



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN  
College of Nursing  
NURSING.USASK.CA

# College of Nursing Graduate Studies Program

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[www.nursing.usask.ca](http://www.nursing.usask.ca)



## ➤ Vision

The College of Nursing is a world leader in educating nurses in interprofessional health care, research, practice, innovation, capacity building and policy development.

## ➤ Mission

As University nursing faculty in Saskatchewan, the College of Nursing strengthens nursing, health, and the health care system through the creation and integration of knowledge from research, education and practice.



# Philosophy

Nursing is a respected and caring human endeavor; a distinct health profession; and an applied discipline based on nursing and related theories. Nursing is dedicated to the purposeful, collaborative relationship with individuals, families and communities that enables the acquisition, organization and use of nursing and other related resources that people need to optimize their health experiences within complex, diverse, and dynamic environments

Embedded in a research-intensive Canadian university, the College of Nursing is situated on the territory of Treaties 4, 6, 10, and the homeland of the Métis. The College of Nursing, University of Saskatchewan, believes the discovery, advancement, and transmission of nursing knowledge is achieved through the integration of teaching, research/scholarship, evidence informed practice and service. Learning is the process of co-creating meaning that transforms experiences into shared knowledge.

# Philosophy

We value diversity, social justice and ethical practice. We foster collaboration through primary healthcare, practical innovations and technology mediated solutions, with specific consideration of the needs of rural, remote, and Indigenous communities.

The College of Nursing and our graduates are leaders in engaging individuals, families, communities, policy makers, other health professions and disciplines, and other stakeholders to provide safe, competent care that maximizes the potential of people and health systems. Through these combined efforts, we create, support, and share equitable and sustainable solutions that improve health experiences and measurable outcomes. Solutions have local, national, and international relevance.



# College of Nursing Graduate Program History

1989 – First four Master of Nursing (MN) students graduate

1996 – First Special Case PhD student graduates

2004 – First entrants to course-based education/leadership option  
MN

2006 – First seven Nurse Practitioner (NP) students begin program

2007 – First students are admitted to the PhD program

2008 – First PhD students graduate

2009 – Nurse Practitioner program offered by distance education

2011 – Master of Nursing programs offered by distance education

2016 – PhD program offered by distance education

2017 – Master of Nursing Professional Practice launched



# How Do We Deliver Our Graduate Programs?

The College of Nursing uses a **distributed learning** approach, allowing students to *learn where they live*. We also have campuses in Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert.





