

**DUAL-DEGREE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NUTRITION SCIENCE – DOCTOR OF MEDICINE**

Through an interdisciplinary approach, the dual-degree between the Doctor of Medicine (MD) and the Master of Science in Nutrition Science (MSNS) will increase the students' knowledge in nutrition science to inform evidence-based strategies to promote health and treat nutrition-associated conditions. Graduates with the combined MD/MSNS training will be well-positioned for the care of patients with complex nutritional problems, for design of nutritional approaches to prevent cardiometabolic disease and for leadership of clinical research and medical programs with significant nutrition content. This advanced degree will position students competitively for research and practice in their medical field that has nutritional underpinnings. In addition, graduates will demonstrate competencies in reading and synthesizing the published nutrition science literature, nutrition counseling, cultural competency, scholarly presentations, cultural competency, data analysis, and professional publications.

**Target Audience:**

- PSOM Doctor of Medicine (MD) Students

**Format:**

- 10 asynchronous online courses
- Two** of these courses from the MD program can count towards one required and one elective course for the MSNS: **Core 1 Biochemistry (required)** or **Community Nutrition and Culinary Medicine (elective)**
- Synchronous office hours will be offered for mentoring and faculty-student engagement
- Each student will be assigned a faculty mentor
- The program will culminate with a faculty-mentored capstone project with a topic that will tailored to students' interests

The course requirements can be found in the following page. For further information please go to our program website (<https://www.nursing.upenn.edu/nutrition/ms-in-nutrition-science/>) or contact the Program Directors:

**Charlene Compher, PhD, RD, LDN, FASPEN**

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**Tanja Kral, PhD**

Professor of Nutrition Science  
Associate Director, Graduate Nutrition Programs

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**Course Requirements:**

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**Required Courses (8 courses)**

NUTR 6010 Nutritional Epidemiology

NUTR 6020 Advanced Micronutrient Metabolism

NUTR 6040 Advanced Macronutrient Metabolism (replaced by Core 1 Biochemistry course)

NUTR 6030 Medical Nutrition Therapy I

NUTR 6050 Medical Nutrition Therapy II

NURS 6230 / NUTR 6060 Effective Nutrition Counseling and Health Education Skills

NUTR 6070 Capstone Planning

NUTR 6080 Capstone Completion

**Elective Courses (choose 1 course if 'Community Nutrition and Culinary Medicine' course taken, or take 2 courses)**

NUTR 6760 Obesity and Health

NUTR 6090 Nutrition Equity

NUTR 6100 Omics in Nutrition Science

NUTR 6130 Data Science / Precision Nutrition

NUTR 6110 Exercise Physiology / Nutrition

NUTR 6120 Culinary Nutrition

**Prerequisites and Application Process:**

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- Prerequisites for admission to the program include completion of:
  - Introductory nutrition course
  - Undergraduate-level biology and/or chemistry course
- Application materials:
  - Completed online application (including \$50 non-refundable application fee)
  - All transcripts from accredited bachelor's and graduate degrees required
  - Essay, two letters of recommendation, resume
- Applicants may be invited for virtual interview
- Application Deadlines:
  - October 15, 2024 (part-time students only) for Spring 2025 start date
  - Priority: November 4, 2024 (part-time & full-time students) for Summer or Fall 2025 start date
  - March 15, 2025 (part-time & full-time students) for Summer 2025 start date
  - April 1, 2025 (part-time & full-time students) for Fall 2025 start date
- To apply, visit <https://apply.nursing.upenn.edu/apply/>