NUTRITION SCIENCE, MS

Contact

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Program Description

The program emphasizes critical evaluation of scientific information and evidence-based practice and research. Due to the varying backgrounds and professional interests of students, the master's degree program is flexible. The master's degree may also serve as a preparatory step toward more advanced study at the doctoral level.

Students must complete either a master's thesis or master's project as part of the MS program. Students should discuss these options with their academic advisor in the first semester of the program to determine which one is a best fit. The thesis involves investigative work on a specific topic, extensive examination and interpretation of nutrition literature on that topic, and the presentation of results in a clear and logical form. Completion of the thesis may require an additional year of study beyond completion of coursework.

Admission

The Nutrition Science Graduate Program has a priority application deadline of February 15th and applications will be accepted after this deadline if space is available. Admittance is for the fall semester only. All applicants must submit the following:

- Application
- Non-refundable application fee
- Official transcripts of earlier academic degrees
- Resume
- Three letters of recommendation (preferably from faculty members)
- Personal statement reflective of career goals and objectives (including research)
- International Student Language Proficiency Documentation*

*International applicants must have transcripts evaluated to verify equivalent US bachelor's degree requirements. We accept evaluations from NACES member organizations, with World Education Services (WES) as our preferred provider.

In addition to the general admissions requirements of the Graduate School, Nutrition Science Graduate Program applicants must document completion of the following:

- WRT 105 Studio 1: Practices of Academic Writing/WRT 205 Studio 2: Critical Research and Writing - or equivalent 6 crs.
- PSY 205 Foundations of Human Behavior - or equivalent 3 crs.
- Behavior/Social Sciences- or equivalent 6 crs.
- BIO 121 General Biology I/BIO 123 General Biology II - or equivalent 8 crs.
- BIO 216 Anatomy & Physiology I/BIO 217 Anatomy and Physiology II (plus lab) - or equivalent 8 crs.
- CHE 106 General Chemistry Lecture I/CHE 116 General Chemistry Lecture II - or equivalent 8 crs.
- MAT 221 Elementary Probability and Statistics I - or equivalent 3 crs.
- NSD 225 Nutrition in Health - or equivalent 3 crs.

While no single factor determines entry to the program, competitive applicants typically have a minimum of:

- G.P.A. of 3.00 or higher (undergraduate and/or master's degree)

Admission decisions are made by the Nutrition Science Graduate Admissions Committee and are based on the student's academic background (i.e., G.P.A.), experience (e.g., research activity, related work experience), letters of recommendation, personal statement and areas of interests.

Part-Time Study

Students are able to pursue the degree part-time.

Financial Support

Limited department financial aid is available in the form of graduate assistantships and merit-based scholarships for students enrolled in master's programs.

Additional information regarding graduate financial aid can be found at https://financialaid.syr.edu/typesofaid/graduatestudentaid/

Transfer Credit

With approval of the program director, a maximum of 30 percent of credits counted toward the master's degree may be transferred from another accredited institution provided that the credits are an integral part of the degree program, and the student earns a grade of B or higher.

Degree

The M.S. degree requires the completion of a minimum of 30 credits, including a thesis or master's project.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Critically examine and interpret current research and evidence-informed practice findings to determine the validity, reliability, and credibility of information.
2. Analyze research data and chooses appropriate statistical methods, perform statistical analysis and interpret results in various data analysis situations.
3. Analyze and formulate a professional opinion based on current research and evidence-based findings and experiential learning to translate and communicate research findings and conclusions through a variety of media.
4. Select and implement nutrition assessment tools for individuals, groups, and populations.
5. Collect, retrieve and analyze data using a variety of methods (qualitative, quantitative) and technologies to develop interventions to affect change and enhance wellness in diverse individuals and groups.
6. Apply the fundamental biochemical principles to evaluate and solve metabolic and physiologic problems related to macro-and micro metabolism in both health and disease states as well as an understanding of environmental, molecular (e.g., genes, proteins, metabolites) and food in development and management of disease.

Course Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
Core Courses		
NSD 654	Nutrition Research Methods	3
NSD 665	Metabolism of Micronutrients	3
NSD 667	Metabolism of Macronutrients	4
NSD 695	Nutritional Status Evaluation	3
NSD 997	Master's Thesis	3
or NSD 996	Master's Project	
HFS 621	Statistical Concepts I	3
or PHP 630	Analysis of Public Health Data	
Electives		
Select 11 credits of the following:		11
NSD 511	Nutrition Education	
NSD 512	Nutrition Counseling	
NSD 513	Nutrition Education Experience	
NSD 516	Nutrition Counseling Experience	
NSD 555	Food, Culture and Environment	
NSD 617	Integrative Food and Nutrition Therapy	
NSD 625	Nutrition for Fitness and Sports	
NSD 627	Public Health Nutrition	
NSD 637	Integrative and Functional Nutrition	
NSD 647	Weight Management, Obesity and Disordered Eating	
NSD 648	Dietetics Practice Across the Lifespan	
NSD 652	Mediterranean Food and Culture: A Florence Experience (*)	
NSD 655	Issues in Community Nutrition	
NSD 660	Readings in Nutrition	
NSD 669	South Asia - Family, Food and Healthcare Systems (*)	
NSD 670	Experience Credit	
NSD 680	Seminar in Food and Nutrition	
NSD 681	Clinical Nutrition Therapy I	
NSD 682	Clinical Nutrition Therapy I Lab	
NSD 683	Clinical Nutrition Therapy II	
NSD 684	Clinical Nutrition Therapy II Lab	
NSD 685	Nutritional Genomics	
NSD 690	Independent Study	
NSD 755	Field Experience in Community Nutrition	
NSD 756	Food and Public Policy	
NSD 765	Problems in Human Metabolism	
*Elective courses NSD 652 and NSD 669 include a travel abroad component. Students will register for a zero-credit travel class in the semester following either NSD 652 or NSD 669 course work. Please see course instructor for details.		
Total Credits		**30**

Satisfactory Progress

Certification for an advanced degree at Syracuse University requires a minimum average of 3.0 for work comprising the program for the degree and a 2.8 average for all credits earned. Nutrition Science MS students must also attain a B or better in all required course work.