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Welcome to the Faculty of Nursing!

The Faculty of Nursing Graduate Office team is delighted to welcome all of our new graduate students to the University of Alberta for the 2022-2023 academic year!

*Save the date*
New Student Graduate Orientation: 
Wednesday, August 31, 2022 
PhD: 10:00am - 2:00pm MST 
MN: 1:00pm - 4:00pm MST

Please note that attendance (virtual or oncampus) is mandatory

Please ensure to check your UAlberta email account and the Faculty of Nursing website for updates over the summer months. 
(https://www.ualberta.ca/nursing/programs/graduate-student-resources-and-services/graduate-programs-orientation.html)
Faculty of Nursing Leadership Team

Interim Dean, Dr. Diane Kunyk
Vice-Dean, Dr. Shannon Scott
Associate Dean Undergraduate, Dr. Beverley Temple
Interim Associate Dean Research, Dr. Colleen Norris
Associate Dean Graduate Studies, Dr. Dianne Tapp
Faculty General Manager, Dawn MacRitchie
Assistant Dean Advancement, Brianne Thomas
Executive Administrator Dean’s Office, Sara Henry
Faculty of Nursing Graduate Studies Office Team

Please contact the Graduate Office team for assistance with any of your questions about course registrations, program progress, graduate research/teaching assistantships, graduate supervision and examinations, and University policies and procedures.

Dr. Dianne Tapp RN PhD
Professor and Associate Dean Graduate Studies
tapp@ualberta.ca

Anna Hnit
Graduate Services Administrator
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Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR)

Although Nursing is your home faculty, all graduate students at the University of Alberta are admitted to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research (FGSR), which provides consistent policies, standards, and resources across campus for admission and supervision of graduate students in all of the Faculties. Many policies and procedures affecting graduate program progression, examination, and program completion are discipline/Faculty-specific. The University Calendar is the official source for information regarding graduate program information; any discrepancy between faculty procedures and the calendar are resolved according to the University of Alberta Calendar.

The Faculty of Graduate Studies website offers information about the University, including graduate policies and procedures, student awards and funding, professional development for graduate students, and other resources for graduate students.
https://www.ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/current-students

Check out information for new graduate students on the FGSR website (Welcome to Grad Life):
https://www.ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/current-students/newgrad

Graduate students will find the most current information related to the COVID-19 developments on the following web page:
https://www.ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/current-students/fgsr-covid191.html
FGSR REQUIREMENT: Ethics & Academic Citizenship

FGSR requires that all graduate students must complete online coursework (zero credit, no tuition, self-paced) to ensure that graduate students are aware of their rights, responsibilities and obligations.

Topics covered include academic integrity, research and workplace ethics, Indigenizing and decolonizing the academy, equity, diversity, and inclusivity, health and academic productivity, and ethical principles in university teaching.

INT D 710 Ethics and Academic Citizenship (both MN & PhD)

INT D 720 Advanced Ethics & Academic Citizenship (PhD only)

https://www.ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/professional-development/ethics/index.html
FGSR REQUIREMENT: Professional Development

The PD requirement assists graduate students to begin thinking about future career options, and to develop professional skills and network.

There are two components included in the Professional Development Requirement:

1. Individual Development Plan (IDP)

   Summary of the Individual Development Plan
   
   - Step 1: Reflect on career goals and analyze skills gap
   - Step 2: Develop 3 personal development objectives
   - Step 3: Review with Supervisor
   - Step 4: Review annually (recommended)

2. Eight hours of Professional Development (PD) activities:
   - Formal training & active learning with an assessment component
   - Falls outside of research methods training, capstone project, thesis, or practicum
   - Supports the career goals and/or skills/competencies identified in the IDP

https://www.ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/professional-development/professional-development-requirement/index.html
The Faculty of Nursing Graduate Studies Office works collaboratively with FGSR (Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research), and all graduate supervisors and students to provide support and information as students progress through their graduate programs. In liaison with FGSR, this office is responsible for administration of graduate programs in Nursing, including recommending admission to FGSR; preparation and monitoring of graduate documents (award nominations; appointment of supervisors and supervisory committees; approval of exam procedures; revisions to graduate curricula; course planning, timetabling, and registration).

Nursing Graduate Programs forms and guidelines documents can be found at: [https://www.ualberta.ca/nursing/programs/graduate-student-resources-and-services/forms-and-guidelines.html](https://www.ualberta.ca/nursing/programs/graduate-student-resources-and-services/forms-and-guidelines.html)

All new students should review the Graduate Supervision Manual found under Guidelines, Policies & Information>General Information.

In addition, PhD students will find an overview of the doctoral program in the PhD Program Manual found under Guidelines, Policies & Information>PhD Program.
Every Thursday afternoon, there are no scheduled graduate courses so that our Faculty of Nursing graduate students can have opportunities to connect and meet for information sessions, social gatherings, town halls, presentations and discussion forums.

