

Online MS in Nutrition Degree

Frequently Asked Questions

Is your program accredited?

The Online MS in Nutrition is licensed and accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Decatur Ln; Decatur, GA 30033-4097; 404-679-4500; www.sacscoc.org/).

What are the career opportunities for someone with an MS in Nutrition degree?

Examples of Career Opportunities include:

- ✓ Academic (Advance to Other Degree Programs)
- ✓ Instructors (High School, Community College, University)
- ✓ Marketing (Nutrition Companies, Pharmaceutical Sales Representatives)
- ✓ Nutritional Consultants (Community Health Centers, Private and Group Practice)
- ✓ Complementary (Medical Centers, Health Clubs/Gyms, Sports Teams/Training)
- ✓ Professional Degree Recipients - DC/MS, MD/MS, RN/MS (Practice Expansion)
- ✓ Seminar Leader (Academic, Corporate, Lay Public/Community)
- ✓ Writer/Publisher (Books, Magazines, Newsletters, Newspapers)

Who should be enrolled in this program?

- ✓ Registered Dietitians wishing to obtain an MS in Nutrition
- ✓ Individuals with full-time job and wishing to obtain an MS in Nutrition
- ✓ Healthcare providers interested in expanding nutrition knowledge or earning an MS degree

What are the requirements for admission?

For unconditional admission, applicants must present:

1. A college degree.
2. Official transcripts that show evidence of prerequisite courses and at least a 3.25 GPA on a 4.0 scale for the last 60 undergraduate hours.
3. Evidence of completing the Graduate Record Examination with a preferred minimum score of 350 on the verbal portion and 450 on the quantitative portion.
4. A 1-2 page résumé providing evidence of work and volunteer experience related to intended field of study.

Applicants who meet the above criteria with exception of GPA may qualify for provisional admission if they have at least a 3.0 GPA (4.0 scale) on the last 60 undergraduate hours.

Applicants who meet all other requirements, but lack up to 6 credit hours of prerequisite undergraduate courses may be admitted provisionally to the online MS in Nutrition program. Students may take these missing prerequisite undergraduate courses at any institution after receiving written approval of the Chair, Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences.

In addition to these general requirements, the Department of Nutrition and Food Sciences requires the following minimum undergraduate prerequisites for online MS in Nutrition:

	<u>Credit Hours</u>
Chemistry (including Organic and Biochemistry)	9-12
Human Anatomy and Physiology	3-4
Introduction to Nutrition	3
Upper Level Nutrition (Nutrition Through Life Cycle and Advanced Nutrition).....	6

Students are accepted into the MS in Nutrition program after individual transcript evaluation (Nutrition, Dietetics, or related fields are preferred). Applicants should have a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university. TOEFL may be required of students whose native language is not English. GRE must be taken prior to the application process.

What is your application process and deadline?

To apply for admission, please go to ApplyTexas (www.applytexas.org/). Applications are accepted throughout the year. There is no application deadline; however, it is beneficial for prospective students to apply early.

I have not completed all undergraduate pre-requisite courses for admission to the program. Do you have any recommendations for completing pre-requisite courses?

- ✓ General Chemistry (3-4 Hrs) – Can be taken at a community college or university
- ✓ Organic Chemistry (3-4 Hrs) – Can be taken at a community college or university
- ✓ Biochemistry (3-4 Hrs) – Can be taken at a university or online from one of the following sources:

University	Course Code	Description (hyperlink)	Instructor/Contact
University of New England	DPPP-368	Online Distance Medical Biochemistry	Dr Yonuschot gyonuschot@une.edu
University of Wisconsin	CHE 203	Survey of Biochemistry	Gail Vojta academicadvisor@uw.edu
UC Berkeley	X105	Introductory Biochemistry	Dr John M Forger III UC Berkeley admissions

- ✓ Human Anatomy and Physiology (3-6 Hrs) – Can be taken at a community college or university
- ✓ Introduction to Nutrition – Can be taken from TWU as an online class (NFS 2323-50/51/52) offered each semester
- ✓ Nutrition Through Life Cycle – Can be taken from TWU as an online class (NFS 3033-50/51/52) offered each summer
- ✓ Advanced Nutrition (3-4 Hrs) – Can be taken at a university or online from one of the following sources:

University	Course Code	Description (hyperlink)	Instructor/Contact
Kansas State University	HN 400	Human Nutrition	Dr Brian Lindshield 785-532-7848 blindsh@ksu.edu
University of North Colorado	FND 451	Advanced Nutrition	Dr Alena M Clark, MPH, RD 970-351-2879 alena.clark@unco.edu

Students will be permitted to take these pre-requisite classes elsewhere subject to course evaluation and written prior approval from the department. It is student's responsibility to enroll in these classes and meet their pre-requisites. TWU has no formal arrangement with any of the above institutions.

How can I meet the Statistics requirement for the Online MS in Nutrition program?

You can meet graduate statistics requirement for the degree by taking one of the following statistics courses from TWU. Since all courses are not offered every semester, please call the offering department for rotation information.

Department	Course	Title	Registration Information
Health Studies	HS 5703	Applied Health Statistics	940-898-2860
Kinesiology	KINS 5033	Applied Statistics	940-898-2575
Family Sciences	FS 5193	Statistics	940-898-2685

I have taken Master's level courses at another institution. How many of these hours can be transferred to the Online MS in Nutrition program?

