



**Bloomberg
Nursing**

Doctoral Programs Information Session

November 4, 2025

Presenter: Samantha Mayo, RN PhD

Associate Professor and Director, Doctoral Programs

Land Acknowledgement

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

Introductions

Dr. Samantha Mayo
Associate Professor &
Director, Doctoral Programs

Kate Galvin
Associate Director, Recruitment &
Admissions

Carli Chan
Admissions & Recruitment Officer

Olivia Hardtke
Admissions and Academic Administrator

Agenda

- Why Choose a Doctoral Program at Bloomberg Nursing?
- PhD Program Overview
- Doctor of Nursing (DN) Program Overview
- Funding
- PhD and DN Admission Process
- Current Student Panel

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



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DEFY
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Our Programs

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Program

The PhD program prepares graduates who excel in generation of knowledge through research.

Doctor of Nursing (DN) Program

The DN program focuses on the implementation and dissemination of knowledge in diverse healthcare settings.





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PhD Program



PhD Program

- Typically the highest academic degree awarded and normally requires 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



Laura Istanboulian, RN PhD

Laura's research examined bundled communication interventions for use in adult ICU with infection control procedures.



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PhD Degree



Full-time



Four-year program



In-person courses
and program



PhD Program Requirements



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Path to Candidacy (2 years)

- ✓ Literature Review paper
- ✓ Completion of a minimum of 3 full courses
 - PhD Seminar 1 (0.5 FCE)
 - Research Methods for Knowledge Discovery (1.0 FCE)
 - PhD Seminar 2 (0.5 FCE)
 - Field of study (0.5 FCE)
 - Field of Study or methods (0.5 FCE)
- ✓ Proposal defense

Path to Graduation (2 years)

- ✓ Completion of research, data collection, and analysis
- ✓ Completion of Dissertation
- ✓ Final Oral Examination of Dissertation

Four-Year “Road Map”

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4
Path to Candidacy: 1. Course work 2. Lit review 3. Proposal defense	<p><i>Course Work:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NUR1081 (fall & winter)• NUR1079 (fall & winter)• 1 substantive <p><i>By April 30: Set committee, problem statement, & literature review topic</i></p>	<p><i>Course Work:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NUR1082 (fall)• 1 methods or substantive <p><i>By September 30: Submit literature review paper</i></p> <p><i>Proposal Defense</i></p>		
Ethics (post-defense)				
Data collection				
Analysis				
Writing				
Final Oral Exam				

Collaborative Specializations

Faculty Partnerships with:

- Addiction Studies
- Aging, Palliative and Supportive Care Across the Life Course
- Global Health
- Women's Health

All Collaborative Specializations:

<https://sgs.calendar.utoronto.ca/glance/collaborative-specializations>

PhD Research Symposium



- An on-site symposium held each April/May
- All students will present their “in-progress” research projects (focus is dependent on year in the program)
- Professional development sessions
 - Peer review
 - CV development
 - Writing for publication
 - Teaching Dossiers
 - Mentorship



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Doctor of Nursing (DN) Program



Doctor of Nursing 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



Andrew McLellan (pictured on the left with his students) and Nikki Marks (right) are part of the first cohort of students to complete the Doctor of Nursing in Canada.



Who Should Consider the DN Program?

Nurses with strong leadership skills who want to enter:

- 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

Distinctive Elements of the DN Program

Cohort, course-based
8 term program

Hybrid delivery:
online courses &
annual in-person
residencies

4 doctoral seminars
3 required courses
1 elective course

2 internships with
nurse leaders

Residency: Annual
DN Symposium



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DN Courses

Core Courses

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



Internships



Each student will complete 2 internships of 50 hours each in the first 2 years of the program



Internships will be offered locally, nationally, and internationally (e.g. with nursing leaders in TAHSN and nursing professors in faculties of nursing)



Students must develop clear realistic goals, learning objectives, and identify expected outputs for each internship



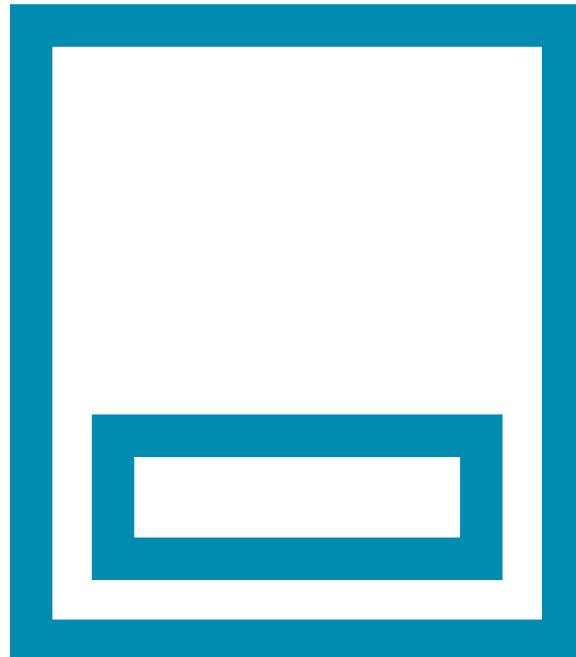
Residencies – DN Symposium

- Students will complete three, 3-day residencies on campus (April/May annually)
- 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
- All students present their “work in progress”

DN Thesis

The DN thesis includes the following:

