA**

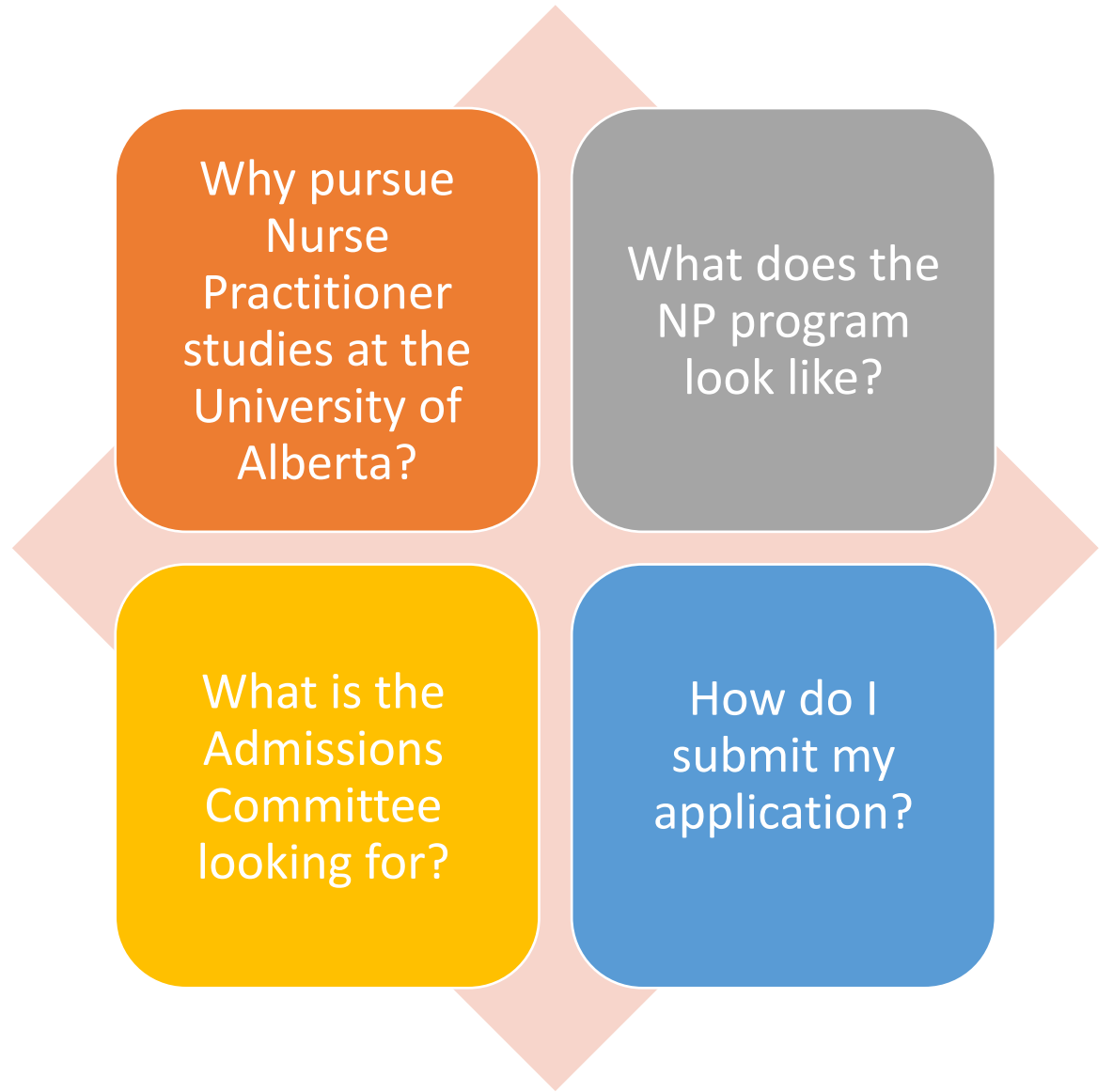
The University of Alberta respectfully acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, a traditional gathering place for diverse Indigenous peoples including the Cree, Blackfoot, Métis, Nakota Sioux, Iroquois, Dene, Ojibway/Saulteaux/Anishinaabe, Inuit, and many others whose histories, languages,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



UNIVERSITY
OF ALBERTA



AGENDA



Why pursue NP Studies?



