

NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES (MS, PHD)

The Department of Nutritional Sciences offers Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees. University of Connecticut undergraduates can pursue a fast track pathway (4 + 1 program) that allows them to earn both a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Science degree in 5 years. Students elect to emphasize one of three overlapping areas in human nutrition:

- Molecular Nutrition
- Metabolism
- Community Nutrition

Each emphasis area is interdisciplinary in approach and is supported by a broad range of local, national, and international collaborations. The Master's program usually requires a thesis and the Ph.D. program requires a dissertation. Students interested in pursuing a master's degree in personalized nutrition as their primary graduate program are encouraged to apply to the Department's stand-alone Master of Science in Personalized Nutrition (MSPN) online program.

Master of Science

There are two options for the Master's degree Program: Plan A (thesis option) and Plan B (non-thesis option). All M.S. students are required to take a minimum of 30 credits.

Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Core Requirements		
GRAD 5910	Responsible Conduct in Research	1
NUSC 5100	Concepts of Nutrition	2
NUSC 5200	Macronutrient Metabolism	3
NUSC 5300	Vitamins and Minerals	3
NUSC 5394	Seminar	1
Statistics		3
Additional graduate credits		3

A minimum of 21 course credits is required for the thesis option, in addition to nine thesis credits. Students earning the Master of Science degree are required to complete an examination process that consists of two parts. Part one is a written general knowledge examination with a closed book. Part two is an oral presentation and defense of the thesis research.

Doctor of Philosophy

All Ph.D. students are required to take:

Course	Title	Credits
GRAD 5910	Responsible Conduct in Research ¹	1
NUSC 5100	Concepts of Nutrition	2
NUSC 5200	Macronutrient Metabolism	3
NUSC 5300	Vitamins and Minerals	3
NUSC 5394	Seminar	1
Statistics		3
Graduate courses		6

GRAD 6950	Doctoral Dissertation Research	1-9
Total Credits		20-28

¹ Students may also satisfy the Responsible Conduct in Research (RCR) requirement by completing a two-day RCR workshop offered by the Office of the Vice President for Research. However, this workshop is not offered for academic credit; therefore, the one credit from GRAD 5910 Responsible Conduct in Research must be replaced with an additional graduate credit from another course.

In addition to the requirements listed in the Graduate Catalog, Ph.D. students in Nutritional Sciences are expected to present a seminar on a topic close to their area of research to the whole department. Ph.D. students are required to take the pre-doctoral examination. Once the written exam is completed, the oral examination follows. During the oral examination the student will be asked questions that cover multiple areas of nutrient metabolism, physiology and other nutrition-related topics that the advisory committee finds pertinent. The exam generally takes no more than two hours. The Ph.D. in Nutritional Sciences does not have a related area or foreign language requirement.