# Nursing MNSc Map

# Applying to and Navigating Graduate Studies

# Why GRADUATE STUDIES in NURSING?

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

# Why QUEEN'S?

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 wellprepared for careers as leaders in clinical practice, education, and health care management.

# Program STRUCTURE

MNSc (full-time, 2 years):

- Thesis-based: 5 term-length courses plus thesis research
- Course-based: 7 term-length courses and a clinical project.

GRAD MAP FOR MNSc STUDENTS 🔁

Applicants to the thesis-basis stream

of research interest and to contact a

potential supervisor before applying.

Visit the School of Nursing website to

read faculty profiles and learn more

about faculty members' research areas.

similar research interests, contact them

to introduce yourself and discuss your

interest in pursuing graduate studies.

When you find a faculty member with

are encouraged to identify an area



"I think that everyone should know that the School of Nursing does a fantastic job at making people successful. That skill of being pushed to... some place that is slightly uncomfortable, but knowing that you have the supports around you to be successful."

– Morgan Batson, RN, MNSc

# **RESEARCH** Areas

#### Practice environments

- Communication strategies and systems
- Leadership
- Models of care
- Workplace culture, structure and health

#### Populations with complex conditions

- Mental health and/or addictions
- Multimorbidity
- Optimizing function and well-beingOutcomes monitoring

#### Health care quality

- Advancing safety
   Educational and technological innovations
- Health system service and delivery
   and more
- Risk assessment and reduction



# 2023-2024 **Nursing** MNSc Map

MASTER OF NURSING SCIENCE (MNSc)

	GETTING STARTED	INTERMEDIATE STAGE	WRAPPING UP
ACHIEVE YOUR ACADEMIC GOALS	<ul> <li>Develop your relationship with your supervisor and start your coursework</li> <li>Consider how your class assignments can contribute to your thesis or project.</li> <li>Find help with the academic process from the <u>School of</u> Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs professional development workshops and the Associate Director (Graduate Nursing Programs).</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Complete your core courses.</li> <li>Thesis stream: form your thesis committee, write your thesis proposal, and prepare for your oral examination.</li> <li>Course stream: choose the direction of your clinical project.</li> <li>Embark on your substantive research.</li> <li>Consider electives that may benefit your research and career goals.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Thesis stream: complete you thesis examination.</li> <li>Course stream: wrap up your clinic remaining electives.</li> </ul>
MAXIMIZE RESEARCH IMPACT	<ul> <li>Start thinking about the audience for your research.</li> <li>Consider applying for Tri-Council and OGS funding if you plant to continue graduate studies.</li> <li>Attend biweekly Academic Series and the annual Graduate Student Research Day.</li> <li>Complete Course on Research Ethics (CORE).</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Present at the annual Graduate Student Research Day and attend the Annual Scientific Health Sciences Research Trainees or the biweekly Academic Series.</li> <li>Consider participating in the <u>3 Minute Thesis (3MT)</u> competition.</li> <li>Expand your research audience through social media such as Twitter or a blog.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Consider publication options for your</li> <li>Attend a major conference in your organized by the <u>Canadian Nurses'</u> Nursing Research Conference.</li> </ul>
BUILD SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE	<ul> <li>Serve on school, faculty or university committees. Talk to the Associate Director (Graduate Nursing Programs) for tips on getting involved.</li> <li>Check out professional development workshops from <u>School</u> of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs professional development.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Create an eportfolio of your skills, experiences, and competencies.</li> <li>Use research assistantships and teaching assistantships to develop your skills.</li> <li>Get support from the <u>Centre for Teaching and Learning</u> or enrol in <u>SGS902</u> or the <u>PUTL Certificate</u> to further develop your teaching and learning skills.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Practice articulating the skills you h settings outside the university, such networking, and interviews. Get he workshop.</li> <li>Check out opportunities for extra the of Graduate Studies and Postdoctod development, MITACS, or other source.</li> </ul>
ENGAGE WITH YOUR COMMUNITY	<ul> <li>Explore how you can connect with your community through experiential opportunities on- and off-campus.</li> <li>Consider volunteering with different community organizations, museums, cultural studies groups, or local healthcare organizations or groups.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Participate in your graduate and professional community through activities such as graduate student outreach programs, organizing conferences, and research groups.</li> <li>Prepare for work or studies in a multi-cultural environment by taking the <u>Intercultural Awareness Training Certificate</u> hosted by QUIC and Four Directions Indigenous Student Centre.</li> <li>International students interested in staying in Canada can speak with an <u>International Student Advisor</u>.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Do some targeted networking with of interest, through <u>Queens Conne</u> <u>Queen's Alumni Association</u>, profes conferences. Get help from a <u>Caree</u></li> <li>Consider joining professional assoc <u>Nurses' Association</u> or <u>Canadian As</u> <u>Research</u>.</li> </ul>
LAUNCH YOUR CAREER	<ul> <li>Finding a career that fits starts with knowing yourself. Get help by taking a <u>Career Services career planning workshop</u> or meeting with a <u>career educator and coach</u>.</li> <li>Read publications like <u>University Affairs</u> and the <u>Chronicle</u> of <u>Higher Education</u>. Browse non-academic labour market websites. Stay on the lookout for special events like School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs Career Week to explore your career pathways.</li> <li>Check admission test deadlines if needed for further studies.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Explore career paths of interest by using <u>Queens Connects</u> on LinkedIn to connect with Queen's alumni. Check out <u>Career</u> <u>Cruising</u> for more information.</li> <li>If you are considering further studies, explore programs of interest, reach out to faculty and staff, and apply for external scholarships.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Participate in hiring committees an on areas of interest, research organ your CV and resume for potential p</li> <li>Reach out to <u>Career Services</u> for her resumes, and interviews.</li> </ul>

#### How to use this map

Use the 5 rows of the map to explore possibilities and plan for success in the five overlapping areas of career and academics. The map just offers suggestions – you don't have to do it all! To make your own custom map, use the <u>My Grad Map</u> tool.



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your research.

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u have been developing for uch as casual conversation, help from a Career Services

a training through CTL, <u>School</u> <u>ctoral Affairs professional</u> sources to boost your skills.

ith people working in careers <u>nects</u> on LinkedIn, the fessional associations, and at <u>reer Services workshop</u>.

sociations like the <u>Canadian</u> Association for Nursing

and attend job talks. Focus ganizations, and put together al positions.

help with job searching,

### WHAT WILL I LEARN?

A graduate degree in Nursing will equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:

- Knowledge and technical skills
- Ability to convey complex information to a diverse audience
- Information management: prioritize, organize, and synthesize large amounts of information
- Time management: Meet deadlines and manage responsibilities despite competing demands
- **Project management**: develop ideas, gather information, analyze, critically appraise findings, draw and act on conclusions
- Creativity and innovation
- Perseverance
- Capacity to work both independently and as part of a team
- Aware of sound ethical practices and understanding of research and cultural sensitivity
- Professionalism in all aspects of work, research, and interactions
- Leadership: initiative and vision leading people and discussion

# WHERE CAN I GO?

A Master's degree in Nursing can take your career in many directions. Our Master students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers including:

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

In addition, many of our students choose to continue their studies with a PhD or by becoming a nurse practitioner. Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

# Graduate Studies FAQs

### How do I use this map?

Use the Grad Map to plan for success in five overlapping areas of your career and academic life. Everyone's journey is different - the ideas on the maps are suggestions to help you explore possibilities. For more support with your professional development, take advantage of the SGSPA professional development framework and the new <u>Individual</u> <u>Development Plan (IDP)</u> process to set personalized goals.

## Where can I get help?

Queen's provides you with a broad range of support services from your first point of contact with the university through to graduation. Ranging from help with academics and careers, to physical, emotional, or spiritual resources – our welcoming environment offers the programs and services you need to be successful, both academically and personally. Check out the <u>SGSPA website</u> for available resources.

## What is the community like?

At Queen's, graduate students from all disciplines learn and discover in a closeknit intellectual community. You will find friends, peers and support among the graduate students enrolled in Queen's more than 130 graduate programs within 50+ departments & research centres. With the world's best scholars, prize-winning professional development opportunities, excellent funding packages and life in the historic waterfront city of Kingston, Queen's offers a wonderful environment for graduate studies. 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.

# Graduate Application FAQs

# What do I need to know to APPLY?

#### ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

- Baccalaureate degree in Nursing from an accredited university.
- Minimum overall average equivalent to a B.

#### 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. Advance contact with supervisors is recommended.
- Copy of Curriculum Vitae (Resume)
- Applicants whose native languages do not include English will need to meet the <u>English language proficiency requirements</u> in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. For more information, visit the <u>School of Graduate Studies and</u> <u>Postdoctoral Affairs website</u>.

#### **KEY DATES & DEADLINES**

- Application deadline: February 1st, or until all seats are filled.
- Notification of acceptance: mid-March to early April.

Before you start your application, please review the <u>Graduate studies application</u> <u>process</u>.

# What about FUNDING?

In keeping with the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs 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 one time \$5,000 award to incoming Masters students who have won federal government tri-council awards. For more information, see the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs' <u>awards and scholarships</u>.



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