Throughout the year, sessions will be offered approximately biweekly on a variety of topics to help students to access information and get to know each other and the Faculty. Examples of topics include technology tools for academic success, applying for awards, and essential tips for graduate student success.

Plan to attend these sessions to stay connected with each other; to access and discuss Faculty and University resources; to join presentations by faculty members sharing their research and scholarly work; and to feel the vibe in your Faculty of Nursing community!

We hope that you will join us on a regular basis. When possible, these sessions may be livestreamed or recorded for students who are studying remotely.

Watch for updates for upcoming topics every month!
Faculty of Nursing Research Rounds

Graduate students are invited to attend the Faculty of Nursing Research Rounds, which are hosted throughout the fall and winter terms.

Presentations by our Faculty researchers, students, and invited speakers highlight the research contributions, puzzles, and interests of our Nursing community.

Please ensure that you are checking your UAlberta email for details as they become available.
All graduate students are supported by a faculty member who is assigned as either supervisor or academic advisor. During the application process, new doctoral students will have confirmed a faculty supervisor who has agreed to advise and support student development throughout their program of studies and thesis project. All master’s students are assigned an academic advisor upon admission based on faculty availability and on the background information and career goals provided by the student during the application process. Full-time master’s students will confirm a supervisor for their project (thesis or capstone) by the end of their first term of studies.

https://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=36&navoid=11202#responsibilities-related-to-graduate-programs
1. GRADUATE STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Familiarize yourself with Faculty and University rules and regulations pertaining to program timelines and degree requirements;

Adhere to University of Alberta Calendar deadlines and all rules for program completion;

Consistently access and use your University of Alberta CCID email account for University communications, and for all correspondence with the Graduate Studies Office and your supervisor;

Advise the Graduate Services Office of changes in name or contact information;

Participate in learning opportunities provided/recommended by the Nursing Graduate Studies Office (TAGS Thursday Afternoon Graduate Studies sessions; Faculty and University workshops and seminars);

Become a contributing member of the Faculty of Nursing graduate community by connecting with your classmates through the Nursing Graduate Student Association and the Nursing MentorUS program;

Ensure that registration is maintained throughout your program and that all required fees are paid by the deadline dates set out in the calendar;

Inform your supervisor/advisor regularly about your progress, and collaborate to submit an annual progress report (normally in June each year);

Consult with the Graduate Services Office as needed for advice, information, and support.
2. ROLE OF THE ACADEMIC ADVISOR (MN STUDENTS ONLY)

Provides appropriate guidance to the student in course selection, course changes, and progress within the program.

Accepts role of capping/thesis supervisor OR assists student to confirm capping/thesis supervisor by end of Fall term for full time students (or by end of second year Fall term for part-time students).

Meets with a full-time student no less than two times in an academic year and will meet with a part-time student no less than once in an academic year.

Explains the rationale and reviews with the student any administrative and/or curricular changes that have occurred since their last scheduled meeting and any impact that such changes will have (or potentially might have) on the student’s progress.

Where appropriate, considers a graduate student a junior colleague.

Maintains open communication with the student concerning any problem; and in the event of a conflict in the supervisor-student relationship, discusses the issues with the student and graduate coordinator in a timely fashion.
3. ROLE OF THESIS SUPERVISOR (MN & PHD)

https://calendar.ualberta.ca/content.php?catoid=36&navoid=11202#responsibilities-related-to-graduate-programs

Assists the student in planning a program of studies

Assists in ensuring that the student is aware of all program requirements, degree regulations, and general regulations of the department and FGSR

Provides counsel on all aspects of the student’s program

Stays informed of the student’s research activities and progress

Ensures that students conduct their research in a manner that is as effective, safe, and productive as possible

Arranges for and attends all supervisory committee meetings and the student’s examinations, ensuring that these are scheduled and held in accordance with FGSR regulations

When going on leave or an extended period of absence, ensures that the student is adequately supervised by an acting supervisor

Review the thesis both in draft and in final form.
Thesis students in the Faculty of Nursing are required to have a supervisory committee normally comprised of approximately 3 members.

The committee is led by the student’s thesis supervisor or by two faculty members who agree to co-supervise.

Committee members are usually appointed within the first year of the program (within 8 months for MN students and 12 months for doctoral students).

Supervisory committee members

- bring relevant expertise to support student development related to the thesis topic or methods,
- contribute to the development and approval of the thesis proposal,
- participate in theses examinations at the proposal and program completion stages.

The supervisor will normally arrange for the supervisory committee to meet with the student at least once annually.

Additional meetings may also be held at the request of either the student or the supervisor.

The student may be asked to prepare an agenda, and other written materials or reports in advance of scheduled meetings with the supervisory committee.
Students or faculty members may request a change of advisor or supervisor.

