FACT SHEET (2025)
M.S. IN NUTRITION

The Master of Science program in Nutrition at Brooklyn College provides advanced-level study of nutritional science and clinical nutrition. This advanced degree equips you with more sophisticated understanding of nutrient metabolism and its application to both normal physiological and pathophysiological states. The M.S. degree can help you assume positions of greater responsibility in the field of nutrition. Careers in nutrition include positions as clinical nutritionists, nutrition educators, administrators of programs that provide nutrition services in commercial or institutional settings, nutritionists in community-based or private practice settings, and researchers or interpreters of research in academia, medical institutions, industry, the government or mass media.

The M.S. degree does not directly lead to the credential of Registered Dietician Nutritionist (RDN); the program provides some courses that meet DPD. (Didactic Program in Dietetics) requirements. The courses in the Brooklyn College Dietetic Internship can be used as electives toward the M.S. degree. Students who wish to become Registered Dietitian Nutritionists may apply to our Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND)-accredited Dietetic Internship (see below), which requires acceptance into our M.S. program and expected completion of 21 of its credits (see below). Application to the Dietetic Internship can be made after students have completed a set of courses (DPD) prescribed by the AND, and have received a Verification Statement. Although these courses are mainly taken at the undergraduate level before beginning the M.S. program, a number of the graduate level courses can be used to fulfill DPD requirements. Note also that all of the prerequisites for the M.S. program are also part of the DPD.

The program is housed in the Department of Health and Nutrition Sciences, which also offers an M.A. in Community Health, with possible concentrations in Food and Health Equity, or Thanatology, or Community Health Education.. Students in the M.S. in Nutrition may use some courses that are common to these programs as electives.

Admission Requirements

Applicants are expected to have an overall GPA of at least 3.0; grades in the prerequisite areas listed below are of particular importance. **The Graduate Record Examination is not required**. International students may require TOEFL (114) or IELTS (8); information may be obtained from the Office of Graduate Admissions https://www.brooklyn.edu/admissions-aid/graduate/

Most students who apply to the M.S. program have undergraduate degrees in Nutrition. However, students with baccalaureate degrees in other fields may be accepted to the program **after they complete the following undergraduate courses** (at Brooklyn College or any accredited college) with satisfactory grades. Students who have prerequisites to fulfill would first apply as undergraduate non-degree or second baccalaureate (taking at least 30 undergraduate credits in a particular field) in order to take these courses.

An application to the M.S. program should be submitted after all but 1-2 courses have been completed with grades of at least B- and the remaining prerequisite courses are in progress.
(BC courses are listed in parentheses):

- General Biology (BIOL 1001 and 1002; or BIOL 1010) **or** course in cell and molecular biology
- General Chemistry (single semester course with lab) (CHEM 1040) or General Chemistry sequence
- Organic Chemistry (single semester course with lab) (CHEM 2500) or Organic Chemistry sequence
- Human Physiology (HNSC 2300; or **both** HNSC 2002 and 2003 (Anatomy and Physiology sequence)
- Human Nutrition (HNSC 2210) or a Nutrition majors' level course in Nutrition
- Biochemistry or Nutritional Chemistry (HNSC 3210)
- Biostatistics (HNSC 3300)
- Clinical Nutrition I and II (HNSC 4240 and HNSC 4241)

Degree Requirements

- 33 total credits
- 5 required courses (15 credits):
    - Nutritional Biochemistry HNSC 7210
    - Micronutrients HNSC 7211
    - Human Pathophysiology HNSC 7213 **OR** Community Nutrition HNSC 7230
    - Nutrition and Disease HNSC 7241
    - Principles of Nutrition Research HNSC 7931
    - Students must achieve a grade of at least B in the required courses. Grades of C+ or below require re-taking the course; grades of B- require a supervised review approved by the instructor.

- 6 elective courses (18 credits) chosen from: HNSC 7120 or 7244, 7212,7213, 7221, 7230, 7231, 7232, 7233, 7234, 7240, 7243, 7244 or 7120, 7250, 7200 (DI students only), 7201 (DI students only), 7202 (DI students only), 7203 (DI students only), 7183, 7935, 7999.

- Students must receive a grade of at least B in the 5 required courses. In the case of a B-, the student must complete a formal review assignment with the course's instructor before the grade can be counted toward the degree requirements.

- During their first year in the program, students beginning in Fall should take HNSC 7213 or 7230 and 7931. Students are also accepted for entry to the program in the Spring.

Exit Requirement: **choice between a comprehensive examination or Master's thesis.**
In addition to completion of course work with a GPA of at least 3.0, students must either pass a comprehensive examination or submit an acceptable M.S. thesis.

The **comprehensive examination** is given in the late Fall and late Spring semesters. The exam consists of questions pertaining to the required courses HNSC 7210, 7211, 7241 and 7931. Students must complete all four courses with a grade of at least B in order to qualify to take the examination

Students choosing the **thesis** must first take HNSC 7931, and then HNSC 7935 in which they work with a faculty mentor to develop their thesis proposal and submit their thesis title with the mentor's approval. The student registers for HNSC 7999 for the semester in which they expect to submit the completed thesis. Once students formally select the comprehensive examination (by taking it) or thesis (by registering for HNSC 7999) they may not change to the other option, unless their petition to GSAS is approved.

Dietetic Internship:

In addition to the courses required for admission to the M.S., applicants must complete all requirements of the didactic program in dietetics (DPD, see below) and obtain a signed Verification Statement from their DPD director. Applicants must complete 21 credits in the MS, including all required courses and HNSC 7240 *before* beginning the Dietetic Internship. Twelve elective credits from the DI can be applied towards the MS degree. Students with graduate degrees from elsewhere, and a DPD Verification must be accepted in non-degree status into the MS program in Nutrition before beginning the Internship.

Applications to the DI are through DICAS (Dietetic Internship Centralized Application Services) in February of each year. Students must have completed a minimum of 21 credits in the before the start of the DI.

Prof. Roseanne Schnoll is the Director of the Dietetic Internship. For information on the DPD or DI programs please contact Susan Jakuboski, the Director of the Didactic Program in Dietetics:
sjakuboski@brooklyn.cuny.edu

Required Courses

HNSC 7210 Nutritional Biochemistry
HNSC 7211 Micronutrients
HNSC 7230 Community Nutrition OR HNSC 7213 Human Pathophysiology *
HNSC 7241 Nutritional Aspects of Disease
HNSC 7931 Principles of Nutrition Research

Elective Courses

HNSC 7200 Seminar in Nutrition Practice (Dietetic Interns)
HNSC 7201 Seminar in Clinical Applications of Nutrition Research (Dietetic Interns)
HNSC 7202 Internship in Nutrition (Dietetic Interns)
HNSC 7203 Internship in Nutrition (Dietetic Interns)
HNSC 7212 Evaluating Nutritional Research
HNSC 7213 Human Pathophysiology OR HNSC 7230 Community Nutrition *
HNSC 7220 Nutrition and World Food Problems
HNSC 7221 Cultural Aspects of Food
HNSC 7222 Advanced Experimental Foods
HNSC 7223 Recent Developments in Foods
HNSC 7224 Organizational Management of Food
HNSC 7231 Pediatric Nutrition
HNSC 7232 Geriatric Nutrition
HNSC 7233 Nutrition and Behavior
HNSC 7234 Nutrition and Exercise
HNSC 7240 Assessment Techniques and Nutritional Care
HNSC 7243 Food Policy
HNSC 7244 Nutritional Epidemiology
HNSC 7250 Integrative and Functional Nutrition