NUTRITIONAL SCIENCE

http://www.nutritionalsciences.illinois.edu

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Major: Nutritional Science
Degrees Offered: M.S. and Ph.D.

Joint Degree Program: Doctor of Philosophy in Nutritional Science and Master of Public Health (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/community-health/#jointdegreeestext)
Degrees Offered: Ph.D. and M.P.H.

Medical Scholars Program: Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Nutritional Science and Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) through the Medical Scholars Program (http://www.med.uiuc.edu/mdphd)

Graduate Degree Programs

The Division of Nutritional Sciences is the interdisciplinary program for graduate education in nutrition at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. More than 60 faculty, representing 15 different departments in seven colleges on the Urbana and Chicago campuses, are members of the Division. The Division is a comprehensive program of study leading to the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees, alone or in combination with either the M.D. or M.P.H. degrees or the registration in dietetics (R.D.). Flexible graduate programs of study enable students to individualize their coursework and professional training. In addition, extensive research opportunities are available that address the spectrum from research at the level of the genome and proteome to clinical and population-based intervention studies. Specialties are classified into six broad theme areas in which our faculty and students are most active (see Research Interests (http://nutrsci.illinois.edu/research)). These themes best reflect the areas of nutrition research for which the Division is recognized both nationally and internationally.

Admission

Applicants are expected to have an admission grade point average of 3.0 (A = 4.0) for the last two years of coursework and basic courses in chemistry, biology and mathematics. Deficiencies in these subjects must be removed during the first year of graduate study. The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required. Applicants whose native language is not English must achieve a minimum paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of 550, 213 on the computer-based test or 79 on the iBT TOEFL. Admission in the fall, spring or summer will be considered.

Internship in Dietetics

Students in the Division of Nutritional Sciences can participate in an Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND) accredited graduate dietetic internship program administered through the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition. The program includes defined graduate course requirements and a six-month dietetic clinical internship. In order to be eligible for the graduate internship program, students must complete all undergraduate course competencies required by the AND for the Registration in Dietetics (R.D.). Students are accepted into the internship by computer matching through the standard dietetic internship application process. More information on the graduate dietetic internship program can be obtained at fshn.illinois.edu/graduate/dietetic-internship/prospective (http://fshn.illinois.edu/graduate/dietetic-internship/prospective) or from the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition (260 Bevier Hall; (217)-244-4498).

Medical Scholars Program

The Medical Scholars Program permits highly qualified students to integrate the study of medicine with study for a graduate degree in a second discipline, including Nutritional Science. Students may apply to the Medical Scholars Program prior to beginning graduate school or while in the graduate program. Applicants to the Medical Scholars Program must meet the admissions standards for and be accepted into both the doctoral graduate program and the College of Medicine. Students in the dual degree program must meet the specific requirements for both the medical and graduate degrees. On average, students take eight years to complete both degrees. Further information on this program is available by contacting the Medical Scholars Program, 125 Medical Sciences Building, (217) 333-8146 or at www.med.illinois.edu/msp (http://www.med.illinois.edu/msp).

Graduate Teaching Experience

Although teaching is not a general Graduate College requirement, experience in teaching is considered an important part of the graduate experience in this program.

Faculty Research Interests

The Division is composed of faculty whose research interests cover many disciplines within nutrition. Descriptions of faculty research interests and a listing of recent publications are available at the Division website. Six broad theme areas are:

- Animal Nutrition
- Biochemical and Molecular Nutrition
- Community Nutrition, Nutrition Education and Consumer Acceptance
- Dietary Bioactive Components
- Food Safety and Toxicology
- Human and Clinical Nutrition

Facilities and Resources

The Division (http://www.nutrsci.illinois.edu) office is located in room 449 Bevier Hall. Office and research laboratory facilities utilized by graduate students in Nutritional Sciences are administered by the home department of the student’s adviser.

Financial Aid

Financial assistance is available in the form of assistantships, scholarships and fellowships. Applicants seeking fall admission and expecting to be considered for financial assistance should file their applications before the preceding December 15th. Later applications may be considered, depending on the space and support available.

Master of Science in Nutritional Science

Additional courses are available in:
Nutritional Science

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 09/2017

- human and animal nutrition
- biochemistry
- physiology
- immunology
- endocrinology
- food science
- education
- anthropology
- psychology
- sociology
- statistics
- agricultural economics

The non-thesis degree also requires an oral final exam. Students are not admitted directly into the non-thesis program.

Thesis Option

NUTR 500  Nutritional Sciences Seminar (Enrollment each semester a student is registered in the program) 0

Statistics 4
FSHN 593  Seminar in Foods and Nutrition (One semester of seminar) 2

or NUTR 590  Disciplinary Seminar

NUTR 510  Topics in Nutrition Research 3-5

or NUTR 561  Advanced Clinical Nutrition

Biochemistry (if not taken within 2 years of entry) 3-8
Research/Project/Independent Study Hours (2 max applied toward degree) 0-2

One additional course in general nutrition 4

NUTR 599  Thesis Research (min/max applied toward degree) 8

Total Hours 32

Other Requirements

Other requirements may overlap

Minimum Hours Required Within the Unit: 8, 500 level

Minimum Number of 500-level hours Required Overall in Program: 12

Not more than 4 hours of coursework taken on a Credit-No Credit basis will be counted towards the 32 hours total for the M.S. degree

Nutritional Sciences courses may NOT be taken on a Credit-No Credit option

Minimum GPA: 3.0

Oral final exam

1 For additional details and requirements refer to the department’s Graduate Programs information (http://nutrsci.illinois.edu/about_us/program_description/degree_types) and the Graduate College Handbook (http://www.grad.uiuc.edu/gradhandbook).