For MN students, this may occur when the student confirms their thesis/capstone project topic and their project supervisor is confirmed. When a project supervisor is confirmed, the student should email the Graduate Services Office with this information (tracy.quigley@ualberta.ca)

A change may be requested when
- the student may more appropriately be supported by the expertise of a different faculty member,
- when the student and/or faculty member express a personal preference for this change,
- when the faculty member will be away on sabbatical or prolonged leave of absence, or
- in instances of supervisory conflict.

It is recommended that the student/advisor/supervisor should discuss this possibility, and should consult with the Faculty of Nursing Associate Dean Graduate Studies and/or the Nursing Graduate Services Office as needed.
The relationship between students and supervisors/advisors is one of the most important relationships you will develop during your program of studies. It must be recognized that supervisory relationships are influenced by differential power positions, and diverse cultural and professional experiences that influence faculty and student perspectives and expectations. It is anticipated that scholarly inquiry typically thrives under circumstances of mutual respect, open questioning and dialogue, and academic integrity in the conduct of scholarly work. Faculty, staff, and students share responsibility for creating a safe and respectful environment for teaching and learning.

Your faculty supervisor/advisor will offer guidance on course selection and program planning, scholarships, research training, career development, and professional networking. Faculty members and graduate students share responsibility for developing a productive and rewarding relationship by negotiating clear expectations for how you will work together. The following document includes many helpful suggestions for both thesis and course-based students to consider your respective roles and responsibilities, and effective ways to communicate with your supervisor and supervisory committee.

How to Ensure a Rewarding Student-Supervisor Relationship
(https://www.ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/media-library/current-students/doctoral/guidelines-rewarding-student-supervisor-experience.pdf)
Most students will meet with their graduate supervisor/academic advisor during the first month of their program of studies. You will discuss your respective roles, responsibilities, and expectations during this meeting, and you can prepare for this conversation through the following activities:

- Thoroughly review this orientation handbook, and explore the links that are referenced throughout;
- Be prepared to discuss your career goals, and your hopes for how your graduate studies will assist your professional development;
- Consider personal goals for communication, collaboration, and scholarly activities that you hope to develop through your academic endeavours;
- Discuss your intended program timeline and other work and personal commitments that will influence the ways that you intend to organize your studies to meet program timelines;
- Consider how you like to give and receive feedback;
- Make a list of questions that you want to discuss with your supervisor.
Some of the topics that your supervisor will want to discuss with you initially and over time include the following:

• Frequency and purpose of regular meetings between the supervisor and the student.

• Exchange of contact information, general availability, and preferences for keeping in touch (ie. Email, in person, phone, online).

• Normal time frame to be expected by each party for feedback / constructive review / revisions to written work (such as proposals, literature reviews, reports, manuscripts, scholarship applications), including advance time required for student submission of materials, and return time for review/feedback from the supervisor to the student.

• Roles and responsibilities of graduate students and supervisors.

• Order of authorship and the criteria to determine order of authorship on any shared publications

https://www.ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/about/graduate-program-manual/section-10-intellectual-property/10-2-guidelines-for-authorship
Discussion Topics (continued)

- Management/security of research data (Health Research Data Repository if appropriate) and research ethics
  https://www.ualberta.ca/nursing/research/supports-and-services/hrdr.html

- Academic Integrity and Ethics Training Requirement – all University of Alberta graduate students are required to complete 8 hours of structured training in this area.
  https://www.ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/professional-development/ethics/index.html

- Research and Scholarship and Integrity Policy -
  https://policiesonline.ualberta.ca/PoliciesProcedures/Policies/Research-and-Scholarship-Integrity-Policy.pdf

- Academic Integrity (including plagiarism and collaboration) -
  https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students/academic-resources/academic-integrity/index.html
Discussion Topics (continued)


- Professional Development requirement and Individual Development Plan – All University of Alberta Graduate Students are required to complete 8 hours of professional development activities [https://www.ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/professional-development/professional-development-requirement](https://www.ualberta.ca/graduate-studies/professional-development/professional-development-requirement)

- Timelines for program completion, including coursework, examinations, and if applicable, approval of research proposal, thesis writing and final oral examination.

- Funding opportunities - Students must actively apply for internal and external funding awards / scholarships / travel grants.

- Contractual obligations if employment as Graduate Research Assistant/Graduate Teaching Assistant responsibilities are anticipated.

- Any other mutually agreed upon responsibilities that support student learning and/or research training.
DEALING WITH CONFLICT

As with any relationship, there is potential for conflict in the supervisory relationship, or in relationships with other faculty and students in your graduate program. If you have a dispute with someone, it is often best to attempt to resolve the dispute as quickly as you can, informally, and as directly (ie. face-to-face) as may be possible. In the event that a conflict cannot be resolved, the supervisor and/or student may consult with the Associate Dean Graduate Studies in the Faculty of Nursing. If the issue cannot be resolved at the Faculty level, other resources may include the Student Ombuds (ombuds@ualberta.ca), or the Graduate Students Association (gsa.frontdesk@ualberta.ca). Alternatively, an appointment can be made with an Associate Dean at FGSR.

