NUTRITIONAL SCIENCES

Graduate Program Head: Catharine Ross
Program Code: NUTR
Campus(es): University Park (Ph.D., M.S.)
World Campus (M.P.S.)

Degrees Conferred
- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)
- Master of Science (M.S.)
- Master of Professional Studies (M.P.S.)
- Dual-Title Ph.D. in Nutritional Sciences and Clinical and Translational Science

The Graduate Faculty
View (https://secure.gradsch.psu.edu/gpms/?searchType=fac&prog=NUTR)

Ph.D., M.S., Dual-title Ph.D. (Nutritional Sciences and Clinical and Translational Sciences)
Graduates of the M.S. and Ph.D. programs are prepared for careers in basic and applied research in nutrition and in college teaching. The course of study is planned to meet the professional objectives of the individual student. Students may emphasize molecular and cellular nutritional sciences, nutritional biochemistry, applied human nutrition, applied animal nutrition, nutrition education, and nutrition in public health. Supporting courses are available in biochemistry, physiology, genetics, microbiology, biophysics, food science, health policy and administration, human development and family studies, anthropology, sociology, psychology, public health sciences, and statistics.

Current research emphasizes minerals, vitamin A, lipid metabolism, metabolic disorders, nutrition and behavior, nutrition education strategies, evaluation of dietary intake and nutritional status, nutrition policy and health promotion and disease prevention across the life cycle.

Facilities include well-equipped nutrition science laboratories with animal facilities supervised by a University laboratory animal resource staff. The Diet Assessment Center and the metabolic kitchens serve as laboratories for students in community nutrition, nutrition education, and metabolic nutrition.

M.P.S.
The online professional master’s degree (M.P.S.) is designed for those seeking to become registered dietitians, for those already registered and interested in enhancing their careers, and for those interested in pursuing a career with a focus in Nutritional Sciences. Graduates of the program may expect to become leaders on the health care team and other practice teams, and share their knowledge and expertise with other health care professionals and colleagues. Graduates will be positioned for career success and will be innovators in today's dynamic health and wellness sector.

The M.P.S. degree is also offered with an experiential learning track that requires additional course work. Upon completion of the experiential learning track, students will receive a Verification Statement which qualifies them to take the Registered Dietitian Nutritionist credentialing examination.

This is a supervised experiential learning track of the M.P.S. degree program. This track requires that the student complete an additional 9 credits for a total of 39 credits and includes an experiential learning component (6 credits) integrated with the coursework. Three credits course work for the Experiential Learning Track of the M.P.S. are online and 6 credits of the coursework are in residence at either the Hershey, PA or University Park, PA locations.