



# Take it to the Next Level

MASTER OF NURSING PRIMARY HEALTH CARE NURSE PRACTITIONER POST-GRADUATE  
NURSE PRACTITIONER CERTIFICATE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN NURSING  
NURSING PRIMARY HEALTH CARE NURSE PRACTITIONER POST-GRADUATE

## College of Nursing **Graduate Studies**



UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN  
College of Nursing  
USASK.CA/NURSING



*Health Sciences Building in Saskatoon*

## **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.

## **History**

The University of Saskatchewan College of Nursing was established as a department in the School of Medical Sciences (now the College of Medicine) in 1938. The School of Nursing then became the College of Nursing in 1973. The first Master of Nursing (MN) program was introduced in 1986, with the addition of the Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner (NP) program in September 2006. In 2008, the first students graduated from the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Nursing Program. In 2009, the College introduced the Post-Graduate Nurse Practitioner (NP) Certificate.



Regina Campus Learning Commons

## Why choose the University of Saskatchewan?

Join our nursing community of original thinkers. Take your practice to the next level with U of S Graduate Studies.

- **Learn Where YOU Live.** The College of Nursing uses a distributed learning approach, enabling students to learn where they live. We also have campuses in Saskatoon, Regina and Prince Albert. Courses are distributed using a variety of flexible and innovative methods, including video and web conferencing, blackboard online and lecture capture.
- **Four programs** to choose from – Master of Nursing, Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner, Post-Graduate Nurse Practitioner Certificate and Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing. Complete multiple programs and earn your entire graduate education at one institution.
- **Exceptional faculty** who will challenge and guide you in your program of choice.
- Opportunities to explore and engage in **research and scholarly activity**, shaping health care locally and beyond.
- **Excellent funding** support systems, such as financial assistance programs and specific graduate level scholarships and bursaries. For a complete list of awards, eligibility and how to apply, please visit our website.
- One of the most **scientifically advanced campuses in Canada**; the new Health Sciences building in Saskatoon is the future of health sciences research, education and practice. This facility in Saskatoon, as well as the University of Saskatchewan Regina Campus have **dedicated learning space** for graduate students.
- Strong **community connections** create opportunities for engagement and networking to advance your research and practice.
- As the **largest cluster of health science disciplines in Canada** with six colleges and three schools, we offer an academic environment encouraging collaboration among **interprofessional teams** to investigate and solve health problems both locally and globally.



# Master of Nursing (MN)

## Program Overview

The Master of Nursing programs prepare nurses with advanced clinical knowledge and expertise. The College of Nursing offers two programs leading to the Master of Nursing (MN) degree: Thesis and Course-Based. The MN program is delivered by distance learning.

## Thesis Master's Program

Thesis 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 them in one calendar year or part-time over five years.

## Course-Based Master's Program

Course-based students are focused on knowledge and skill development in health education and leadership. For course workload information, please visit our website.

## A student completing the MN program 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/advanced practice roles in health care
- 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.



# Master of Nursing Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner (NP) and Post-Graduate Nurse Practitioner Certificate (NP)

## Program Overview

The College of Nursing offers Registered Nurses an opportunity to pursue a Master of Nursing Degree, with an advanced clinical practice focus – Primary Health Care Nurse Practitioner (NP). The College of Nursing also offers Registered Nurses, who have already obtained a Master of Nursing Degree, an opportunity to pursue a Post-Graduate Nurse Practitioner Certificate (NP), with a focus on advanced clinical practice.

Students are required to take courses in advanced health assessment and diagnostic reasoning, therapeutic management, advanced pathophysiology and pharmacology, advanced practice nursing theory, roles and responsibilities, graduate level statistics and research and clinical courses. Courses are designed so students can complete them within five consecutive terms or part-time over three years.

The NP program is offered distributively using a blended learning model, where students can access courses in a classroom or through internet-based web conferencing; enabling distance students to actively participate in classroom discussions.