Non-Thesis Option

NUTR 500  Nutritional Sciences Seminar (Enrollment each semester a student is registered in the program) 0

Statistics 4
FSHN 593  Seminar in Foods and Nutrition (One semester of seminar) 2

or NUTR 590  Disciplinary Seminar

NUTR 510  Topics in Nutrition Research 3-5

or NUTR 561  Advanced Clinical Nutrition

Biochemistry (if not taken within 2 years of entry) 3-8
At least two additional courses in general nutrition 8
Research/Project/Independent Study Hours (4 max applied toward degree) 0-4

Total Hours 32

Other Requirements 1

Other requirements may overlap

Minimum Hours Required Within the Unit: 8, 500 level

Minimum Number of 500-level hours Required Overall in Program: 12

Not more than 4 hours of coursework taken on a Credit-No Credit basis will be counted towards the 32 hours total for the M.S. degree

Nutritional Sciences courses may NOT be taken on a Credit-No Credit option

Minimum GPA: 3.0

Oral final exam

1 For additional details and requirements refer to the department’s Graduate Programs information (http://nutrsci.illinois.edu/about_us/program_description/degree_types) and the Graduate College Handbook (http://www.grad.uiuc.edu/gradhandbook).

Doctor of Philosophy in Nutritional Science

In addition to maintaining a 3.0 average in formal coursework, Ph.D. students are required to take a qualifying examination, an oral preliminary examination and a final thesis examination. There is no foreign language requirement, but students whose native language is not English are required to demonstrate competence in English.

NUTR 500  Nutritional Sciences Seminar (enrollment each semester and one presentation during program) 1

FSHN 593  Seminar in Foods and Nutrition

NUTR 590  Disciplinary Seminar

NUTR 510  Topics in Nutrition Research 5-9

or NUTR 561  Advanced Clinical Nutrition

NUTR 511  Regulation of Metabolism 4

1 For additional details and requirements refer to the department’s Graduate Programs information (http://nutrsci.illinois.edu/about_us/program_description/degree_types) and the Graduate College Handbook (http://www.grad.uiuc.edu/gradhandbook).

Information listed in this catalog is current as of 09/2017
Two additional courses in general nutrition 6-8
Research/Project/Independent Study Hours (2 max applied toward degree) 2
NUTR 599 Thesis Research (min/max applied toward degree) 40 or 48

Total Hours 64

Other Requirements 1
Other requirements may overlap
Coursework total: with M.S. degree in Nutritional Science (16) or with MS in other field (24)
Masters Degree Required for Admission to PhD? No, but Masters level requirements must be met (32 additional hours min)
Qualifying Exam Required Yes
Preliminary Exam Required Yes
Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required Yes
Minimum GPA: 3.0

1 For additional details and requirements refer to the department’s Graduate Programs information (http://nutrsci.illinois.edu/about_us/program_description/degree_types) and the Graduate College Handbook (http://www.grad.uiuc.edu/gradhandbook).

Master of Public Health and Ph.D. in Nutritional Science
The M.P.H. can be earned jointly with the Ph.D. in Nutritional Science. In the joint program up to 12 hours of coursework may be applied to both degrees, and the degrees are conferred simultaneously at the completion of the program.

CHLH 410 Public Health Practice 4
CHLH 469 Environmental Health 4
CHLH 540 Health Behavior: Theory 4
CHLH 550 Health Policy: United States 4
CHLH 572 Principles of Epidemiology 4
CHLH 573 Biostatistics in Public Health 4
CHLH 575 Chronic Disease Prevention 4
CHLH 577 Health Program Evaluation 4
CHLH 594 Special Topics (Cultural Competence and Health Promotion) 4
CHLH 587 MPH Applied Practice Experience 4
CHLH 589 MPH Integrative Learning Experience 2
Area of concentration coursework from approved list, min 3 (may be met by Ph.D. core courses) 1
Electives and seminars, min 3 (may be met by Ph.D. core courses) 1
NUTR 500 Nutritional Sciences Seminar (enrollment each semester and one presentation during program) 1
Select one or both of the following (max 4): 1-4
FSHN 593 Seminar in Foods and Nutrition 1

NUTR 590 Disciplinary Seminar
NUTR 510 Topics in Nutrition Research
or NUTR 561 Advanced Clinical Nutrition
NUTR 511 Regulation of Metabolism 4
Two additional courses in general nutrition 6-8
Ph.D. Research/Project/Independent Study Hours (2 max applied toward degree) 2
NUTR 599 Thesis Research (min/max applied toward degree) 40

Total Hours 100

Other Requirements 1
Other requirements may overlap
Minimum Number of 500-level Hours Required Overall in Program: 12 (8 within M.P.H.)
Masters Degree Required for Admission to PhD? No
Qualifying Exam Required Yes
Preliminary Exam Required Yes
Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required Yes
Dissertation Deposit Required Yes
Minimum GPA: 3.0

1 For additional details and requirements refer to the department’s Graduate Programs information (http://nutrsci.illinois.edu/about_us/program_description/degree_types) and the Graduate College Handbook (http://www.grad.uiuc.edu/gradhandbook).