



Behavioral Health and Nutrition

M.S. in Human Nutrition Science (MSHN)

The Master of Science in Human Nutrition (MSHN) program at University of Delaware focuses on nutritional science, and the application of biochemistry, physiology, and biology principles to human nutrition in health and disease. Areas of emphasis include research and projects related to prevention or treatment of disease; nutrition in infancy, childhood, and aging; community nutrition; cardiovascular physiology; and identifying and clarifying relationships between diet and health. The MSHN program prepares students for advanced practice, research, and leadership roles.

The program enables students to pursue their degree through either a thesis or non-thesis option. Both options include a core of required credits in nutrition and research methods and a customized elective program that fulfills the remainder of the program credits.

Requirements

Applicants must submit all materials directly to the University of Delaware Office of Graduate and Professional Education using the online admission process before admission can be considered. Admission applications are available at: <http://grad.udel.edu/apply/>.

Admissions decisions are made by the Nutrition Graduate Programs Committee. Students are admitted based on enrollment availability, the availability of faculty mentorship, and their ability to meet the following minimum entrance requirements:

- Minimum undergraduate GPA of > 2.75, and > 3.00 in major field;
- A combined GRE score (Quantitative + Verbal) of >297.
- 3 letters of reference;
- TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) score of at least 550 (paper based) or a TOEFL IBT of >79.

Prerequisite course requirements for admission to the MSHN include:

- Physiology (one course)
- Inorganic chemistry (two courses, Chem 1 and Chem 2),
- Organic chemistry (one course)
- Biochemistry (one course)
- Nutrition course at a level requiring a biochemistry prerequisite

Students seeking to enter the Master of Science in Human Nutrition program from undergraduate majors other than nutrition should expect to take prerequisite courses in sciences and nutrition prior to admission on regular status.

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Program Applications

- Applications for Fall admission to the Masters of Science in Human Nutrition are reviewed on a rolling basis between January 15 and March 15
- Materials required for application include:
 - Application form
 - Official undergraduate and graduate transcripts (if applicable)
 - Official GRE scores
 - A minimum of three letters of recommendation (it is recommended that at least two be from academic references)
 - Curriculum vitae or resume
 - Graduate application essay

Graduate Assistantships

The Department of Behavioral Health and Nutrition has several full (full tuition and stipend) graduate assistantships that may be offered to competitive full-time students on a year-to-year basis. Students on full graduate assistantships are provided with experiences that can only be gained by performing teaching assignments or research activities with a faculty mentor; these activities are compensated based on the University's guidelines of 20 hours per week. The primary assignment of the assistantship, over the course of the academic year, will consist of supporting an assigned faculty member with their grant/research and/or teaching.

Program of Study

The Master of Science in Human Nutrition (MSHN) is a 31-credit program designed to be completed in two years, and includes a thesis or non-thesis option.

Thesis Option

- 25 credits of course work
 - 6 credits core nutrition courses
 - 6 credits nutrition elective course • 3 credits elective coursework
 - 3 credits biochemistry
 - 3 credits statistics
 - 3 credits research design
 - 1 credit nutrition seminar
- 6 credits thesis research
- Thesis proposal defense
- Thesis defense

Non-Thesis Option

- 28 credits of course work
 - 6 credits core nutrition courses
 - 6 or 9 credits nutrition elective courses • 6 or 9 credits electives
 - 3 credits statistics
 - 3 credits research design
 - 1 credit nutrition seminar
- 3 credits non-thesis (scholarly project) research
- Comprehensive Examination

For more information, please contact **Alisha Rovner**, PhD (arovner@udel.edu),
Director, Master of Science in Human Nutrition (MSHN) program.