



Graduate Nursing Programs



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
College of Nursing
NURSING.USASK.CA

BE YOU.

BE WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS

Advance Your Nursing Career

■ The College of Nursing at the University of Saskatchewan (USask) offers a variety of academic programs through expert online delivery to advance your nursing career. We are one of Canada's top 15 research intensive universities and offer a full range of human, animal, and plant sciences.

USask has offered nursing education since 1938. We have the largest cluster of health science disciplines in Canada with six colleges and three schools. This encourages collaboration among interprofessional teams to investigate and solve health problems both locally and globally.

Our engaged nursing faculty and staff are dedicated to creating an innovative and creative student education experience. Our students benefit from an interprofessional education, flexible study options, clinical placement coordination, academic advising, and a wide variety of scholarships and bursaries.



Learn Where You Live

USask College of Nursing uses a distributive learning approach, enabling students to learn where they live. All USask College of Nursing graduate programs are offered distributively, allowing students from across Canada to participate.

Courses are distributed using a variety of flexible and innovative methods, including video and web conferencing, Canvas, and lecture capture. Online learning allows students to participate and actively engage in learning from their community.

The main campus in Saskatoon, as well as our Prince Albert campus, have dedicated learning spaces for graduate students. The Nurse Practitioner (NP) program has required residencies during the program where students are required to be on campus in Saskatoon.



Our Programs

Master of Nursing – Professional Practice

Master of Nursing programs prepare nurses with advanced practice knowledge and expertise.

Professional Practice (Course-Based) Program

Professional Practice students are focused on knowledge and skill development in health education and leadership.

Students are required to take 27 credit units of course work, designed so students can complete the program in two calendar years.

STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO:

- Articulate perspectives on nursing;
- Critique, utilize, and contribute to theoretical and empirical knowledge bases for nursing;
- Develop, implement, and evaluate strategies for advanced nursing practice at the client and system level; and
- Demonstrate leadership skills needed to influence change.

GRADUATES WILL BE ABLE TO ASSUME:

- Leadership and advanced practice roles in healthcare settings;
- Educator roles in service and educational institutions;
- Research roles in terms of generation and utilization of nursing knowledge; and
- Further study at the doctoral level.



Our Programs

■ Master of Nursing – Thesis

Master of Nursing programs prepare nurses with advanced practice knowledge and expertise.

Thesis Program

Thesis-based students are focused on knowledge and skill development in teamwork and health research.

Students are required to take 15 credit units of coursework, in addition to their thesis. Courses are designed so students can complete the program in two calendar years.

STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO:

- Articulate perspectives on nursing;
- Critique, utilize, and contribute to theoretical and empirical knowledge bases for nursing;
- Develop, implement, and evaluate strategies for advanced nursing practice at the client and system level; and
- Demonstrate leadership skills needed to influence change.

GRADUATES WILL BE ABLE TO ASSUME:

- Research-informed leadership roles to guide clinical practice and policy development;
- Educator roles with a scholarly focus;
- Nurse-researcher and knowledge translation roles to advance nursing science and practice; and
- Doctoral studies by building a foundation in research methods and scholarly writing.



Our Programs

■ Master of Public Health Nursing

The goal of the Master of Public Health Nursing degree is to strengthen public health nursing science and optimize nurses' scope of practice to meet population health needs.

Students will be educated as practitioners and researchers, which will position them to apply for doctoral programs, work in local public health departments or at the provincial or national level public health programs, and hold leadership positions in clinical care settings.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Prepare public health nursing professionals for employment in their field of specialization;
- Advance nursing science in public health; and
- Engage in interdisciplinary education that addresses local and global concerns now and into the future.

These objectives will be accomplished through collaboration between the University of Saskatchewan's College of Nursing and School of Public Health and by emphasizing high-calibre scholarly activity through personal solid mentorship.

Master of Public Health Nursing students are required to take 21 credit units of course work and a thesis. The program is designed to be completed over two years.

The courses are delivered using a combination of live web conferenced seminars (synchronous) and online delivery (asynchronous) distance learning within North America. Some courses have the option to attend class in person at the University of Saskatchewan Saskatoon campus.



Our Programs

Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner

The Master of Nursing – Nurse Practitioner (MN-NP) program prepares nurse practitioners (NPs) who will work in diverse health-care settings with all ages. They will be prepared to achieve advanced clinical and leadership competencies. NPs are equipped to independently diagnose and treat illness, order and interpret diagnostic tests, prescribe medications, and manage comprehensive patient care. With a broad and autonomous scope of practice, NPs play a vital role in addressing the health-care needs of all Canadians in a wide-range of health-care settings.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Students in the MN-NP program are required to complete 45 credit units of advanced practice theory and a minimum of 750 clinical hours. The program is designed to be completed over two or three years, depending on the program path chosen.

