Your Application for MN Studies
Faculty of Nursing
University of Alberta

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AGENDA

Why pursue master’s studies in Nursing?

Why pursue master’s studies in Nursing at the University of Alberta?

What does the MN program look like?

How do I submit my application?
Why pursue master’s studies in Nursing?

- Re-energize your nursing career!
- 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?

UofA Faculty of Nursing Ranks #2 in Canada and #14 Globally
- Tied for #1 in reputation ranking with U of T
- Tied for #2 in research ranking with UBC

The Faculty has 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

Reputation and Top Nursing Talent
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)

- Foundations of Scholarship/Critical Thought
- Research Foundations
- Understanding Complex Systems
- Translating Knowledge
- Philosophy & Ethics in Nursing Inquiry
2. Community of Inquiry courses

- Community of Inquiry I, II, III (1 Credit each)
  - Engaging with Nursing Scholarship
  - Research Question & Literature Review
  - Building Collaborative Inquiry

- Applied Inquiry I & II (3 credits each)
  - Framing the Inquiry Focus
  - Grand Challenge Questions

- Capstone or Thesis Project
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**
  - Perspectives on Nursing Pedagogy
  - Approaches to Learning and Teaching Innovation in Nursing

- **Leadership**
  - Advanced Nursing Leadership in Health Systems
  - Nursing Power and Policy in Health Care Leadership

- **Research** (Thesis option only)
  - Knowledge Synthesis
  - Operationalizing Research Design

- **Clinical-NP** (Adult, Family All Ages, Neonatal)
### Example Timetable for Full-time Studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Core Courses</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 595 Foundations of Scholarship/Critical Thought</td>
<td>Fall</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 596 Research Foundations</td>
<td>Winter</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 593 Applied Inquiry I: Framing the Inquiry Focus</td>
<td>Summer</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 597 Understanding Complex Systems</td>
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<td>NURS 598 Translating Knowledge</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 599 Philosophy &amp; Ethics in Nursing Inquiry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Focus A (Leadership OR Education OR Research)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advanced Focus B (Leadership OR Education OR Research)</td>
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<td>Winter</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 594 Applied Inquiry II: Grand Challenge Questions</td>
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<td>Summer</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 589 Community of Inquiry I: Engaging with Nursing Scholarship 1 Credit</td>
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<td>Fall</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 590 Community of Inquiry II: Topic &amp; Lit Review 1 Credit</td>
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<td>Winter</td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 591 Community of Inquiry III: Building Collaborative Inquiry 1 Credit</td>
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<td>Summer</td>
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<td><strong>Course based students:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>NURS 900 Capstone</td>
<td>Proposal</td>
<td>Capstone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective (1 course)</td>
<td>Elective or Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thesis Based Students:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
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• 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.

• 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.

• Graduate student funding may be available from the Faculty of Nursing through a program of graduate teaching and research assistantships.

• Graduate students in Nursing are strongly encouraged to be prepared to self-fund their studies as there is no guaranteed funding for graduate students.
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.
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)
Other possible opportunities:

**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 PhD

**Coming soon – Combined MN / MBA**
- Dual degree for advanced management and leadership roles in health systems
APPLICATION DEADLINE for admission for graduate studies commencing Fall 2022:

January 15, 2022
How do I submit my application?

• **Application deadline:** January 15, 2022
  • 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](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

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