- Identification and investigation of a practice problem
- Articulation and application of theory and research to the problem
- Design and strategies for action to address the problem
- Report on strategies implemented to address the problem
- Results and discussion



Program Map

Year 1 Term 1 Fall	Year 1 Term 2 Winter	Year 1 Term 3 Spring	Year 2 Term 4 Fall	Year 2 Term 5 Winter	Year 2 Term 6 Spring	Year 3 Term 7 Fall	Year 3 Term 8 Winter
NUR1301H: Health Services & Education Leadership	NUR1302H: Implementation Science in Health Care & Education	NUR1303H: Health Policy in Clinical Practice & Education		1 Elective Course		THESIS WORK	THESIS WORK
NUR1311H: DN Seminar 1 Literature review	NUR1312H: DN Seminar 2		NUR1313H: DN Seminar 3 Thesis Proposal				NUR1314H: DN Seminar 4 Advanced Doctoral Nursing Practice
	Residency (April/May)			Residency (April/May)			Residency (April/May)
	Internship (50 Hours)		Internship (50 Hours)				
Literature review title /description due November 30		Literature review due April 30	Thesis proposal due December 15	Proposal defence by January 31			Final Thesis Due March 31 Final Oral Exam by May 31



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Funding





Funding - DN

- Primarily self-funded
- DN Funding:
 - Employment income
 - Employer sponsorships
 - External scholarships



Funding - PhD

- 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 of \$40,000/year
 - Covers the cost of Tuition
 - Includes income from a Teaching Assistantship (~140 hrs)
 - Includes Internal Awards

Doctoral Programs Q&A Funding Workshop

- December 4th: 12:00PM-1:00PM ET
- Scan QR code to register online and to submit questions beforehand!

Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing -
Doctoral Programs Q&A Financial
Workshop 2025





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Admissions



Step 1: PhD Admission Pre-Screening



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Send to connect.nursing@utoronto.ca:

- Unofficial transcripts
- Proof of English Facility (if degree is from outside of Canada and English is not the primary language of instruction)
- CV with evidence of research experience and resultant scholarly outputs (eg. publications, presentations)
- Thesis topic/research area and potential supervisor(s) and why they are a good match

PhD Admission Requirements



Hold a master's degree in nursing or related field or equivalent



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



Identify a faculty member who has agreed to be your supervisor



Identifying a PhD Supervisor

- See web resources from SGS:
https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/resources-supports/supervision/supervision-guidelines/supervision-guidelines-for-students-section-1-introduction/#section_2
- See faculty list on our website and consider:
 - Research area from publications
 - Clarify methodology expertise
 - Explore ability to work together
- Once pre-screening is completed successfully, contact connect.nursing@utoronto.ca or samantha.mayo@utoronto.ca



Step 2: PhD Admission Application



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Once pre-screening is complete and supervisor secured, submit through SGS Application Portal:

- CV
- Research & Career Plans (research interests, background, career plans, UofT fit, balance)
- Sample of scholarly work
- Two academic references
- Transcripts

PhD Admission: Tips



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Acceptance into the program is based on:



High marks
(particularly in
research courses)



Research
experience



Writing ability



Fit with supervisor

Step 1: DN Admission Pre-Screening



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Send to connect.nursing@utoronto.ca:



Unofficial transcripts



Proof of English Facility (if degree is from outside of Canada and English is not the primary language of instruction)



CV with evidence of at least 2 years of relevant healthcare leadership experience or advanced nursing education teaching experience after completion of Master's



Thesis topic/research area and potential supervisor and why they are a good match

Doctor of Nursing (DN) Admission: Requirements

- 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 after completion of Master's
- Be a registered nurse holding current registration in at least one jurisdiction
- Identify a faculty member who has agreed to be your supervisor



Identifying a DN Supervisor

- See web resources from SGS:
https://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/resources-supports/supervision/supervision-guidelines/supervision-guidelines-for-students-section-1-introduction/#section_2
- See faculty list on our website and consider:
 - Research area from publications
 - Clarify methodology expertise
 - Explore ability to work together
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Step 2: DN Admission Application



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Once pre-screening is complete and supervisor secured, submit through SGS Application Portal:

- CV
- Research & Career Plans (potential project, background, career plans, leadership/education experience, balance)
- Sample of written work
- One academic and two professional/employment references
- Transcripts

DN Admission: Tips



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Acceptance into the program is based on:



High marks
(particularly in
research courses)



Leadership/education
experience



Writing ability



Fit with supervisor

Doctoral Programs Q&A Admissions Workshop

- November 18th from 12:00PM-1:00PM ET
- Scan QR code to register online and to submit questions beforehand!

Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing -
Doctoral Programs Q&A Admission
Application Workshop 2025





Introductions: Student Panel

**Kelly Nguyen, Yr 2
Current PhD Student**

**Nicholas Legacy, Yr 2
Current PhD Student**

**Tanya Varghese, Yr 2
Current DN Student**

How our students stay involved: Graduate Nurses' Student Society

- GNSS Instagram: @uoftgnss
- GNSS Website: gnss.sa.utoronto.ca
- GNSS Email: gnss@studentorg.utoronto.ca



Questions from the Audience:

Themes:

- Academic/Program
- Internship, Residency or Symposium
- Career Opportunities

Bloomberg Nursing

Questions?

Contact us at
connect.nursing@utoronto.ca



Scan the QR code to join our
mailing list and receive a
program guide & notifications
about information sessions



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