Re-energize your nursing career and pursue career aspirations!



Develop advanced clinical skills to support and lead nursing practice in your area of focus/expertise



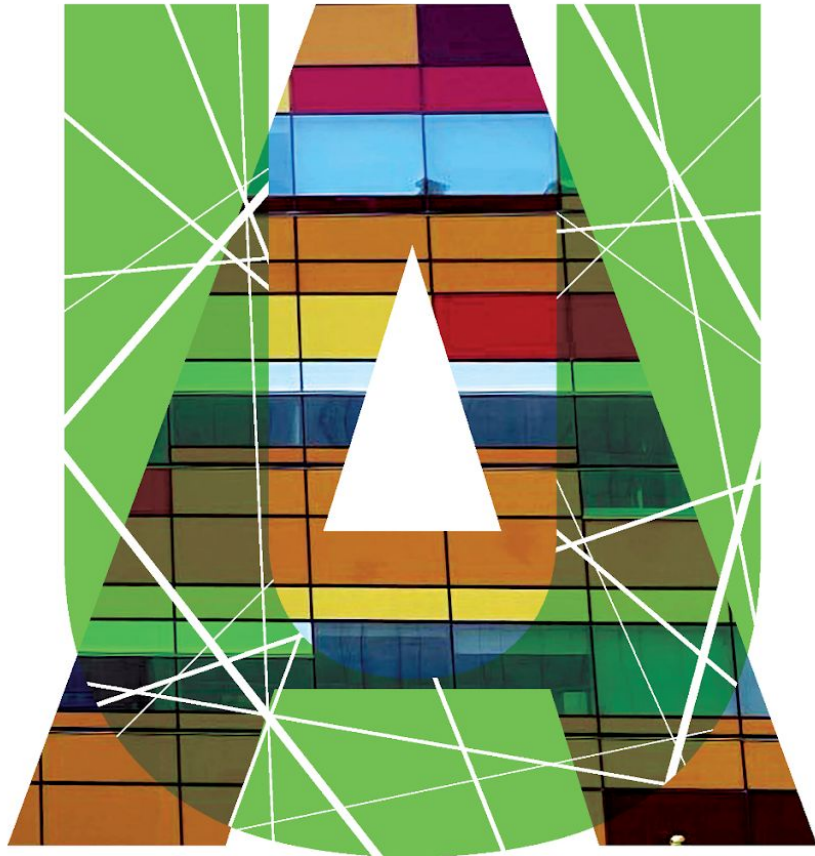
Clinical leadership opens doors for diverse career pathways



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

1st in **Canada** **5th** *in the world*



**UNIVERSITY
OF ALBERTA**

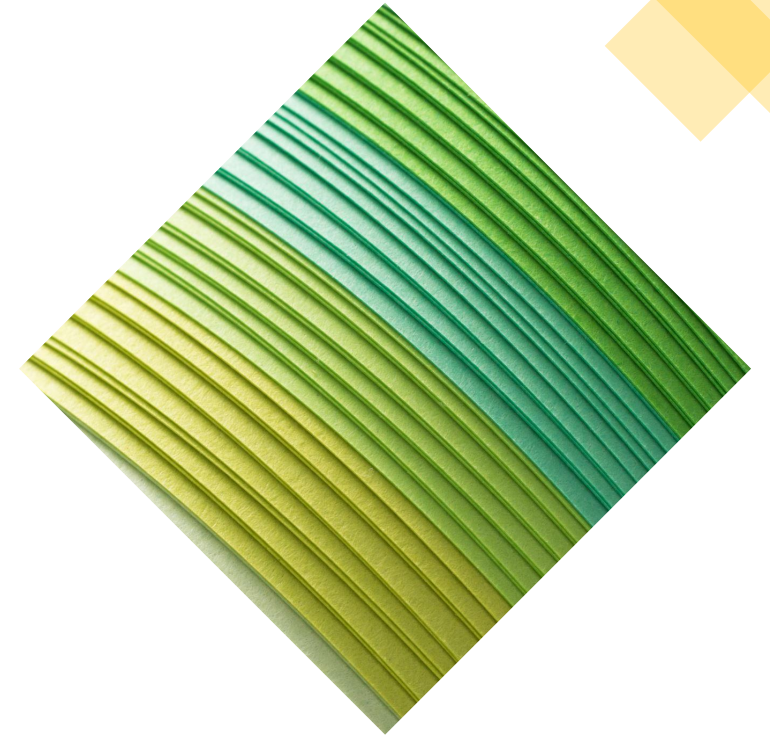
Why pursue Nurse Practitioner studies at the University of Alberta?