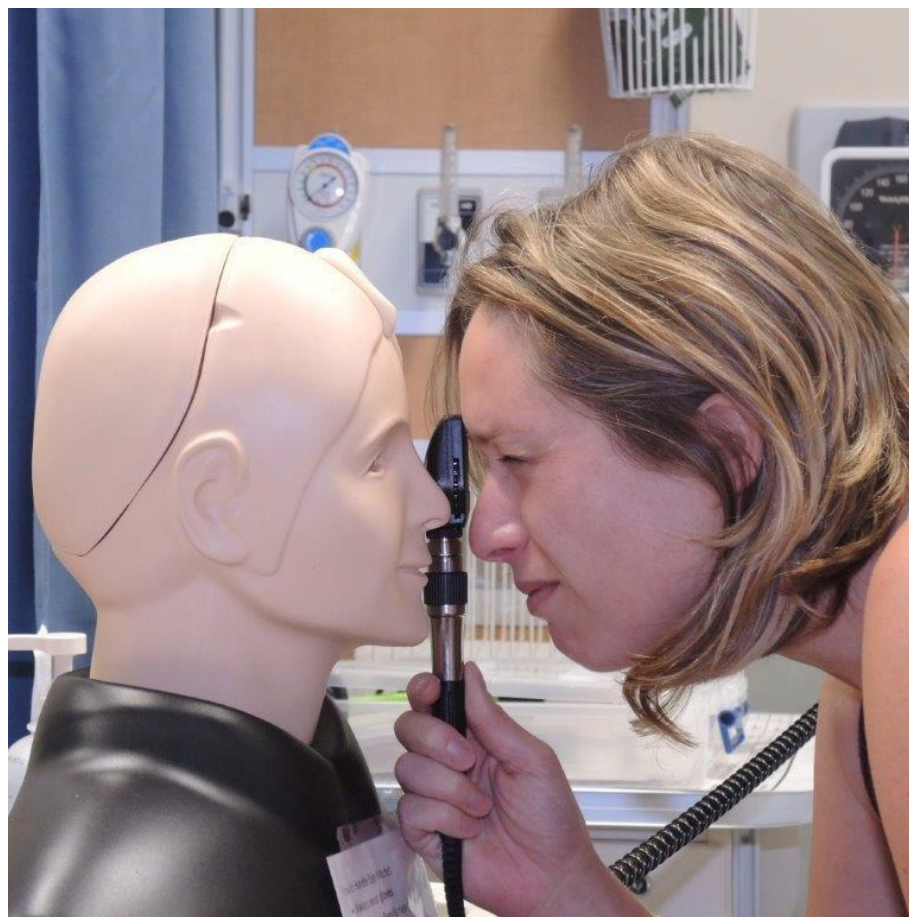
# Distributed Learning

- Students and faculty members may be in different locations
- 2 Types of Distributed Learning: Synchronous or Asynchronous
  - Synchronous – Students log in at the same time as the faculty member
  - Asynchronous – Students can log in at any time on their own and work at their own pace
- Instruction may originate from a variety of locations



# Our Graduate Programs

- Master of Nursing (MN) – Three Options
  - Thesis
  - Professional Practice
  - Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner
- Post-Graduate Degree Specialty Certificate - Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner (NP)
- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)







# Master of Nursing – Professional Practice

- Course based students are required to take 27 credit units of coursework
- Can complete program in less than two years
- Course may be delivered using a combination of synchronous and asynchronous learning
- Knowledge and skill development in health education and leadership





# Master of Nursing – Thesis

- Thesis students are required to take 15 credit units of course work, in addition to their thesis
- Courses work can completed in one year
- Thesis work can be completed over 1 – 2 years
- Knowledge and skill development in teamwork and health research





# Admission Criteria: MN Thesis/Professional Practice

- Bachelor's degree in Nursing
- 70% cumulative weighted average over last 60 credit units in undergraduate program
- Current licensure as a Registered Nurse or Registered Psychiatric Nurse
- 3 credit units in undergraduate statistics and 3 credit units in research methods – 70% + in each strong encouraged



# Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

## ➤ Two Program Streams:

MN Primary Health  
Care Nurse  
Practitioner

Post-Graduate  
Degree Specialty  
Certificate





# Master of Nursing – Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

- 33 credit units
- Includes 720+ hours of clinical practice with a preceptor
- Distributive course delivery
- Part-time (3 years) or full-time (2 years) studies
- Students spend two weeks in Saskatoon as part of the program







# Post-Graduate Degree Specialty Certificate – Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

- For Registered Nurses who already hold a Master's Degree
- 27 credit units
- Includes 720+ hours of clinical practice
- Distributive course delivery
- Can be completed in two calendar years
- Students spend two weeks in Saskatoon as part of the program





# Nurse Practitioner Programs

## ➤ Didactic elements:

- Theory for Advanced Practice
- Pathophysiology
- Pharmacology
- Therapeutics
- Health Assessment
- Diagnostics
- Statistics/Research \*
- Graduate Seminar

\* Not a PGDSC requirement

## ➤ Clinical elements:

- Three practicum courses – each includes 240 clinical hours.
- Interdisciplinary and EM experiences supported.

