Doctoral Programs Information Session

Professor Edith Hillan
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Bloomberg Nursing
Ranked # 1
School of Nursing in Canada

For almost 100 years Bloomberg Nursing has been recognized as a trailblazer in the education and development of nurses who are leaders in Canada and internationally.
Why Choose a Doctoral Program at Bloomberg Nursing?

As a research-intensive faculty, we are leaders in:

- Creating new knowledge that shapes the discipline of nursing around the world
- Knowledge translation that advances practice excellence
- The development of new and innovative nursing programs
Doctoral Programs

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Program
The PhD program prepares graduates who excel in research generation

Doctor of Nursing (DN) Program
The DN program focuses on the implementation and dissemination of knowledge in diverse healthcare settings
World-Class Researchers

Assistant Professor, Kristin Cleverley
CAMH Chair in Mental Health Research
Research areas: Student and youth mental health

Assistant Professor, Charlene Chu
Research areas: technology and older adults, ageism and AI, and quality of care

Associate Professor, Robyn Stremler
Research areas: pediatric sleep, wearable technology, NICU sleep

Associate Professor Craig Dale
Research areas: patient care for acute and chronically ill adults, oral hygiene, pain and communication
PhD Program

- Typically the highest academic degree awarded and requires at least four years of study and extensive original research.
- Main purpose of a PhD is to demonstrate that you can do research.
- Generally required for those who wish a career in academia or as a research scientist in an academic health sciences environment.

Caroline Variath, PhD candidate
Caroline’s research aims to advocate for the needs of patients and healthcare providers to improve end-of-life care.
"I chose to do a PhD in nursing to develop the skills and experience to lead research. Leading research matters to my patient population."

Laura Istanboulian NP, is a PhD candidate exploring supporting patient communication in the ICU during pandemic conditions.
PhD DEGREE

- Full-time basis
- Program length four years
- All requirements for the degree must be completed within six calendar years
Hold a master’s degree in nursing or closely related field

Have a minimum B+ standing in your master’s degree

Identify a faculty member who has agreed to be your supervisor
IDENTIFYING A SUPERVISOR

- See web resources from SGS
  https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/resources-supports/supervision-guidelines/supervision-guidelines-for-students-section-1-introduction/
- Contact connect.nursing@utoronto.ca for potential supervisor(s)
- Issues to consider
  - Research area from publications
  - Clarify methodology expertise
  - Explore ability to work together
Program Requirements

Path to Candidacy (2 years)

• Literature Review paper
• Completion of a minimum of 3.0 full courses
  ▪ PhD Seminar (1.0 FCE)
  ▪ Research Methods for Knowledge Discovery (1.0 FCE)
  ▪ Field of study (0.5 FCE)
  ▪ Field of study or methods course (0.5 FCE)
• Proposal defense

Final Oral Examination on the Dissertation
• PhD students are eligible for funding for years 1-4

• Funding Eligibility
  • Pursue studies full-time
  • Maintain good academic standing
  • Make satisfactory progress toward degree completion

• Funding package
  • Tuition
  • Teaching Assistantship
  • Internal Awards
Doctor of Nursing (DN) Program

- To prepare nurses at the doctoral level for leadership roles in organizations and systems in healthcare or nursing education

- To provide a program that develops a nursing workforce to effectively meet the increasingly complex roles of nurse leaders across health care systems and in nursing education
Who Should Consider the DN Program?

Nurses with strong leadership skills who want to enter into:

- Executive leadership roles in healthcare – Chief Executive Officers, Vice-Presidents of Nursing
- Mid and senior-level leadership roles in government, policy, professional associations
- Leadership roles in government, regulation, policy, quality and safety science
- Teaching roles in nursing education programs
"With a Doctor of Nursing (DN) I’m going to be able to lead with focus."

Nikki Marks NP, is a Doctor of Nursing student exploring how people can self-manage their care following solid organ transplants using technology.
DN ADMISSION

- Hold a master’s degree in nursing or closely-related field
- Have a minimum B+ standing in your master’s degree
- Have a minimum of 2 years relevant healthcare leadership experience or advanced nursing education teaching experience
- Be a registered nurse holding current registration in at least one jurisdiction
DN Letter of Intent

• State a specific project/thesis area that interests you and why it needs to be studied (~1000 words)

• Describe how your personal background and life experiences contributed to your scholarship interests in this area and to your decision to pursue a Doctor of Nursing degree (~250 words)

• Outline your career plans and discuss how the Doctor of Nursing degree is relevant to your professional goals (~250 words)

• Applicants for the DN program must have a minimum of 2 years relevant healthcare leadership experience or advanced nursing education / teaching experience. Describe your experiences in either of these areas to demonstrate you have fulfilled this criteria for admission (~500 words)
Distinctive Elements of the DN Program

Cohort course-based 8 term program

Hybrid
- online course delivery & annual residencies

4 courses –
- 3 required &
- 1 elective course

4 doctoral seminars

3 Residencies
2 Internships

Thesis
DN Courses

Core Courses
- Health Services and Education Leadership
- Health Policy in Clinical Practice and Education
- Implementation Science in Health Care and Education

Examples of Elective Courses
- Analysis and Application of Individual and Population Health Data
- Informatics and Technologies for Practice Advancement
- Equity and Ethics in Healthcare
- Evaluation Science and Scholarship in Teaching and Learning in Healthcare Practice and Education
• Students will complete 3 one-week residencies on campus
• Residencies provide an opportunity for students to meet with each other and with faculty and engage with nurse leaders who will provide in-depth and interactive opportunities to explore key topics in health care, education, and policy settings
Internships

• Each student will complete 2 internships
• Each student will be mentored by a nurse leader or educator who will also be a member of their DN thesis supervisory committee
• Internships will be offered locally (e.g. with nursing leaders in TAHSN and nursing faculty in schools and faculties of nursing), nationally and internationally
• Students must develop clear realistic goals, learning objectives, and identify expected outputs for each internship
• An on-site DN symposium will be held during the final term

• All students will present their DN theses and discuss Knowledge Translation & Exchange plans for implementing their innovations in practice, policy and/or education

• Mentors and leaders involved with the program will be invited to attend, participate and present at this event

• Students will complete their thesis and final oral exam after the symposium
DN Thesis

• For the DN degree, students will be required to successfully complete a thesis

• The thesis must include the identification and investigation of a practice problem, articulation and application of theory and research to the problem, the design and strategies for action to address the problem, report on strategies implemented to address the problem, results and discussion
Evaluation Milestones

- Literature review paper (end of Year 1)
- DN Thesis Proposal (end of Year 2)
- Final Oral Examination (end of Year 3)
EMAIL US!

connect.nursing@utoronto.ca