### Department/Academic Unit: School of Nursing, MNSc

**Degree Level Expectations, Learning Outcomes, Indicators of Achievement and the Program Requirements that Support the Learning Outcomes**

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<th><strong>Expectations</strong> (general descriptors from OCAV)</th>
<th><strong>Masters-Level Competencies</strong></th>
<th><strong>Learning Outcomes</strong> (program specific)**</th>
<th><strong>Relevant Courses and academic requirements</strong> (requirements that contribute to the achievement of learning outcomes and degree)</th>
<th><strong>Indicators of Achievement</strong> As evidenced by...</th>
<th><strong>Transferable Skills</strong></th>
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| **Depth and breadth of knowledge** | Strong knowledge foundation to guide advanced nursing practice with the ability to critique, evaluate, and utilize appropriate theories from nursing and related fields. | 1) Skill in matching theoretical perspectives from nursing and other disciplines with appropriate research questions.  
2) The ability to distinguish between fundamental ontological and epistemological issues.  
3) The ability to compare, contrast and select optimal research designs & methods relevant to a research question.  
4) Critique aspects of qualitative and quantitative research processes from a conceptual perspective. | **Requirements:**  
NURS 802  
NURS 803  
NURS 811  
Special topic course  

**Opportunities:**  
1) *Expanding Horizons* Series in SGS. | 1) Successful completion of a 20-page concept paper in NURS 811.  
2) Successful completion of a critical appraisal paper of two research designs in NURS 803.  
3) Successful completion of a paper that critically appraises selected literature in NURS 803.  
4) Successful analysis of three nursing practice situations to identify a personal construction of the nature of nursing in NURS 811.  
5) Successful completion of papers within a selected special topics course. | Critical appraisal and analysis skills.  
Strong knowledge base to guide nursing practice.  
Understanding the sociopolitical context in which nursing practice exists. |
5) The ability to contrast the philosophical perspectives on knowing that have influenced nursing scholars.
6) Assess the sociopolitical context of nursing practice and examine the contributions of critical social theories to nursing knowledge.
7) Analyze concepts and theories relevant to a specific special topic course.

**Opportunities:**
1) Completion of certificate in SGS Expanding Horizons Series.

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**Research and Scholarship**

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<th>Conceptual understanding and methodological competence that:</th>
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<td>a) manifests as the process of exploration, examination, and possible testing of a research question pertinent to the discipline of nursing; and,</td>
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<tr>
<td>b) results in the completion of a Masters’ thesis.</td>
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1) The theoretical knowledge and skills to conduct small research projects during program of study.
2) Selection, computation and interpretation of statistical techniques to answer research questions.
3) Refinement of skills in conceptualization, conduct and use of research.
4) Scholarly output in form of presentations, and possibly, publications.

**Requirements:**
NURS 800
NURS 802
NURS 803
Thesis requirement, including proposal defense and thesis defense.

**Opportunities:**
1) Bi-weekly Academic Series within SON
2) Participation at conferences
3) Work as research assistant with faculty member(s).

1) Successful completion of research proposal paper in NURS 803.
2) Successful completion of statistical analyses papers in NURS 800.
3) Successful completion of all primary courses in the MNSc.
4) Successful defense of thesis proposal.
5) Successful defense of thesis.

**Opportunities:**
1) Attendance and participation at School of Nursing (SON) Academic Series.
2) Conference abstract submissions and participation at conferences.
3) Other evidence of innovation and scholarship.

Enhanced writing skills.
Research skills applicable to working as a team member.
Effective public speaking skills.
Confidence in abstract writing and conference presentations.
| Application of Knowledge | Skillful in the utilization of research, including identifying researchable problems within the clinical setting, understanding of practice outcomes, and clinical application of the research. | 1) Critical appraisal skills needed for developing scientific basis for nursing practice and for conducting research. 2) Knowledge and skill to use their own and others’ published research findings. 3) Proficiency in conducting library searches using computer assisted methods. 4) The ability to use SPSS for statistical analysis, graphing and content analysis of data. 5) Application of appropriate qualitative data analysis strategies to selected qualitative designs. 6) The ability to apply practical methods of study conduct and presentation, including the creation of databases, dummy tables and paper outlines. | Requirements: NURS 800 NURS 802 NURS 803 NURS 811 Special topic course Thesis Opportunities: 1) TA and RA positions in SON | 1) Successful completion of Concept Paper in NURS 811. 2) Successful completion of research proposal in NURS 803. 3) Application of evidence-based literature to clinical tools and practice guidelines, as demonstrated in successful completion special topic course. 4) Successful completion of NURS 800, including in-class exercises and assignments related to SPSS. 5) Successful completion of thesis. Opportunities: 1) Positive feedback from faculty, undergraduate students regarding performance as TA or RA. | Knowledge utilization, transfer and integration. Ability to identify problems within the clinical setting and utilize research to examine the problem further. |
| Professional capacity/autonomy | Effect change within the healthcare system through leadership and participation within the nursing profession. | 1) Initiative and personal accountability. 2) Intellectual independence required for continued professional nursing | Requirements: NURS 800 NURS 802 NURS 803 NURS 811 | 1) Successful completion of all primary courses in the MNSc. 2) Responsibility for leading seminars in a variety of MNSc courses. | Effective change agent. Conduct ethical research. |
| Development | 3) Ethical behaviour consistent with academic integrity, and the conduct of research with humans. |
| Special Topics course |  
| SGS 804 | 3) Completion of SGS 804.  
| 4) Timely completion of course assignments.  
| 5) Completion of thesis within two-year timeframe.  
| 6) Adherence to ethical standards throughout research project.  
| Opportunities: | 1) Participation in SON and university committees.  
| 2) External |  
| Leadership capability. |
| Communication Skills | Effective communication, both orally and in writing, to disseminate and translate the outcomes of research and scholarly endeavours. |
| Requirements: | 1) Clear, concise writing skills that lead to logical presentation of ideas and arguments.  
| 2) Consistent use of APA format and style.  
| 3) The ability to orally present the results of scholarly inquiry and/or research results. |  
| Requirements: | NURS 800  
| NURS 802  
| NURS 803  
| NURS 811 |  
| Special Topics course |  
| Public Oral Proposal defense |  
| Thesis Oral Defense |  
| Opportunities: | 1) Presentations at SON Academic Series  
| 2) Participation in University wide 3MT (Minute Thesis) competitive presentations.  
| 3) Internal and external conference presentations. |  
| Opportunities: | 1) Leadership roles of students while in the program. |  
| Leadership capability. |  
| Effective public speaking on scholarly work.  
| Ability to clearly communicate research findings to others.  
| Creative strategies to disseminate research findings to knowledge users, practice settings, and peers. |
| Awareness of limits of knowledge | Cognizance of the complexity of knowledge and of the potential contribution other interpretations, methods, and disciplines. | 1) The ability to link theoretical perspectives from nursing and other disciplines with appropriate research questions and designs. 2) An appreciation for the opportunities to collaborate with other disciplines using large databases (e.g., ICES, Stauffer library database collection). | Requirements: NURS 800 NURS 802 NURS 803 NURS 811 Special Option Course SGS 804 Opportunities: 1) Seminars outside SON. 1) Successful completion of all primary courses in the MNSc. 2) Personal conceptualization of the nature of nursing assignment in NURS 811. 3) Successful completion of SGS 804. | Critical critique of evidence in practice, and openness to new ideas. Awareness of available existing administrative databases. Understanding of research conducted by other disciplines. |