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
- NP programs offered since 1971
- PhD program established in 1991 (first PhD Nursing in Canada)



Why pursue NP studies at the University of Alberta?

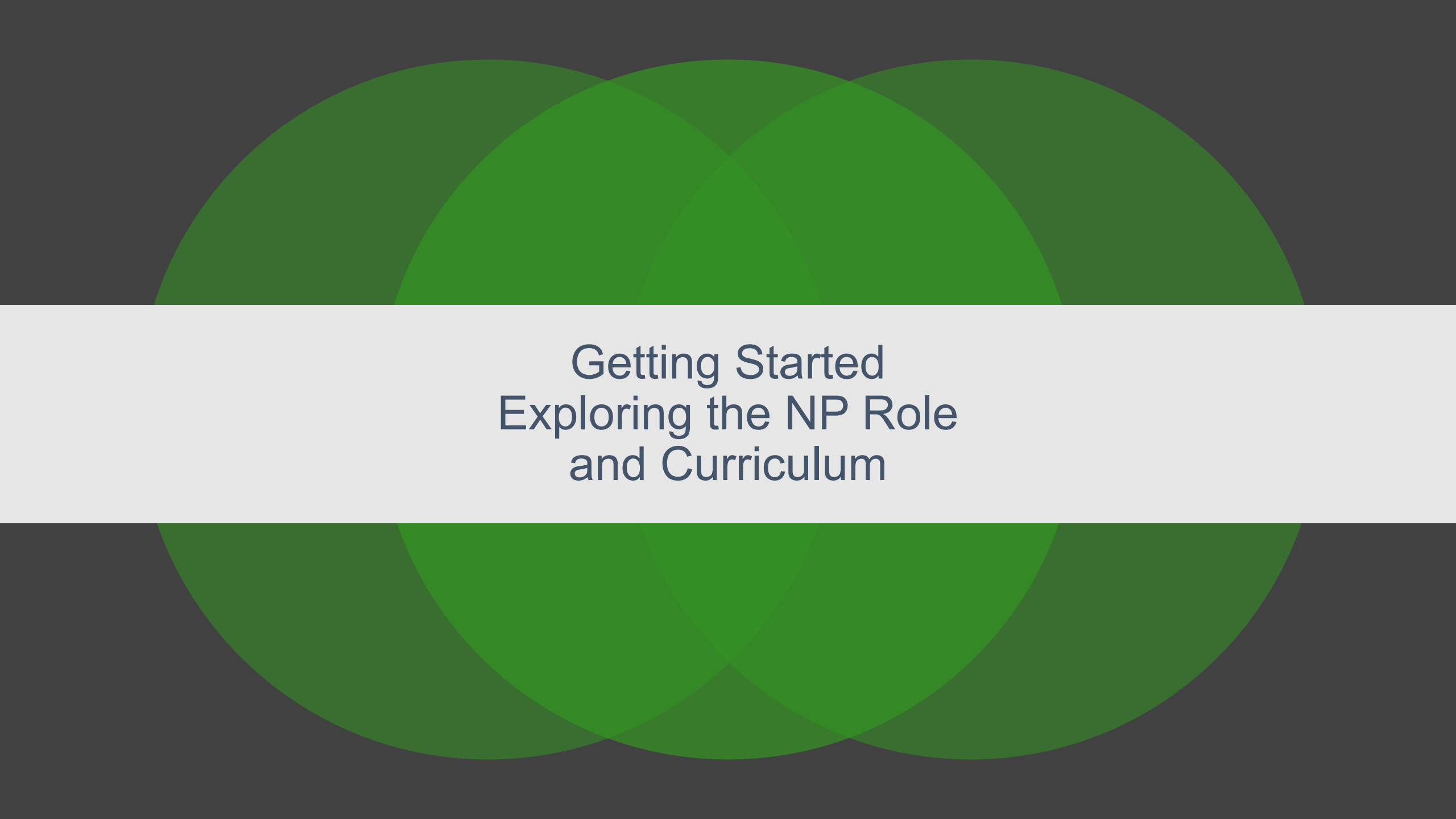
Reputation and Top Nursing Talent

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
- Strong team of NP qualified Nursing Instructors

Talented classmates become your professional network as distinguished alumni

- Classmates bring diverse perspectives and experience of nursing
- Build lifelong professional network for mentoring, support, and opportunities

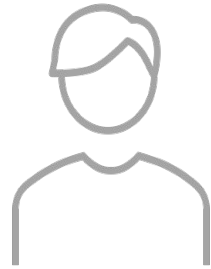
The background of the slide features three large, overlapping circles in shades of green. The circles are positioned horizontally, with the middle circle slightly offset upwards and downwards from the other two, creating a central area where all three overlap. The circles are set against a dark gray background. A white horizontal band runs across the middle of the slide, containing the title text.

Getting Started Exploring the NP Role and Curriculum

Before choosing this career pathway



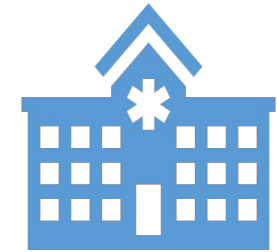
Explore CRNA and CNA documents about NP roles and responsibilities;



Look for employment opportunities for NPs in your particular area of interest and expertise;



Interview an NP in your agency to learn about their job and role;



Arrange to job shadow a nurse practitioner to see the role in action.

NP Study
streams
available
lead to NP
licensure in
3 areas:

Adult NP

Family All Ages NP
(FAA)

Neonatal NP

Key features of the Advanced Clinical-NP program at the University of Alberta

- Flexible delivery – on-campus & online (hybrid and asynchronous components)
- 8 clinical courses (including 800 clinical practice hours)
- One week on-campus intensive during Advanced Health Assessment
- Faculty of Nursing arranges practicum placements
- Possibility for clinical placements in home province (within Canada only)
- Option for Post-MN students to complete clinical courses after completing Master of Nursing studies at U of A or another university

What does the MN-NP program look like?