Graduate supervisors are expected to openly declare any issue which may lead to a conflict of interest with the student, or with another member of the supervisory committee. The disclosure of conflict must be made in writing and brought to the attention of the student, the Faculty of Nursing Graduate Studies Office, and FGSR.

(see policy on Conflict of Interest for Graduate Student Supervisory and Examination Committees)
If a conflict between the supervisor and student cannot be resolved, the Faculty will attempt in good faith to work with the student to find an alternate supervisor whose scholarship is aligned with the student’s program of studies, and who is willing to assume supervisory responsibilities. This may lead to a more satisfactory supervisory arrangement in some, but unfortunately not all circumstances. In rare situations, students may choose to withdraw from the program or may be required to withdraw.

Conflicts are unfortunate and often very challenging but may provide opportunity to develop personal skills that build resilience in other professional roles. The following resources provide suggestions for perspectives and communication skills to navigate difficult interpersonal circumstances.

Resources:

* [Fairness in communication – A relational fairness guide](#)
* [Dysfunctional advisee-adviser relationships: Methods – Negotiating beyond conflict](#)
* [We have to talk: A step-by-step checklist for difficult conversations](#)
The Office of the Student Ombuds is an impartial service that offers information, advice, and support to students, faculty, and staff as they deal with academic, supervisory, discipline, interpersonal, and financial issues related to student experiences in their programs.

The ombuds team works collaboratively with all university units in providing educational awareness and consciousness-building to address issues of systemic racism and discrimination, and supports students to ensure fair processes and to ensure that student voices are heard in addressing issues.

Students can make appointments for independent and confidential consultation at any time.

ombuds@ualberta.ca
RESOURCES FOR ONLINE LEARNING

Although most graduate programs are not offered wholly in an online format (with the exception of the MN-Advanced Clinical NP focus), many graduate courses are timetabled in a hybrid teaching format. This means that there are 2 registration sections within the course: one for an on-campus sub-group and another for an online sub-group. In hybrid courses, these two groups meet and interact concurrently during the scheduled class time.

Computing Requirements for Remote Learning

Review the recommendations from University of Alberta IST (Information Services & Technology) regarding the specifications for your computer and Internet needs. https://www.ualberta.ca/information-services-and-technology/services/software-hardware-vendors/technology-requirements.html
Explore online resources to learn about the University of Alberta platform for online learning
https://www.ualberta.ca/information-services-and-technology/remote-work/learning-remotely.html

**eClass** - For each of your registered courses, you will receive access to an eClass link where you will find your course outlines, course information and announcements, and contact information for the course instructor. You will find Zoom links for synchronous discussions, online discussion forums, powerpoint files/handouts, and other resources. In some courses, you will also use eClass to write online exams and submit assignments.

**Google G Suite** tools are used for email, calendaring, document sharing, and videoconferencing. The University website provides many introductory links to help you to get started if you are a new G Suite user, and to increase your knowledge of these utilities.

**Zoom** will be used by many instructors for synchronous video interaction with students.
The **Academic Success Centre** offers professional academic support to help you to achieve your academic goals. Most services are available online, including individual advising, group workshops, online courses and specialized programming for graduate students. The main website for these services is

[https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students/academic-success-centre/index.html](https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students/academic-success-centre/index.html)

Are you interested in topics such as writing a literature review, reading a research paper, or writing a funding proposal? The Academic Success Centre offers workshops and courses that are tailored to graduate student needs. These workshops are updated monthly, so plan to visit this website regularly.

[https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students/academic-success-centre/workshops/graduate-workshops.html](https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students/academic-success-centre/workshops/graduate-workshops.html)
Many graduate students find that they need to brush up their written communication skills as they prepare for courses that have written assignments and term papers as part of the course evaluation. Access tutorials, workshops, and quick study guides, including the following examples from the many topics available from the Library, the Academic Success Centre, and the Centre for Writers.

[Link](https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students/centre-for-writers/index.html)

*Writing tutorials for searching literature and organizing your paper*  
[Link](https://www.library.ualberta.ca/tutorials/)

*Citing, Quoting, Summarizing, Paraphrasing*  
[Link](https://www.ualberta.ca/media-library/ualberta/students/centre-for-writers/documents/resources/paraphrasing-summarizing.pdf)

*Plagiarism*  
[Link](https://www.library.ualberta.ca/tutorials/foundational)

*Handout summary for Citation Guide for APA (7th Ed)*  
[Link](https://guides.library.ualberta.ca/ld.php?content_id=35043857)
Welcome!!!