Courses are delivered through a combination of:

- Live web-conference seminars (synchronous);
- Online modules (asynchronous); and
- Laboratory sessions and clinical placements.

GRADUATES WILL BE ABLE TO:

- Meet professional practice and ethical standards and demonstrate entry-level NP competencies for the safe and effective delivery of health-care to individuals, groups, and populations;
- Apply evidence-informed practice and contribute to the evolving body of NP knowledge and research;
- Analyze, evaluate, and apply advanced nursing knowledge to improve health outcomes, promote health equity, and reduce disparities;
- Demonstrate leadership, interprofessional collaboration, advocacy, education, scholarship, and clinical excellence at the entry-level NP role; and
- Exhibit accountability, autonomy, integrity, and a mindset for ongoing professional growth in the nurse practitioner role.



Our Programs

■ Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing

USask College of Nursing Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD) program prepares nurse scholars to become leaders that advance nursing as an academic, research, and practice discipline.

During this program, doctoral students will participate in critical appraisal, knowledge generation, research synthesis, and knowledge transfer.

As graduates, these nurse scientists will contribute to the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities with recognition of their

diversities, vulnerabilities, and their environments for health and care.

A minimum of 18 credit units, plus writing and defending a dissertation is required to complete the program. Typically students complete their studies within four years, but are allowed six years to complete the program.



STUDENTS ENROLLED IN THE PHD PROGRAM WILL BE ABLE TO:

- Develop in-depth knowledge of a substantive area of nursing science;
- Develop conceptual and analytical skills in nursing knowledge, theory development, and theory testing;
- Integrate knowledge from nursing and related disciplines that supports

health for individuals, families, and communities at the local, national, and international levels;

- Actively participate in the development of nursing knowledge, adding to the evidentiary base for nursing practice;
- Demonstrate excellence in nursing scholarship;
- Model values consistent with integrity in science and professional nursing;
- Provide leadership in the nursing profession;
- Advance nursing as an academic and practice discipline;
- Demonstrate skills in scholarly writing, grant application, and knowledge transfer;
- Work collaboratively with professionals, scientists in other disciplines, and other stakeholders to solve problems and challenges to effect improvements in health for populations within the context of diversity and vulnerability; and
- Conduct original doctoral research that will lead to a future program of research.

Indigenous Students

Indigenous registered nurses are in high demand for administrative, advanced practice, teaching, and research roles.

The College of Nursing is committed to supporting our Indigenous graduate students to obtain the education they need to become leaders in our health-care system.

Equity seats have been set aside for Indigenous applicants in the Nurse Practitioner program.

Many Indigenous registered nurses
choose to work in or near Indigenous

communities. In order to make our graduate programs accessible across the country, we offer our programs via distributed learning.

To learn more about College of Nursing Indigenous initiatives and support for Indigenous students, please visit <https://nursing.usask.ca/research-initiatives/indigenous.php>.

Ready to Apply?

Admission Requirements

Master of Nursing (MN) (Professional Practice and Thesis)

- Bachelor's degree in nursing, or equivalent, from a recognized college or university;
- A cumulative weighted average of at least 70% (USask grade system equivalent) in the last two years of study (e.g. 60 credit units);
- Proof of English language proficiency may be required;
- Current registration as a registered nurse or registered psychiatric nurse from any country; and
- The equivalent of three credit units in each of statistics and research methods at the undergraduate level.

Master of Public Health Nursing

- Bachelor's degree in nursing, or equivalent, from a recognized college or university;
- A cumulative weighted average of at least 70% (USask grade system equivalent) in the last two years of study (i.e. 60 credit units);
- Proof of English language proficiency may be required;
- Current registration as a registered nurse, registered psychiatric nurse, or registered public health nurse from any country; and
- The equivalent of three credit units in each of statistics and research methods at the undergraduate level.



Master of Nursing Nurse Practitioner (NP)

- Bachelor's degree in nursing from a recognized college or university;
- Cumulative weighted average of at least 75% (USask grade system equivalent) over final 60 credit units of Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) or approved BSN post-secondary courses;
- 3600 hours of clinical practice in Canada as a registered nurse (RN) in the past five years;
- Current licensure as a RN in a Canadian province or territory;
- Equivalent of three credit units in each of physical assessment, pharmacology, physiology, statistics, and research methods at the undergraduate level;
- Proof of English language proficiency may be required;
- Essay (Statement of Intent); and
- Up-to-date curriculum vitae (CV).

Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD)

- Master's degree, or equivalent, from a recognized university in a relevant academic discipline;
- Current registration as a registered nurse or registered psychiatric nurse from any country;
- A cumulative weighted average of at least 80% (USask grade system equivalent) in the last two years of study (e.g. coursework required in Master's program);
- Proof of English language proficiency may be required;
- Have completed at least one graduate-level course in each of statistics, research methods and nursing theory; and
- Previous research experience, through completion of a thesis or other research experience.



Building The Future

THROUGH CREATIVITY, COLLABORATION,
AND RESEARCH SUCCESS



Research in the College of Nursing

The College of Nursing plays an active role in the strong research culture at USask. Working together, we are tackling some of the most pressing health-care issues and leading innovations in health-care professional education. Our faculty have been awarded provincial, national, and international funding and have forged strong alliances with community partners and researchers in Saskatchewan, Canada, and around the world. It is no wonder our faculty are recognized as leaders in their fields of research and professional practice and for their contributions to advancing the health of Canadians.

THE COLLEGE OF NURSING'S SIGNATURE RESEARCH AREAS INCLUDE:

■ **Research on Innovations in Health-Care and Education Systems**

Researchers explore how innovation can lead to new or better ways to solve problems in a relevant and meaningful manner. Through innovative research, we challenge existing ideas and assumptions

of current health systems and education approaches, practices, and technologies; exploring how these are leveraged to provide the best outcomes for health-care providers, patients, educators, and students.

■ **Community-Engaged Health and Nursing Research**

Researchers collaborate with communities and local partners to achieve mutually agreed-upon goals of addressing health needs, building capacity, and promoting improved health outcomes. Through giving voice to communities in research, we create and disseminate knowledge to advance the discipline of nursing, empower individuals and communities, and strengthen the health and well-being of communities.

■ **Health Equity Research**

Researchers acknowledge that health inequities arise from social injustice inscribed in systematic differences related to race, gender, social class, culture, and geographic locations. The exploration of social determinants of health is likely to inform health policies and translate into health and social interventions that will reduce health inequities.

Visit nursing.usask.ca/research.php to see examples of the breadth and depth of health-related research at USask.

Research Environment

FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

As a member of the prestigious U15 Canadian research university group, USask provides some of the best facilities and analytical tools in the country, and is home to many unique research facilities and support services that contribute to the success of our graduate students as health researchers.

■ **Nursing Unit for Research and Scholarship Excellence (NURSE)**

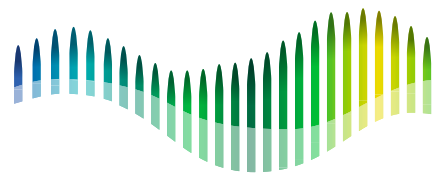
The Nursing Unit for Research and Scholarship Excellence (NURSE) provides a continuum of research administration support services to advance research and scholarship priorities and build success for researchers, the College of Nursing, and the University of Saskatchewan.

Services offered by the NURSE team include:

- A range of grant development services for researchers to support grant applications and post-award project implementation;
- Training and education opportunities that strengthen programs of research;
- College-specific strategic research initiatives, such as internal funding programs; and

- Creating connection events and other opportunities to foster research partnership and dissemination.

NURSE provides support for faculty researchers and their graduate students.



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**NURSING UNIT FOR RESEARCH AND
SCHOLARSHIP EXCELLENCE**

Research Environment

FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

- **Saskatchewan Centre for Patient-Oriented Research (SCPOR):** SCPOR was formed as part of the Canada's Strategy for Patient Oriented Research implemented by Canadian Institutes of Health Research. SCPOR is a partnership of organizations, including the University of Saskatchewan, that play a key role in supporting patient-oriented research (POR) across Saskatchewan. Their mission is to build capacity and collaborations to conduct responsive, equitable, innovative, patient-oriented research that continuously improves the care and health of Saskatchewan people.
- **The Canadian Hub for Applied and Social Research (CHASR):** CHASR is a unique university-based research support and consulting service. CHASR regularly engages and supports academic-based researchers from a variety of disciplines, backgrounds, and institutions, government (federal, provincial, and municipal) and NGO clients, and private sector firms.
- **Student Learning Services (SLS), University of Saskatchewan Library:** SLS offers workshops to learn more about academic writing, research and improving study skills. These workshops are geared towards undergraduate and graduate students and are offered throughout the year.
- **Graduate Student Funding, College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies:** The University of Saskatchewan provides a number of opportunities for graduate student funding, including a variety of awards via Tri-Agency Scholarships. Tri-Agency student scholarships are awarded by Canada's three research-granting agencies, the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). For current USask students, the application process, nomination of candidates and administration of the awards is through the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (CGPS).





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