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

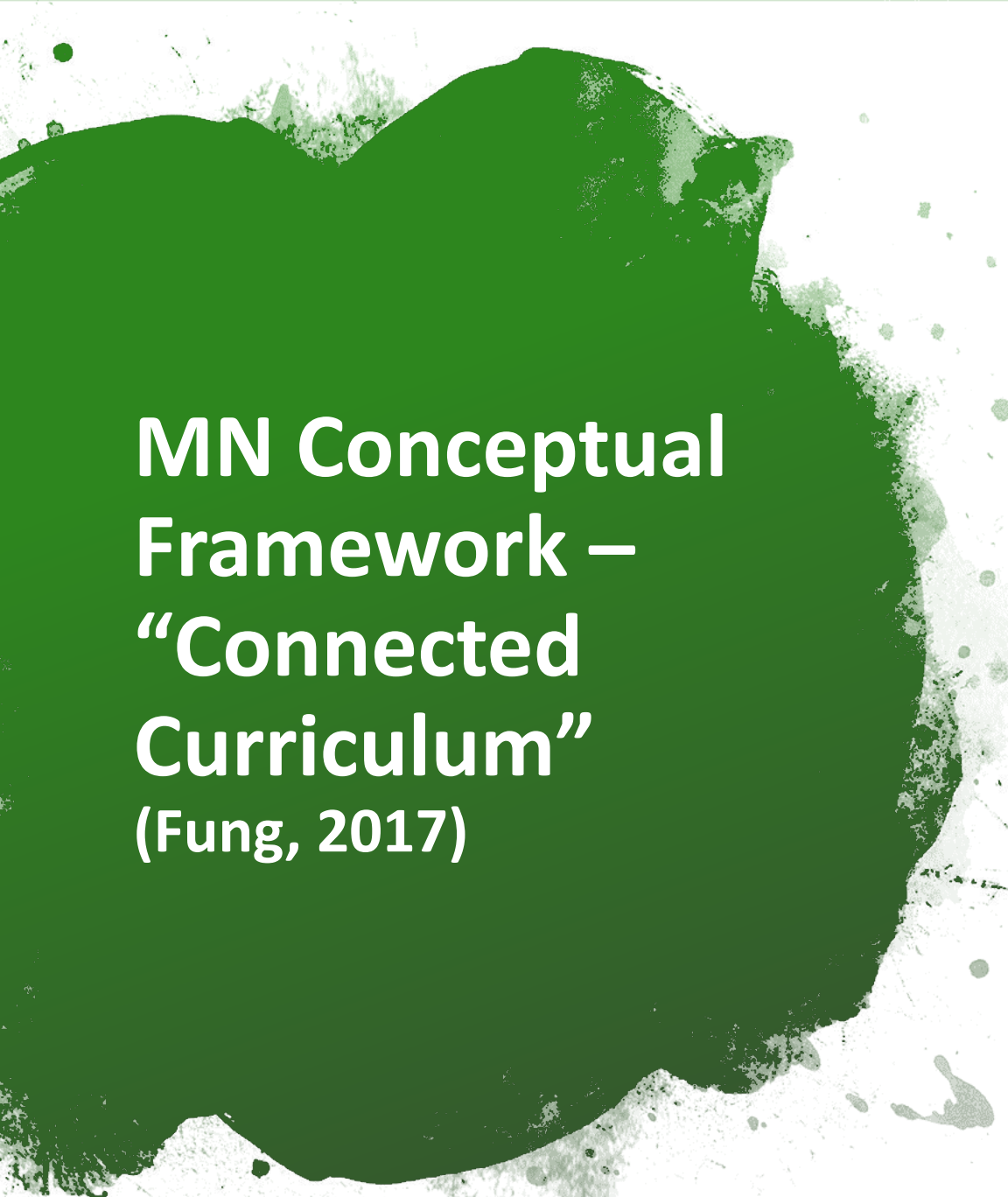


Part-time – usually 3 years to completion OR
Full-time – complete within 20 months



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

- Credit loads vary slightly
 - Course based – 36
 - Thesis based – 30
 - NP Course-based – 42
 - NP Thesis-based - 39
- All MN students complete a project either as a thesis or as a capstone exercise (course-based students)



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 NP students:

