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Introduction

The requirement for the Thesis Stream of the Master of Nursing program is successful completion of ten course credits (or equivalent) on a full-time basis only. Courses are scheduled during all three semesters of the academic year. Students enrolled in the Thesis Stream have a maximum of 6 terms to complete the program requirements.

When considering your program option, please note that students enrolled in the Thesis Stream are required to maintain their full-time status. As a program policy, we do not permit full-time students to change their status to part-time. All students must remain active in the program unless they are on an approved Leave Of Absence.

The curriculum is planned to provide students in the Thesis Stream with a program that progresses through theoretical, research and practice courses. You have been admitted into one of two fields: Field I – Leadership in Health Policy and Education; or Field II – Health and Illness of Individuals and Communities. The core program consists of five required courses that address theoretical issues and research skills that are common to both fields, one required course that is specific to your field of study, plus a Thesis.

Students enrolled in the Thesis Stream are required to have completed (or be taking concurrently) the following three courses before enrolling for the MN8000A Thesis: MN8901 Quantitative Research Methods; MN8902 Qualitative Research Methods; and, MN8903 Nature and Development of Nursing Knowledge.

All Required Core courses and one Field course must be successfully completed before you can enroll in MN8904 Practicum in Professional Nursing Advancement and MN 8905 Seminar in Professional Nursing Advancement. Please note that courses MN8904 and MN8905 must be taken concurrently.

The following guidelines are specific to students in the Master of Nursing Thesis Stream. Students are also required to adhere to the policies and procedures of the Yeates School of Graduate Studies and the University. Information about these policies and procedures is available on the Yeates School of Graduate website, in the University Calendar, and in the Master of Nursing Student Handbook.

Requirements

Students in the thesis stream must complete 10 course credits. This includes: 5 Required Core Courses, 1 REQUIRED Field Course AND a Thesis (equivalent to 4 course credits)
Required Courses
Students must complete all 5 Required Courses AND a Thesis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MN8901*</td>
<td>Quantitative Research Methods</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN8902*</td>
<td>Qualitative Research Methods</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN8903*</td>
<td>Nature &amp; Development of Nursing Knowledge</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN8904**</td>
<td>Seminar in Professional Nursing Advancement</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN8905**</td>
<td>Practicum in Professional Nursing Advancement</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN8000</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Students taking the thesis stream are required to have completed (or be taking concurrently) the following three courses before enrolling in the thesis: MN8901 Quantitative Research Methods: Design and Critical Appraisal; MN8902 Qualitative Research Methods: Design and Critical Appraisal; and, MN8903 Nature and Development of Nursing Knowledge.

** The Required Core Course MN 8905: Practicum in Professional Nursing Advancement is an intensive practice experience where a student is in a practice setting for 16 hours per week over the 12 week term (192 hours). This practicum course is taken concurrently with the course entitled “MN 8904: Seminar in Professional Nursing Advancement” which requires attendance at class 3 hours per week, over the same 12 weeks. Enrolment in these courses is only allowed after the student has successfully completed all other REQUIRED CORE courses and one REQUIRED FIELD course.

Required Field Courses
Thesis students must complete 1 REQUIRED FIELD Course from their Field of Study

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field I: Leadership in Health Care Policy and Education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN8920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M8934</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field II: Health and Illness of Individuals and Communities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MN8910</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M8934</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Supervision and Advising

Developing productive relationships with your research supervisor and supervisory committee is one of the most important and rewarding aspects of being a graduate student in the Master of Nursing program. The Yeates School of Graduate Studies has produced a guide to help Ryerson’s graduate community of students, supervisors, program directors and others involved in graduate supervision understand their roles and responsibilities.

Please use the following link to download the Graduate Supervision document [http://ryerson.ca/graduate/currentstudents/academicmatters/supervisionandadvising.html](http://ryerson.ca/graduate/currentstudents/academicmatters/supervisionandadvising.html)

Note that this document was developed by the Admissions and Studies Committee of the Yeates School of Graduate Studies to provide a guide to the roles and responsibilities of graduate students, supervisors, program directors, and others involved in graduate supervision at Ryerson University. It is modeled on policies and guidelines in use at many other Canadian universities, and draws in particular on the policies and procedures of other Ontario universities.

The underlying principle is one of mutual respect for students, faculty, and staff in a university environment governed by traditional standards of research and academic integrity, without prejudice or discrimination. Within this context, the graduate student, the supervisor, and members of the supervisor committee (where appropriate) assume certain responsibilities and obligations.

The policy is neither exhaustive nor exclusive and should be viewed in the context of normal circumstance in the Master of Nursing program. These guidelines should be viewed as complementary to the policies that pertain to rights and responsibilities of members of the Ryerson community, including the Student code of Conduct, the Graduate Appeals Policy, the Discrimination and Harassment Prevention Policy, the Policy on Ownership in Student Work in Research and the Faculty and Staff Ownership of Research Results Policy.

Student/Supervisor Discussion Checklist

This checklist provides a guide for discussing mutual expectations between a Master of Nursing thesis student and supervisor. Students and supervisors are expected to complete the checklist along with the first progress report, either in fall or winter.

