Nutritional Science, MS

ECHNUTMS

Be at the leading edge of nutrition science. Expand your knowledge and skill base with rigorous internships and your own research. With many practical application opportunities, you will create a path for yourself to the forefront of modern health. Interested students may also apply for the new MS track in sports nutrition.

Program Description

Degree Awarded: MS Nutritional Science

The ASU MS program in nutritional science prepares students to translate nutrition science into practical use for human health and wellness. Students learn about nutrition alongside faculty who are immersed in the latest research, and they build practical understanding through internships and their own guided research.

The program is based on the scientific foundations of human nutrition. Students also develop strong writing and problem-solving skills, computer literacy, and interpretive expertise and are afforded research experiences. Students who have completed an accredited didactic program in dietetics may also elect to apply to the ASU dietetic internship in order to meet the requirements to become a registered dietitian nutritionist. More information is available at https://chs.asu.edu/programs/nutrition-dietetics/how-become-registered-dietitian.

The primary objective of the graduate program in nutrition is to provide advanced training in nutrition research. Graduate students are expected to develop competencies in research methods and in advanced practice knowledge relevant to their area of study. The skills and knowledge acquired during the course of training should enable each student to develop professional competencies that can be applied to significant problems and issues within the field of nutrition and dietetics.

The new track in sports nutrition, under the existing on-ground MS in nutritional science program, provides an option for students to select specialized courses in sports nutrition and exercise science and obtain hands-on training with sports dietitians and nutrition faculty who are experts in sports nutrition, work with student athletes and conduct research in the ASU Sun Devil Athletics program. Students in this track complete the same core nutrition graduate courses but take track courses and electives that focus on sports nutrition, hydration, exercise physiology, etc. They also complete their required thesis research under the guidance of sports nutrition research professors in the College of Health Solutions.
At a Glance

- **College/School:** College of Health Solutions
- **Location:** Downtown Phoenix campus

Degree Requirements

30 credit hours and a thesis, or
30 credit hours including the required Applied Project course (NTR 593)

**Required Core (3 credit hours)**
EXW 501 Research Statistics (3) or
NTR 502 Statistics in Research (3)

**Restricted Electives (9 credit hours)**
NTR 501 Research Methods in Nutrition II (3)
NTR 503 Designing Health Behavior Change Interventions (3)
NTR 524 Chronic Inflammation and Metabolic Syndrome (3)
NTR 525 Complementary Nutrition (3)
NTR 527 Policies, Environment and Obesity Prevention (3)
NTR 529 Pediatric Nutrition (3)
NTR 532 Endocrine Pathophysiology and Nutrition (3)
NTR 533 Ethics and Policy of American Diets (3)
NTR 535 Nutrigenomics (3)
NTR 537 Evidence-Based Nutrition (3)
NTR 551 Geriatric Nutrition (3)
NTR 553 Nutrition and Cardiovascular Disease (3)
NTR 555 Nutrition and the Athlete (3)
NTR 557 Nutritional Epidemiology (3)
NTR 598 Special Topics (3)

**Open Electives (9 credit hours)**

**Research (3 credit hours)**
NTR 500 Research Methods (3)
Culminating Experience (6 credit hours)
NTR 593 Applied Project (6) or
NTR 599 Thesis (6)

Additional Curriculum Information
Students choose three courses from the restricted electives list above for a total of nine credit hours. Other courses may be used with approval of the academic unit.

One research methods course is required. NTR 500 may be substituted with approval from the academic unit.

Students in the sports nutrition track complete six credit hours for the track as part of electives.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the College of Health Solutions.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree (nutrition or science is recommended) from a regionally accredited institution. Students who are pursuing the Master of Science in nutritional science will need to complete the following prerequisites: anatomy and physiology, biochemistry, general chemistry with lab, general nutrition for majors, microbiology, organic chemistry with lab, and statistics.

These courses are part of the ASU didactic program in dietetics required for ASU’s BS degree in dietetics and to be eligible to apply for admission into an accredited dietetic internship to become a registered dietitian. If an applicant has completed a didactic program in dietetics from another university, these prerequisites will be considered complete. Prerequisite courses can be in progress when the student submits the application; however, if the student is accepted into the Master of Science degree program, all prerequisites must be completed before the program begins in the fall semester.

Applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in the last 60 hours of their first bachelor's degree program, or applicants must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 (scale is 4.00 = "A") in an applicable master's degree program.

All applicants must submit:

1. graduate admission application and application fee
2. official transcripts
3. GRE scores
4. resume
5. personal statement
6. three letters of recommendation
7. proof of English proficiency

**Additional Application Information**
An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of current residency.

A resume that summarizes the academic, volunteer and employment experiences of the applicant needs to be submitted with the graduate admission application.

A personal statement that includes the following must be submitted with the graduate admission application:

1. a description of the applicant's significant professional responsibilities
2. the applicant's professional goals and the reasons for the desire to enroll in ASU's program
3. the applicant's strengths that will allow the applicant success in the program and in reaching professional goals
4. the applicant's personal research interests, described as specifically as possible and including any previous research experience, along with indication of any interest in being considered for the optional track in sports nutrition

Three letters of recommendation are required, including at least one from an instructor at the applicant's undergraduate school. Letters of recommendation can be submitted with the graduate admission online application.

A foreign language examination is not required for this program.

No interview is required.

**Application Deadlines**

**Fall**

**Contact Information**

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