1. Core Courses (3 Credits each)



NURS 595
FOUNDATIONS OF
SCHOLARSHIP/CRITICAL
THOUGHT



NURS 596
RESEARCH
FOUNDATIONS

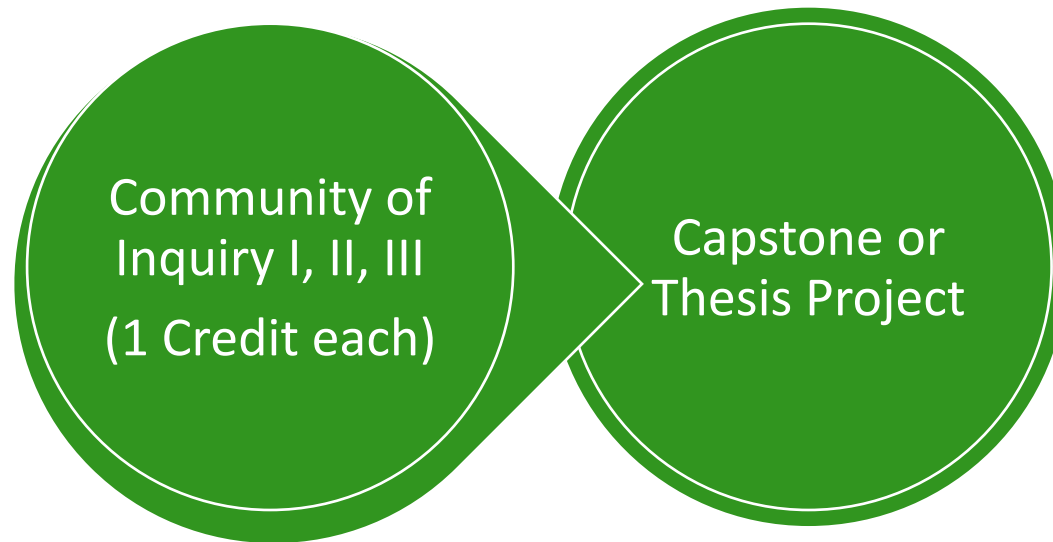


NURS 597
UNDERSTANDING
COMPLEX SYSTEMS



NURS 598
TRANSLATING
KNOWLEDGE

2. Community of Inquiry courses



- Engaging with Nursing Scholarship
- Research Question & Literature Review
- Building Collaborative Inquiry

3. Advanced Clinical NP Focus areas of study

- **Advanced Clinical-NP Focus**
 - 8 courses - 24 credits + 800 Clinical hours
- Advanced Pathophysiology
- Advanced Pharmacology
- Advanced Health Assessment (100 clinical hours)
- Clinical Care I (100 clinical hours)
- Clinical Care II (100 clinical hours)
- Clinical Care III (100 clinical hours)
- Consolidated Practicum I (200 clinical hours)
- Consolidated Practicum II (200 clinical hours)

Example Timetable for Full-time NP Studies

Timetable Road Map for Advanced Focus (Clinical - Nurse Practitioner)

	Core Courses					
	Community of Inquiry					
	Advanced Focus					
Clinical Focus (NP Stream)						
Full Time - 3 courses / term	Year 1				Year 2	
Course Name	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
NURS 595 Foundations of Scholarship/Critical Thought	595					
NURS 596 Research Foundations	596					
NURS 597 Understanding Complex Systems		597				
NURS 598 Translating Knowledge		598				
Advanced Focus Courses (Clinical - Nurse Practitioner)	509 or 522	507 or 520	516 or 518	530	531	533
Advanced Focus Courses (Clinical - Nurse Practitioner)					532	534
NURS 589 Community of Inquiry I: Engaging with Nursing Scholarship 1 Credit	589					
NURS 590 Community of Inquiry II: Topic & Lit Review 1 Credit		590				
NURS 591 Community of Inquiry III: Building Collaborative Inquiry 1 Credit			591			
NURS 900 Capstone OR					900	
Thesis				Thesis		

*NP Required Clinical Courses

NURS 507 (FAA/Adult) or NURS 520 (Neonate) - Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics
 NURS 509 (FAA/Adult) or NURS 522 (Neonate) - Advanced Pathophysiology
 NURS 516 (FAA/Adult) or NURS 518 (Neonate) - Health Assessment (100 hrs clinical)
 NURS 530 - Advanced Clinical Care I (100 hrs clinical)
 NURS 531 - Advanced Clinical Care II (100 hrs clinical)
 NURS 532 - Advanced Clinical Care III (100 hrs clinical)
 NURS 533 - Consolidated Practicum I (200 hrs clinical)
 NURS 534 - Consolidated Practicum II (200 hrs clinical)

*NP required clinical courses must be taken in sequential terms

Example Timetable for Part-time NP Studies

Timetable Road Map for Advanced Focus (Clinical - Nurse Practitioner)

