MASTER OF SCIENCE IN (MS) NUTRITION
APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The MS in Nutrition is designed to prepare students for careers in the field of Nutrition and Dietetics, including opportunities in research, clinical nutrition, community nutrition, and public health. Students will have the opportunity to work with a variety of faculty in the Nutrition Program, Exercise Science Program, Health Education Program, Public Health as well as health care professionals at UNM, the Prevention Research Center and other UNM Health Sciences sites. Course work includes gaining a deeper understanding of a variety of different areas including medical nutrition therapy, research methods, longevity, maternal and child nutrition, eating disorders, complementary and alternative therapies, and weight management.

Note that completing a MS in Nutrition at UNM will **NOT** allow you to be eligible to qualify you to take the registered dietitian nutritionist (RDN) exam.

**Admissions Requirements:**

Admission to the MS in Nutrition Program is competitive. We consider a variety of criteria in making admissions decisions, including your academic record, GRE test scores, recommendation letters, dedication to the pursuit of additional training and skills in nutrition and potential for productive graduate study and research. Contact the Nutrition Program Graduate Program Coordinator with any questions.

You must have, at minimum:

- A bachelor’s degree (BA, BS) from an accredited college or university in the United States or its equivalent in another country. As stated above, an undergraduate major in nutrition/dietetics or a closely related field is strongly recommended.

- A cumulative grade point average of at least **3.2** (B) or its equivalent. A GPA of 3.2 from your last two undergraduate years (upper division courses) and in your major field is also required.

- If you do not have an undergraduate degree in nutrition/dietetics, you must demonstrate that you have taken all of the following undergraduate courses (46 credits) to be considered for admission:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE NUMBER</th>
<th>COURSE TITLE</th>
<th>CREDITS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 121L</td>
<td>General Chemistry I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 212</td>
<td>Integrated Organic &amp; Biochemistry</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 121L (or BIOL 123L)</td>
<td>General Biology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 237</td>
<td>Human Anatomy/Physiology I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 247L</td>
<td>Human Anatomy/Physiology Lab</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 238</td>
<td>Human Anatomy/Physiology II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 249L</td>
<td>Human Anatomy Lab</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 239L</td>
<td>Microbiology for Health Sciences</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUTR 244</td>
<td>Human Nutrition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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NUTR 344 | Energy Nutrients in Human Nutrition | 3  
NUTR 345 | Vitamins and Minerals in Human Nutrition | 3  
NUTR 424 | Nutrition in the Lifecycle | 3  
NUTR 427 | Medical Nutrition Therapy I | 3  
NUTR 428 | Medical Nutrition Therapy II | 3  
NUTR 330L* | Principles of Food Science | 4  

**Total credits** | **46**

- *Principles of Food Science (NUTR 330L) may be taken after admission to the program. Equivalent courses from another institution may be substituted as approved by Nutrition faculty. It is expected that at least a B (3.0) will be earned in each prerequisite course.

- **Note:** If the bachelor’s degree in nutrition or the prerequisites were completed more than 5 years before admission, the faculty will review the prerequisites. The student may be required to complete one or several prerequisites as updates/refreshers.

**Application Process:**
You must apply online through the University of New Mexico’s Office of Admissions:  
http://www.unm.edu/apply/

**Deadlines for Application:**
Fall Semester: April 15  
Spring Semester: September 15
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Specific instructions</th>
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| Program of Interest | Select: College of Education > Individual, Family, and Community Education > Nutrition > MS Nutrition Choose up to 2 areas of interest. |

| GRE Scores | The General GRE is required and must be less than 10 years old. We recommend that you meet the following minimum GRE score criteria in preparation for graduate study: 
New scoring system (tests taken on or after August 1, 2011) 
Verbal Reasoning: 145 (~25th percentile) 
Quantitative Reasoning: 145 (~25th percentile) 
Analytical Writing: 3.5 (~30th percentile) 
Old scoring system (tests taken before August 1, 2011) 
Verbal Reasoning: 380 (~25th percentile) 
Quantitative Reasoning: 530 (~25th percentile) 
Analytical Writing: 3.5 (~30th percentile) |

| Letter of Intent | Your letter of intent MUST include a description all of the following: 
- Your specific qualifications for graduate study, including academic accomplishments and specific volunteer, academic and/or work experiences that demonstrate your potential to successfully complete a graduate degree in nutrition. 
- Your specific interests: clinical nutrition, community/public health nutrition, management, health education, research 
- Your specific motivations and objectives for pursuing graduate study in nutrition 
- A brief description of your short term & long term academic and career goals. |

| Resume | A current resume must be included—include dates (months and years, specific job titles). |

| GA/ TA Assistantship Interest | Please state if you would be interested in a teaching and/or graduate assistantship. |

| Recommendation letters | Three (3) letters of recommendation are required, at least two of which should be from course instructors/professors. Letters of recommendation are submitted online through the application process. |
Tips

• If you are revising a letter of intent/personal statement you wrote and submitted for application to another graduate program or dietetic internship, be sure and make adjustments that are specific to the UNM MS in Nutrition Program. The goals and expectations of the MS in Nutrition and the Dietetic Internship are different.

• Check and then double check your letter of intent for spelling and grammar.

• Be sure the information included on your resume, transcripts and letter is consistent

• Letters of recommendation need to be specific for the MS in Nutrition Program; please advise individuals to make the necessary adjustments

• Start working on your application well in advance of the deadline dates.