There is no automatic transfer of graduate credit. However, a student's advisor or committee may recommend, and the Dean of the Graduate School may approve, specific courses for transfer credit as a part of the student's master's degree plan. The maximum possible credits that may be transferred to Online MS in Nutrition program is up to 9 semester hours. Only graduate courses in which the grade of "B" or better has been earned from an accredited school may be considered for transfer credit. Transferred work is not accepted until the student has demonstrated ability to do satisfactory work at the Texas Woman's University. No credit toward a graduate degree may be obtained by correspondence, nor may credit toward a graduate degree be obtained by extension work from another institution. All transfer credits must have been earned in residence at a university of recognized excellence and approved at TWU by the appropriate dean or chair and by the Dean of the Graduate School. The rule governing the time limit for master's degree credit applies to transfer credit.

I have already completed a Master's degree from TWU and want to pursue the Online MS in Nutrition program. How many credit hours from my previous MS degree can be transferred to the Online MS in Nutrition program?

There is no automatic transfer of graduate credit from a previous master's degree earned at Texas Woman's University to a new master's degree in progress at TWU. The completion of a number of hours is not in itself sufficient; the nature and quality of work are the major considerations. The graduate student's Advisory Committee for the new degree has the prerogative, with approval of the department, to recommend to the Dean of the Graduate School the acceptance of any transferable credits from a previous master's degree. Any hours selected for transfer are still governed by the time limit for master's work; that is, at the time when the new master's degree is completed, the transferred credits must not be more than six years old. The maximum possible credits that may be transferred to Online MS in Nutrition program is up to 12 semester hours. Only graduate courses in which the grade of "B" or better has been earned may be considered for such transfer credit.

How much does it cost to attend TWU?

You can learn about current tuition and fees by visiting TWU Bursar site at <http://www.twu.edu/bursar/>.

What are the typical courses that are offered as part of this program?

List of courses: Online MS in Nutrition

This is only a suggested list. All courses are not offered every semester.

Group I – Required Core Courses (10 Credits):

- NFS 5314 Human Nutrition & Metabolism (4 cr)
Students must earn a "B" or better in this core course
- NFS 5363 Human Nutr in Disease (3 cr)
- One of the following statistics courses:
- HS 5703 Applied Health Statistics (3 cr)
- KINS 5033 Applied Statistics (3 cr)
- FS 5193 Statistics (3 cr)

Group II – NFS Electives: Nutritional Sciences (24 credits):

- NFS 5033 Eating Behaviors and Eating Disorders (3cr)
- NFS 5343 Advanced Nutritional Care (3 cr)
- NFS 5423 Nutrition & Gerontology (3 cr)
- NFS 5443 Nutrition and Women's Health (3 cr)
- NFS 5623 Nutraceuticals & Dietary Suppl (3cr)
- NFS 6133 Drug and Nutrients Interactions (3 Cr)
- NFS 5063 Food Toxicology (3 cr)
- NFS 5713 Human Resource Management in Nutritional Care Systems

NFS 5773 Org and Mgt for Fdsvs Sys (3 cr)
NFS-5763 Fd Saf/fdb Illness (Tentative)

Group III – Courses from outside NFS (9 credits):

HS 5063 Aging and Health Lifestyle (3 cr)
HS 5353 Epidemiology (3 cr)
HS 5413 Current Issues in Health (3 cr)
LS 5533 Internet Research for non-majors (3 cr)
LS 5553 Elect Info Retrieval for non-majors (3 cr)

TOTAL CREDITS = 43

How long does it take to complete the Online MS in Nutrition degree?

You may complete this degree in as little as two years or may take as many as six years. Since many students in this program are working adults, they generally take somewhere between two and six years.

How do you deliver your online education?

All courses will be taught on Blackboard. Once in the course, please direct all your technical questions related to Blackboard use and problems to: helpdesk@twu.edu or 940-898-3971.

Do you provide any online training with Blackboard use?

Yes. Please visit www.twu.edu/DE and click the Getting Started Guide.

Will an Online MS in Nutrition degree qualify me to be eligible for internship application?

No. To be eligible to apply for dietetic internship, one must be verified to have completed all learning objectives set forth by Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education (CADE). Please visit the CADE website www.eatright.org/cade/ for the list of DPD directors and contact one of them for verification statement.

I have a BS degree in Nutrition, Food Sciences, or one of the related disciplines. However, I do not meet all of the requirements to be eligible to apply for Dietetic Internship. What can I do to meet the requirements to apply for Dietetic Internship?

You can do one of two things. First, contact a DPD director to audit your credentials to determine levels of deficiencies. If you are short by only few courses, take these at an institution of your choice and get your verification certificate. Alternatively, you may come to TWU for a second degree in BS in Nutrition: Emphasis in Dietetics that can be completed in two to four semesters and will meet all verification requirements.

What is exit examination? When and where should I take the exit examination?

A written exit examination based on NFS 5314 and NFS 5363 is required and can be taken after satisfactory completion of the required core courses. Students must satisfactorily pass the written examination with a score of 70% or better, and it can be taken more than once. The examination will be offered on the first Tuesday in March, July, and October of each year. Should any of these Tuesdays fall on a holiday, the exam will be scheduled on the next Tuesday, the second Tuesday of that month.

Students residing within a 100 mile radius of Houston or Denton will appear for the examination at the TWU campus. Others should contact the NFS Department Chair for exit examination arrangements. All students wishing to take the written exit examination should submit the Exit Exam Approval Form found on the NFS website to the NFS office at least one week before the examination date.