	Core Courses									
	Community of Inquiry									
	Advanced Focus									
Clinical Focus (NP Stream)										
PART TIME - 2 courses / term	Year 1				Year 2				Year 3	
Course Name	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
NURS 595 Foundations of Scholarship/Critical Thought	595									
NURS 596 Research Foundations	596									
NURS 597 Understanding Complex Systems		597								
NURS 598 Translating Knowledge		598								
Advanced Focus Courses (Clinical - Nurse Practitioner)					509 or 522	507 or 520	516 or 518	530	531	533
Advanced Focus Courses (Clinical - Nurse Practitioner)									532	534
NURS 589 Community of Inquiry I: Engaging with Nursing Scholarship 1 Credit	589			or	589					
NURS 590 Community of Inquiry II: Topic & Lit Review 1 Credit		590			or	590				
NURS 591 Community of Inquiry III: Building Collaborative Inquiry 1 Credit			591			or	591			
Capstone OR					900			or	900	
Thesis								Thesis		

***NP Required Clinical Courses**

NURS 507 (FAA/Adult) or NURS 520 (Neonate) - Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics
 NURS 509 (FAA/Adult) or NURS 522 (Neonate) - Advanced Pathophysiology
 NURS 516 (FAA/Adult) or NURS 518 (Neonate) - Health Assessment (100 hrs clinical)
 NURS 530 - Advanced Clinical Care I (100 hrs clinical)
 NURS 531 - Advanced Clinical Care II (100 hrs clinical)
 NURS 532 - Advanced Clinical Care III (100 hrs clinical)
 NURS 533 - Consolidated Practicum I (200 hrs clinical)
 NURS 534 - Consolidated Practicum II (200 hrs clinical)

*NP required clinical courses must be taken in sequential terms

FAQ – Can I maintain RN employment throughout my NP studies?

- Many NP students choose to maintain other clinical employment during their studies on a range of part-time work commitments.
- NP courses require a total of 800 clinical hours (preceptored).
- It may be difficult to maintain employment hours due to the workload of seminar and clinical commitments for NP courses. For example:
 - Spring/Summer terms at end of year 1 (full time studies), NP courses require a total of 200 hours of clinical practice.
 - Fall term of Year 2 (full time studies), NP courses require a total of 200 hours of clinical practice.
 - Winter term of Year 2 (full time studies), NP courses require a total of 400 hours of clinical practice.
- **Throughout the program, students must realistically appraise their ability to continue employment hours alongside the time commitment required for their 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 (part-time with exception of final winter semester)



Course Timetabling Post-Master's NP

Post Master's Clinical NP Courses						
Timetable Road Map for Advanced Focus - Post Master's (Post MN)						
Course Name	Year 1				Year 2	
	Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
NURS 509 (FAA/Adult) or NURS 522 (Neonate) - Advanced Pathophysiology	509 or 522					
NURS 507 (FAA/Adult) or NURS 520 (Neonate) - Advanced Pharmacotherapeutics		507 or 520				
NURS 516 (FAA/Adult) or NURS 518 (Neonate) - Health Assessment (100 hrs clinical)			516 or 518			
NURS 530 - Advanced Clinical Care I (100 hrs clinical)				530		
NURS 531 - Advanced Clinical Care II (100 hrs clinical)					531	
NURS 532 - Advanced Clinical Care III (100 hrs clinical)					532	
NURS 533 - Consolidated Practicum I (200 hrs clinical)						533
NURS 534 - Consolidated Practicum II (200 hrs clinical)						534

Tuition and Fees

- **Domestic students: approximately \$12,000 - 15,000**
- **Post MN: approximately \$7,000**
 - 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>



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.

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

- **In light of anticipated licensure category changes for nurse practitioners, the Faculty of Nursing will only be admitting full time applicants into the neonatal stream for the Fall of 2024.**
- 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**
 - **Must hold a current RN license from a Canadian jurisdiction throughout the program.**

What is the Admissions Committee looking for in your application?

- 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.

FAQ: How should I choose referees for my reference letters?:

- 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, 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.

How do I submit my application?

- The online application system (GSMS) will open September 1
- **Application deadline: January 15**
 - 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

<https://www.ualberta.ca/nursing/programs/graduate-programs-and-admissions/master-of-nursing-program/admission-criteria-and-application-process.html>

Contact:
Faculty of Nursing Graduate Office
Nursing.graduate@ualberta.ca



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY