How do I USE THIS MAP?

Whether you are considering or have embarked on graduate studies at Queen’s, use this map to plan for success in five overlapping areas of your career and academic life. The map helps you explore possibilities, set goals and track your individual accomplishments. Everyone’s journey is different – the guide offers options for finding your way at Queen’s and setting the foundation for your future. To make your own customized map, use the online My Grad Map tool.

Why GRADUATE STUDIES in NURSING?

Consider a graduate degree in Nursing for all it has to offer: well-developed skills in critical thinking, writing, and research and, perhaps even more importantly, skills to facilitate change in today’s health care system. Graduate students and their work are an important part of an ongoing research process that provides the health care system with ways of understanding phenomena using multiple ways of knowing. Today’s employment marketplace seeks people who can critically analyze information and evidence, synthesize in both scholarly and public reports, create new knowledge, and lead change and transformation. Study Nursing and you will acquire such skills.

Why QUEEN’S?

“I benefited the most from the mentorship throughout my graduate studies that built a solid foundation for my career.”
– Charlotte Lee, MSc, PhD, RN

The School of Nursing at Queen’s offers a challenging and innovative program to prepare graduates with the knowledge and skills to conduct small research projects and participate in research teams, and the critical appraisal skills needed for developing the scientific basis for nursing practice. Our students are taught primarily in small graduate seminars, in which they engage in a lively, critical examination of theory and research, and delve into their own research. Nurtured by close mentoring relationships with faculty supervisors, students engage early and continuously in research and successfully complete the program in 2 years. Situated in an academic environment that embodies scholarship, graduates are well-prepared for careers as leaders in clinical practice, education and health care management.

At Queen’s, graduate students from all disciplines learn and discover in a close-knit intellectual community. With the world’s best scholars, prize-winning professional development opportunities, excellent funding packages and life in the affordable, historic waterfront city of Kingston, Queen’s offers a wonderful environment for graduate studies.

Why KINGSTON?

Described by students as both “quaint” and “eclectic,” Kingston is big enough to provide all the conveniences of modern life, and small enough for students, staff, and faculty to feel instantly comfortable and at home.

Queen’s is an integral part of the Kingston community, with the campus nestled in the core of the city, only a 10-minute walk to downtown with its shopping, dining and waterfront. For more about Kingston’s history and culture, see Queen’s University’s Discover Kingston page.

Program STRUCTURE

MNSc. (2 years, full time): 5 seminar courses, including nursing theory, research methods and statistics, thesis proposal, thesis and defense.

RESEARCH Areas

Practice environments
• Models of care
• Leadership
• Workplace culture, structure and health
• Communication strategies and systems

Populations with complex conditions
• Optimizing function and well-being
• Multimorbidity
• Mental health and/or addictions
• Outcomes monitoring

Health care quality
• Advancing safety
• Risk assessment and reduction
• Educational and technological innovations
• Health system service and delivery

and more
**Nursing M.N.Sc. MAP**

**GETTING STARTED**
- Start with key priorities like developing your relationship with your supervisor, and doing your coursework.
- Consider how your course papers can contribute to your thesis.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and Expanding Horizons professional development workshops, the Associate Director (Graduate Nursing Programs), and the SGS Habitat.

**INTERMEDIATE STAGE**
- Complete your coursework.
- Form your thesis committee.
- Write and defend your thesis proposal.
- Embark on your substantive research.

**WRAPPING UP**
- Complete and defend your thesis.

**ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS**
- Start with key priorities like developing your relationship with your supervisor, and doing your coursework.
- Consider how your course papers can contribute to your thesis.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and Expanding Horizons professional development workshops, the Associate Director (Graduate Nursing Programs), and the SGS Habitat.

**MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT**
- Start to think about the audiences for your research.
- If you will be continuing graduate studies, apply for TAC Council and OGS funding.

**BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**
- Consider positions in student services, the SGPS, or media outlets like Queen’s Journal, CFRC, or the SGS blog. Look in the AMS Clubs Directory for more ideas.
- Serve on departmental, faculty or university committees. Talk to the Associate Director (Graduate Nursing Programs) for tips on getting involved.
- Check out professional development workshops from Expanding Horizons.

**ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY**
- Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus.
- Consider volunteering with different community organizations, museums, cultural studies groups, or local healthcare organizations or groups.

**LAUNCH YOUR CAREER**
- Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking the Career Services Career Planning workshop or meeting with a career counselor. Check out books like So What Are You Going to Do With That? for advice on various career options.
- Start reading publications like University Affairs and the Chronicle of Higher Education. Browse non-academic labour market websites. Stay on the lookout for special events like Graduate Student Career Week to explore your career pathways.
- Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.

**EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS**
- Knowledge and technical skills in area of specialization.
- Communication: effective and clear in written, oral and multimedia forms, for diverse audiences.
- Information management: prioritize, organize and synthesize large amounts of information.
- Time management: meet deadlines and responsibilities despite competing demands.
- Project management: develop ideas, gather information, analyze, critically appraise findings, draw and act on conclusions.
- Creativity and innovation to address complex, multifaceted challenges.
- Perseverance to work through challenges to achieve desired outcome.
- Independence and experience as a collaborative worker.
- Awareness and understanding of sound ethical practices, social responsibility, professional development in teaching and learning.
- Leadership: initiative and vision leading people and discussions.

Visit careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps for the online version with links!
M.N.Sc. Map FAQs

What do I need to know to apply?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
• Baccalaureate program in Nursing approved by a provincial/territorial authority.
• Grade requirements: minimum B average.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
• Two academic letters of reference.
• Undergraduate courses in research methodology and statistics.
• Registration (or eligibility to register) as a Registered Nurse with the College of Nurses of Ontario.
• Statement of research interest.
• Copy of Curriculum Vitae (Resume)
• If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet the TOEFL requirements in writing, speaking, reading, and listening.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES
• Application deadline: February 1.
• Notification of acceptance: mid-March to early April.

Before you start your application, please review the Graduate studies application process.

How do I find a supervisor?
We encourage you to identify an area of research interest and contact a potential supervisor before applying.

Visit the Nursing Department website to read faculty profiles and learn more about faculty members’ research areas. When you find a faculty member with similar research interests to yours, contact him/her and tell them about your interest in graduate work.

What about funding?
In keeping with the School of Graduate Studies policy, eligible full-time MNSc students qualify for research assistantships (RA), teaching assistantships (TA), Queen’s Graduate Awards (QGA) and internal awards.

We encourage all students to apply for external funding from OGS, CIHR, SSHRC and other sources. Queen’s will automatically issue a $5,000 top-up to Masters winners of federal government tri-council awards. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies awards and scholarships or see what awards are offered through the School of Nursing.

Where Can a Graduate Degree Take Me?

A Master’s degree in Nursing can take your career in many directions. Many of our MSc students choose to continue their academic inquiry with a PhD. Our Master’s students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers in:

• Health Care Manager
• Advanced Practice Nurse
• Educator or Instructor
• Case Manager
• Health Policy Analyst

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

M.Sc. Career Outcomes in Health Sciences