

Expectations/Requirements of Master of Science in Nursing Students

Progress

1. Students are expected to complete the program in the following timeframes:
 - Full-time 2 years
 - Part-time 4 years
2. Students will be matched with a thesis supervisor during the admissions review process. The Thesis Supervisor will sign a Master of Science in Nursing Thesis Supervision form which must be approved by the Associate Director, Graduate Studies. The Thesis Supervisor will be identified on the Graduate Student Information System. (GSIS). The thesis supervisor will serve as the student's academic advisor.
3. The student has the right to change supervisor when they offer convincing argument to the Associate Director Graduate Studies for the change and the change can be accommodated by the School of Nursing (FGS regulation 9.4.5). The student is responsible for communicating their decision to the supervisor.
4. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the Responsibilities of Supervisors, Responsibilities of Students, Rights of Supervisors, Rights of Students, and Responsibilities of the Department, as delineated in the Faculty of Graduate Studies Regulations 9.4.2-9.4.6.
5. Following preliminary discussions with the faculty member who may be the Thesis Supervisor, the student will prepare a two page summary of the proposed thesis topic and approach.
6. Thesis development work should begin concurrently with course work.
7. With the advice and guidance of the thesis supervisor, other members of the Thesis Supervisory Committee will be identified. The Thesis Supervisory Committee will be comprised minimally of the three members, the Thesis Supervisor and two Readers, all of whom must have membership in the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS). The supervisor and one reader must be School of Nursing faculty members. If a potential reader does not have FGS membership, external scholar status must be sought with the submission to the Graduate Programs Secretary of a curriculum vitae, home address, home telephone number, and date of birth of the proposed scholar. The number of external scholars cannot exceed the number of Dalhousie faculty (i.e. Dalhousie employed) having FGS membership. In the case of co-supervision, the two co-supervisors count as one member. The optimal number of committee members should not exceed four. The Committee is not formally constituted until the Thesis Supervisory Committee Approval Form has been signed by all parties and submitted to the Graduate Programs Office.
8. The student will obtain from the Graduate Programs Secretary a Thesis Supervisory Committee Approval Form, obtain the signatures of all members of the Committee, and submit the form to the Graduate Programs Office. Members of the Thesis Supervisory Committee will be identified on the Graduate Student Information System (GSIS).

9. While the student normally will work closely with the Thesis Supervisor in the preparation of the draft proposal, ethics submission, and draft thesis, the full Thesis Supervisory Committee will meet with the student at least twice a year (Faculty of Graduate Studies Regulation 9.3). Following these meetings, written feedback will be given to the student on a Record of Graduate Thesis Supervisory Committee Meetings form and a copy placed in the student's file.
10. Ethics applications will be prepared in tandem with the proposal and ready for submission upon successful proposal review.

Performance

1. Seminar series are held on a regular basis in the School, providing opportunity for scholarly exchange among students and faculty. Students are encouraged to present at the series and are required to attend sessions regularly.
2. Publications are considered evidence of scholarly performance and students are encouraged to prepare at least one manuscript for submission to a scholarly journal by the end of the program.
3. Submission to a journal of a manuscript derived from the student's thesis is expected within 6 months of the completion of the MScN degree. In the absence of this submission, the study supervisor will have the right to publish the manuscript with the student's contribution appropriately acknowledged, provided the student completes the required documentation for authorship.
4. Scholarships and funding awards are necessary to support student progress. Students must work with their thesis supervisor when preparing an application for any funding award. Students should take advantage of existing opportunities within Dalhousie to develop grant and scholarship writing skills, e.g. Integrated Health Research Training Partnership (IH RTP). These are communicated to students via the graduate programs list serve.
5. Supervisors will conduct performance and progress reviews of students in November and April, based on completion of the Master of Science in Nursing Program Completion Timeline.
6. Annual Progress Reports are completed by the student, supervisor, and Associate Director Graduate Studies and submitted electronically to the Faculty of Graduate Studies.
7. Students are expected to read and comply with the Faculty of Graduate Studies regulations as outlined in the Calendar and with School of Nursing policies as outlined in the Master of Science in Nursing Student Handbook (nursing.dal.ca).
8. Students are expected to spend as much time as possible in the academic environment.
9. Students are encouraged to serve as teaching assistants or research assistants.

Student Name

Student's Signature

Date

Supervisor Name

Supervisor's Signature

Date

Associate Director's Signature

Approved GSC 11 Mar 2019; Council 25 Mar 2019