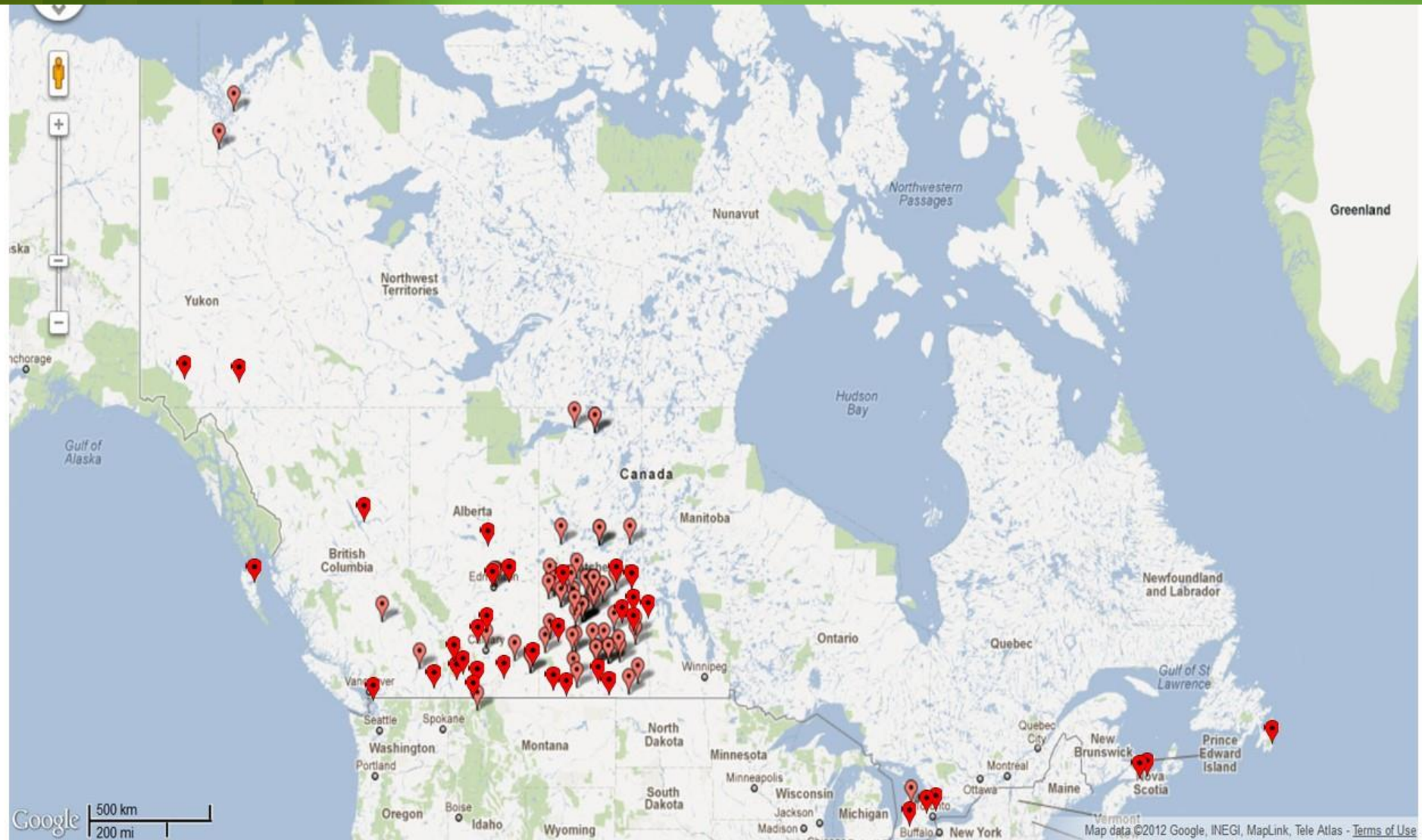




# Clinical Placements

- College's Clinical Coordinator plans placements in consultation with program director, course leads and students.
- Placement requests must consider factors such as course requirements, student learning needs, and availability of experienced preceptors.
- Each student and preceptor has support from a faculty facilitator and course lead.







# Admission Criteria MN – NP & PGDSC

- Bachelor's degree in Nursing
- 70% cumulative weighted average over last 60 credit units in undergraduate program
- Current Canadian licensure as a Registered Nurse
- 3 credit units in undergraduate statistics\*, physical assessment, pharmacology, physiology and research methods\* – 70% + in each strongly encouraged
- 3600 hours clinical experience as an RN



# Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD)

- Prepares nurse scholars for leadership roles with knowledge and skills to advance nursing as a academic, research and practice discipline
- 18 credit units including two cognate courses
- Independent research guided by supervisor and committee culminating in a doctoral dissertation
- Usually three to five years to complete on a full time basis





# Admission Criteria – PhD

- Master's degree in a field relevant to PhD study
- Completed graduate level course in statistics, research methods and nursing theory
- Minimum overall average of 80% in previous graduate work
- Must be a licensed RN or RPN or NP



# Direct Entry PhD

With the recommendation of the College of Nursing, direct entry PhD admission is available to exceptionally strong students, who show great promise in terms of academic accomplishments and potential for research.

Admission requirements:

- A four-year bachelor of science in Nursing degree, or equivalent, in a relevant field of study.
- Current registration as a registered nurse or registered psychiatric nurse in a Canadian province or territory.
- The equivalent of 3 credit units in each of statistics and research methods at the undergraduate level.
- A cumulative weighted average of at least 80% in the last two years of undergraduate study (i.e. 60 credit units of course work).
- Demonstrated ability for independent thought, advanced study, and independent research.





