The PhD Program in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition is a traditional on campus doctoral program. Students are required to have a research advisor and applicants are encouraged to contact department faculty in their areas of interest to inquire about possible research and funding opportunities.

Students are required to select a concentration:

- Food Science
- Human Nutrition

Research Areas
In addition to receiving training in the general field of food science or human nutrition, students have the opportunity to conduct research in the following areas of specialization:

- Food processing, engineering, and biotechnology
- Food ingredients, properties, and interactions
- Food microstructures, micro-carriers, and nanotechnology
- Food chemistry
- Food microbiology and biomass conversion
- Food safety and security
- Sensory sciences
- Dietary quality and food and nutrition patterns for optimal health
- Nutrition and disease interactions, including cancer, metabolic disorders, and gastrointestinal health
- Nutrition across the life span
- Biochemical and molecular nutrition
- Clinical nutrition
- Community nutrition

Click here for more information about our Graduate Degree Programs

Admission
In addition to meeting the Graduate College admission requirements, a student planning to pursue a graduate degree in the department should have a baccalaureate degree in a recognized field of biological, physical, agricultural, or engineering science. Background deficiencies may be removed with graduate credit courses designed for this purpose.

Click here to review all Food Science and Human Nutrition Admission requirements

International Applicants
Please visit the Illinois Graduate College resources for further admission requirements.

Admission requirements by country
Applicants whose native language is not English

Internship in Dietetics
The Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition offers a dietetic internship for master's and doctoral students specializing in human nutrition. Completion of the degree and the internship qualifies the student to take the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics registration examination administered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration. For information on our dietetic internship program please contact Ms. Jessica Madson (jamadson@illinois.edu).

Graduate Teaching Experience
Teaching is neither a Graduate College nor a FSHN requirement. A limited number of teaching assistantships are available to FSHN graduate students. Students are selected to be Graduate Teaching Assistants by the Department Head in consultation with the course instructor.

Financial Aid
Financial aid for graduate students is available in the form of fellowships (Fall admission only), teaching and research assistantships, and tuition and partial fee waivers. Qualified candidates are considered for financial support upon application.

Financial Aid for Graduate Students

For the Doctor of Philosophy in Food Science and Human Nutrition, students are required to select a concentration:

- Food Science
- Human Nutrition

Click here for more information about our Graduate Degree Programs

A FSHN graduate student:
1. Demonstrates knowledge in at least three areas of expertise (based upon required coursework; see FSHN graduate handbook for areas).
2. Displays effective and relevant written and oral communication skills.
3. Conducts methodical and logical research that addresses key issues in food science and/or human nutrition.
4. Displays professional ethics in scholarly achievements.

Graduate Degree Programs in Food Science & Human Nutrition

Graduate Majors:

- Food Science & Human Nutrition, MS
- Doctor of Philosophy in Food Science and Human Nutrition

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 01/2024
concentrations:

- Food Science (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/aces/food-science-human-nutrition-ms/food-science/)
- Human Nutrition (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/aces/food-science-human-nutrition-ms/human-nutrition/)
- Food Science and Human Nutrition, MS – Professional Science Master’s (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/aces/food-science-human-nutrition-ms/professional-science-masters/)

- Food Science and Human Nutrition, PhD (p. 1)

concentrations:

- Food Science (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/aces/food-science-human-nutrition-phd/food-science/)
- Human Nutrition (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/aces/food-science-human-nutrition-phd/human-nutrition/)

Joint Degree Program:

- Food Science & Human Nutrition, PhD and Master of Public Health, MPH (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/aces_ahs/joint-degree/food-science-human-nutrition-phd-public-health-mph/)

Doctor of Philosophy in Food Science and Human Nutrition

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Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition
Department Head: Nicki Engeseth
Associate Head of Graduate Programs: Michael Miller (mille216@illinois.edu)
Food Science and Human Nutrition Department website (https://fshn.illinois.edu/)
Program website (https://fshn.illinois.edu/graduate/program-overview/)
Food Science and Human Nutrition Graduate faculty (https://fshn.illinois.edu/directory/faculty/graduate-advising-faculty/)
260 Bevier Hall, 905 South Goodwin Avenue, Urbana, IL 61801
(217) 244-4498
Food Science and Human Nutrition email (FSHNGradAdmissions@illinois.edu)

College of Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences (ACES)
College of Agricultural, Consumer & Environmental Sciences website (http://catalog.illinois.edu/schools/aces/)

Admissions
Overview of Department Admissions & Requirements (https://fshn.illinois.edu/graduate/apply/)
Graduate College Admissions & Requirements (https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/)

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