Please use the following link to download the Discussion Checklist document [http://ryerson.ca/graduate/currentstudents/academicmatters/forms.html](http://ryerson.ca/graduate/currentstudents/academicmatters/forms.html)
Recommended Progress through Thesis Stream

**Year 1**

**Term 1**
- Contact Supervisor at start of term to discuss Program of Study and preliminary thesis topic
- Not registered in Thesis course
- Periodic meetings with supervisor to further refine thesis topic (recommended to meet at least monthly)

**Term 2**
- First Term to be enrolled in Thesis Course MN8000A
- Complete Supervisor/Student Checklist and provide signed hard copy to Program Administrator
- In conjunction with supervisor, choose thesis committee and hold at least one committee meeting
- Refine research problem statement, complete background and literature review

**Term 3**
- Continue in thesis course (MN8000B)
- Complete proposal and approval of research by supervisor and committee
- Submission for Research Ethics Board(s) as required

**Year 2**

**Term 4**
- Continue in thesis course (MN8000B) or enroll in Seminar/Practicum courses
- If continuing with thesis, complete data collection and analysis

**Term 5**
- Continue in thesis course (MN8000B) or enroll in Seminar/Practicum courses
- If continuing with thesis, complete data collection and analysis
- Schedule date for final defense

**Term 6**
- Continue in thesis course (MN8000B)
- Complete report of thesis
- Thesis committee approves final version of thesis
- Supervisor/Committee Select External examiner
- Completed Defense
- Complete revisions and submit to final approved version to program administrator
Thesis and Examination

Your thesis embodies the results of your research program and exposes your work to scholarly criticism. It must represent a single body of work, with integrated material, and should not be solely a collection of published articles.

Your thesis must be prepared and submitted in strict accordance with procedures outlined by the Yeats School of Graduate Studies and with the current regulations of the Library and Archives Canada. It is important to understand that the responsibility for formatting and submitting the correct format rests with the author.

Master of Nursing students must submit their thesis to the program administrator as an electronic PDF file. Please refer to Significant Dates for deadlines and times. Note the final date to clear outstanding graduation requirement. If you miss this date, you must register and pay fees for the term as you must be a current student when your thesis is submitted. To help prepare and submit your thesis in accordance with proper procedures, YSGS has developed a guide for graduate student use.

Download the Thesis, MRP, and Dissertation Thesis Guidelines here»

Download the National NLC Form here
MN Thesis Approval Form

Student’s Name: ____________________________________________

Date of Thesis Review Meeting: ________________________________

Comments:

We have reviewed the student’s MN thesis and had our questions answered. We approve the student’s thesis and agree that the Program Director be notified about a potential external examiner and to seek approval from YSGS to move forward for defense. Copies are to go to Program Director, Student, and Members of Supervisory Committee.

Supervisor

Name __________________________________ Signature ______________ Date ______________

Supervisory Committee Members

Name __________________________________ Signature ______________ Date ______________

Name __________________________________ Signature ______________ Date ______________

Name __________________________________ Signature ______________ Date ______________

Name __________________________________ Signature ______________ Date ______________

Name __________________________________ Signature ______________ Date ______________
Master of Nursing Thesis Defense Timelines

It is critical to map out the timelines for a thesis defense. There are several matters to be considered in scheduling the defense date and the best planning start-point is at the beginning of the term PRIOR to the term in which the student anticipates completing all of the program requirements for graduation. The final date to apply to schedule an oral defense is a minimum of six weeks before the planned defense date.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thesis Defense Timeline Requirements</th>
<th>Planned Term of Oral Defense</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fall Completion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Final date to apply to schedule an Oral defense (Approx. 6 weeks before planned defense date)</td>
<td>Apply within the last two weeks of June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Final date to defend (approx. 4 weeks before the end of term)</td>
<td>Must defend by the end of the first week of August</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Final Date to submit a revised draft version in pdf. format to program administrator for review to ensure thesis meets minimum formatting requirements for acceptance by YSGS</td>
<td>You must allow a minimum time of two weeks prior to the final due date to clear outstanding graduation requirements so that the program administrator can review and approve formatting requirements. Please refer to the Important Dates document found on the YSGS website to determine deadline – here is the link <a href="http://www.ryerson.ca/graduate/currentstudents/calendarsanddates.html">http://www.ryerson.ca/graduate/currentstudents/calendarsanddates.html</a> For thesis formatting guidelines please refer to the YSGS Thesis, MRP and dissertation Submission Requirements document – here is the link <a href="http://www.ryerson.ca/graduate/currentstudents/academicmatters/dissertations.html">http://www.ryerson.ca/graduate/currentstudents/academicmatters/dissertations.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Final Date to clear outstanding graduation requirements and submit approved version of thesis in .pdf format to the program administrator</td>
<td>Please refer to the Important Dates document found on the YSGS website – here is the link <a href="http://www.ryerson.ca/graduate/currentstudents/calendarsanddates.html">http://www.ryerson.ca/graduate/currentstudents/calendarsanddates.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Final date to apply to graduate</td>
<td>Please refer to the Important Dates document found on the YSGS website – here is the link <a href="http://www.ryerson.ca/graduate/currentstudents/calendarsanddates.html">http://www.ryerson.ca/graduate/currentstudents/calendarsanddates.html</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Convocation Dates</td>
<td>Please refer to the Convocation documents found on the Ryerson website – here is the link <a href="http://www.ryerson.ca/convocation/dates/index.html">http://www.ryerson.ca/convocation/dates/index.html</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>