

School of Health Sciences

Graduate Pathway Plan

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CLINICAL NUTRITION (MSCN)

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The program will prepare students with or without academic and career experience in nutrition to work in the expanding scope of dietetics/nutrition practice in a variety of health care settings. Students will participate in interprofessional practice through an evidence-based approach. Graduates will become nutritionists who are prepared to take the Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) examination with an appreciation for the biopsychosocial factors that contribute to the health and wellness of clients and communities.

STARTING TERM:

FALL

APPLICATION DEADLINES:

JANUARY 15 (PRIORITY DEADLINE); JUNE 15 (FINAL DEADLINE)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Completed program application with all required supporting documents by the published application deadline
2. Satisfactory completion of all prerequisite courses with minimum grades of "C"
3. Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 for all prerequisite courses

= GUARANTEED ADMISSION INTERVIEW

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PREREQUISITE COURSES:

UOP COURSE ID:	SUBJECT AREAS
BIO 170 (4 UNITS)	ANATOMY
BIO 180 (4 UNITS)	PHYSIOLOGY
ANY 3.0-UNIT CHEMISTRY COURSE	GENERAL CHEMISTRY
CHEM 121 (5 UNITS)	ORGANIC CHEMISTRY
CHEM 151 (4 UNITS)	BIOCHEMISTRY
BIO 145 (4 UNITS)	MICROBIOLOGY
HLTH 045 (4 UNITS)	NUTRITION
HLTH 135 (4 UNITS)	MICRO- AND MACRO-NUTRIENT METABOLISM

(The following additional prerequisite course is not offered by UOP. May be taken in-person or online at any regionally-accredited institution):

Experimental Foods/ Food Science (available at many community colleges with Hospitality programs)

GRADUATE PREPARATION PLAN:

By following this graduate preparation plan, you will strengthen your preparation and chances for success in graduate study as well as enhance the depth and quality of your undergraduate learning experience.

	Academic Program Planning	Make Community Connections	Build Cultural Competence	Gain Career Experience	Post-Graduation Prep
Year 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Establish a preliminary course plan with your academic advisor. - Learn about Pathway Program support services. - Start building faculty relationships in your department. - Join at least one high-impact practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Join a health-related student club/ organization. -Visit Pacific Volunteer Center to find volunteer opportunities. - Arrange an informal interview with a health professional in the field of your interest. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Join a culturally-engaging campus or community group. -Attend a study abroad info session to learn about opportunities. - Participate in events sponsored by the Office of DEI. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Meet your Career Services Pre-Health advisor. - Take a career assessment test. - Develop your professional resume. -Set up a Handshake account. - Shadow 1-2 health professionals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Learn about graduate program admission requirements. - Attend a graduate program information session and grad fair to get initial contact with program. -Explore career options for your major. -Set up a LinkedIn account.
Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Academic plan check-in with your academic advisor. -Discuss research interests and opportunities with your academic advisor. - Join at least one high-impact practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Look for a service-learning course or continue volunteering at a local non-profit organization. -Seek a leadership role in a student club/ organization. - Join an academic or social fraternity/sorority. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Participate in cross-cultural development experiences on campus and/ or in the local community (cultural holiday observances/festivals, campus affinity group workshops, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meet with your Career Services Pre-Health Advisor. -Begin job shadowing/ observation hours. - Get a summer internship or job in the health care field. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attend a graduate school fair at Pacific. - Research graduate school application requirements and processes. -Visit targeted grad school program(s) and talk with faculty and grad admission staff.
Year 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Academic plan check-in with academic advisor. -Join an undergraduate research project. - Join at least one high-impact practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Seek a president/vice-president-level leadership role in a student club. - Plan club/ community events that align with your personal goals. - Become involved in mentoring in your student club or volunteer organizations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Participate in additional cross-cultural development experiences on campus and/ or in the local community (cultural holiday observances/festivals, campus affinity group workshops, etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meet with your Career Services Pre-Health Advisor. -Continue job shadowing/ observation hours. -Attend a health conference or networking event. -Continue gaining work experience in the health field. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Network with current graduate students in health profession schools/programs. - Pre-select faculty and employer recommenders for your graduate application.
Year 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Graduation check with academic advisor. -Continue involvement in at least one high-impact practice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Connect with a graduate admission counselor for the program you're applying for. -Continue leadership role in your student club/ organization. -Continue mentoring and develop future leaders. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participate in a cultural competency, anti-racism, or DEI training/course. - Participate in events sponsored by the Office of DEI. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Update your resume and participate in Career Center workshops (mock interviews, cover letter writing, etc.) - Continue gaining health care observation hours and work experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete your graduate school application. - Attend 2-3 virtual/ in-person events offered by your graduate program. - Connect with a graduate faculty member and current program student for a Q&A about the program. - Complete an updated FAFSA form.