# The U of S Advantage

- ✓ College faculty and staff readily collaborate with the eight other health sciences colleges and schools at the U of S. These partnerships facilitate excellence in interdisciplinary health research, teaching, outreach, and community engagement.
- ✓ Opportunities to explore and engage in research and scholarly activity, shaping health care locally and beyond.
- ✓ Excellent funding support systems, such as financial assistant programs, scholarships and bursaries
- ✓ The college is distinguished by our nation-leading integration of remote presence and other technologies that support teaching, research and professional nursing practice.
- ✓ Synchronous online courses (Nurse Practitioner and PhD programs)
- ✓ Asynchronous online courses (Master of Nursing Course Based and Thesis)



# The U of S Research Advantage

- College of Nursing faculty are sought after provincially, nationally and internationally for their research excellence.
- Our faculty have been awarded provincial, national and international funding and have forged strong alliances with community partners and researchers around the globe.
- Recognized as leaders in their fields of research and professional practice and for their contributions to advance the health of Canadians.
- One of the most scientifically advanced campuses in Canada.





# 2017/2018 Tuition Rates

- MN Thesis & Doctoral Students
  - \$1313 per term (three terms/year) from beginning to end of program
- MN Professional Practice Students
  - \$636.60 per 3 credit unit course and for maintenance of status in any term not registered in a course
- MN Nurse Practitioner Programs
  - Total for MN-NP program approximately \$10,000
- International Graduate Students are assess tuition at 1.5 times the posted rate for domestic students
  - \$1969.50 per term
  - \$945.45 per 3 credit unit course and for maintenance of status





# How Do I Apply To A Graduate Studies Program?

- Complete the following:
  - An online application form available from the College of Graduate Studies and Research (\$90 application fee required)
  - Contact information for three references on application form
- Upload the following:
  - The College of Nursing Supplementary Application Form
  - An essay that addresses career plans, professional goals, clinical expertise, and scholarly interests
  - A copy of your RN licensure
  - An example of scholarly writing
  - Copies of transcripts from ALL post-secondary education (including Saskatchewan Polytechnic)
- Applicants must also demonstrate English proficiency (for students who's first language is not English)
- NP applicants: Proof of 3600 hours of clinical practice as an RN

<http://grad.usask.ca/programs/nursing.php>

[www.nursing.usask.ca](http://www.nursing.usask.ca)



# Reserved Seats in Primary Care -NP Program

- Two seats in the MN-NP program are reserved for persons of Aboriginal ancestry.
- Applicants of Aboriginal descent may compete within this category, rather than within the entire applicant pool.
- Applicants should identify themselves as Aboriginal on the supplemental application.
- The following pieces of identification are considered acceptable documentation:
  - photocopy of a Métis Nation Card
  - letter from a First Nation Band or Métis Nation
  - photocopy of an Indian Status Card, Nunavut Trust Service Card or of documentation that includes your Inuit roll number



# Entrance Scholarship for Aboriginal Graduate Students

**Value:** \$5000

**Number Available:** Up to 5

**Description:** The College of Nursing established this scholarship in 2015. Newly admitted first year students of Aboriginal ancestry are automatically considered for the scholarship upon acceptance into a College of Nursing graduate program. Application packages for admission are reviewed by a committee, leading to selection of scholarship recipients.

## Eligibility

- Acceptance into a College of Nursing graduate program.
- Applicants must indicate their eligibility on the Nursing Supplemental Application Form.
- Applicants must upload proof of Aboriginal ancestry to application for admission.

The following pieces of identification are considered acceptable documentation:

- photocopy of a Métis Nation Card
- letter from a First Nation Band or Métis Nation
- photocopy of an Indian Status Card, Nunavut Trust Service Card or of documentation that includes your Inuit roll number



# Graduate Scholarships, Bursaries & Awards

- List of scholarships, bursaries and awards through the College of Nursing online at:

<http://www.usask.ca/nursing/awards/index.php>

- Deadline to apply is April 30 each year
- List of scholarships, bursaries and awards through the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies online at:  
<http://www.usask.ca/cgsr/> (click on Funding)





## For more information on our Graduate Studies Programs:

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