**Applicants must have 3600 hours of Registered Nursing experience in the last five years.**

## A student completing the Nurse Practitioner program will be able to:

- meet the professional practice, ethical standards and entry level competencies for nurse practitioners with respect to the safe and effective delivery of primary health care to individuals, families and communities
- use the principles of evidence-informed practice and possess the ability to contribute to the body of evidence related to primary health care; and
- demonstrate skills in leadership, interprofessional collaboration and community development.

## Graduates will be able to:

- apply to write the Canadian Nurses Association Practitioner Exam through application to provincial regulatory bodies
- lead in knowledge intensive health and education systems
- influence patient and health system outcomes; and
- creatively respond to the health needs of individuals, families, groups, communities and populations.



# Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing (PhD)

## Program Overview

The 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 NURS 996 are required to complete the program.

## A student completing 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.

# Those who have taken it to the Next Level



## **MAGGIE KENNEDY, RN, BSN, MN**

*Working as a Registered Nurse (RN) with a desire to be instrumental in driving change in health care and nursing practice, Maggie Kennedy always knew she would further her education in hopes of expanding her career options. The College of Nursing's Course-Based MN program helped Maggie achieve her goal. Through distance learning Maggie was able to incorporate what she was learning and studying into daily practice as a RN. Maggie has been involved in spearheading the development of a nationally-recognized social media education platform for hospital nurses. She has also developed a quick reference guide for nurses arriving on a new unit - providing information on patient population, physical layout and much more. As a policy coordinator, Maggie continues to implement her knowledge, resources and critical thinking in different ways, every day.*



## **NICOLE SMITH, RN, BSN, MN**

*Dreams do come true, and Nicole Smith can attest to that. Within weeks of graduating from the MN Thesis program, Nicole was hired as a faculty member in the University of Saskatchewan College of Nursing. Nicole feels her education was enriched by being able to select classes that would expand her teaching scope. In her clinical practice, Nicole confidently addresses parent's questions about their children's illness, including the planning of care, based on her up-to-date research. For Nicole, the most rewarding part of being an instructor, is seeing undergraduate students make the connections learned in the classroom in their clinical practice. Invigorated by seeing the students faces light up when they have made competent decisions using the nursing theory taught to them she explains, "their eagerness to learn is contagious!".*



## **ERIN BOYCE, RN, BSc (Physiology), BSN, MN (NP)**

*Realizing her dream of becoming an NP, U of S Alumni Erin Boyce acknowledges the College of Nursing Master of Nursing - Nurse Practitioner program, for preparing her for her future profession. Erin's career path was broadened when she became an NP and as a result, she secured employment within weeks of graduating. She is currently involved in a special project with a geriatric team, based out of Saskatoon City Hospital, where healthcare professionals (including NPs) are encouraged to visit seniors in their home environments. This project enables Erin to utilize her graduate training as an NP on a daily basis and she is expected to function to a full scope of practice, which includes assessing, diagnosing, prescribing treatments and/or medications, and referring to specialists for clients for whom she provides care.*



## **NOELLE ROHATINSKY, RN, MN, PhD, CMSN (C)**

*With a background in, and passion for, medical and surgical nursing, teaching and research, Dr. Noelle Rohatinsky credits her MN and PhD graduate education. As a faculty member in the College of Nursing, she is able to share her passion with nursing students at the undergraduate and graduate level. In 2015, Noelle received a Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation Establishment Grant focusing on registered nurse and physician mentorship in Saskatchewan's rural communities, which coincides nicely with her role as the College's Aboriginal Mentorship Program Coordinator. An avid volunteer, she also serves as Education Director of the Saskatoon Chapter of Crohn's and Colitis Canada. Noelle is a proud U of S Alumni and is grateful for the opportunity to work in an environment where she can share her passion for nursing.*



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## Interested in Applying?

If you wish to apply for a College of Nursing Graduate Studies program, you must complete and submit the online application form available on the College of Graduate Studies and Research website: [usask.ca/cgsr/](http://usask.ca/cgsr/). A complete list of required documentation for admission consideration is available on our website.



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