



جامعة قطر
QATAR UNIVERSITY

Human Nutrition Department
College of Health Sciences, QU Health, Qatar
University

**MSc in Human Nutrition
Graduate Student Handbook**

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HUMAN NUTRITION

Program Description

The Human Nutrition Department, College of Health Sciences at Qatar University offers a Master of Science (MSc) degree in Human Nutrition. Students enrolled in this program will undertake advanced course work in the biochemical, clinical, community, and behavioral aspects of nutrition. This program will also offer opportunities for currently employed dietitians and nutritionists to obtain a graduate degree in Nutritional Sciences. The MSc in Human Nutrition in Qatar University will be a two-year (4 semesters), 36-credit hour program divided into 18 credit hours for each year. Students will complete 24 credit hours of core courses, 6 credit hours of electives, and 6 credit hours of thesis. The core course work in the MSc will be in the areas of advanced biochemical nutrition of macronutrients and micronutrients, statistical and research methods in nutrition, nutrition care management, cardio-metabolic diseases, nutritional epidemiology, and nutrigenomics.

Mission Statement

The mission of the MSc degree in Human Nutrition is to maintain a progressive and effective academic program that integrates graduate education, professional experience, research, and public service to develop competent graduates with the knowledge and skills necessary to satisfy and improve the diet, health, and nutritional needs of the Qatari community and communities of the Gulf region.

Program Objectives

The principle operational objective of the Masters in Human Nutrition is to address the country's need for nutritional and dietetic professionals to provide excellent nutrition services and preventive programs according to world-class standards.

The operational objectives of the Human Nutrition program are to:

- 1) meet the requirement of the health institutions in Qatar for Nutritionists and Dietitians with advanced qualifications
- 2) prepare competent individuals with higher qualifications in nutrition and dietetics who are able to manage nutrition and dietetic services and specialized clinical services
- 3) provide qualified staff to meet the country needs for compiling data on the nutrition status of the country and implement effective prevention programs targeting the emerging nutrition-related chronic diseases

Graduates of this M.Sc. program will:

Graduates of the MSc program in Human Nutrition will

- 1) Apply their advanced knowledge of the metabolic processes related to nutrition in their human and public health practices
- 2) Advance competencies and skills to develop dietetic practice in health settings to meet global standards
- 3) Gain high professional and communication skills to provide professional nutrition counseling and nutrition care to various population groups and individuals at nutrition risks.
- 4) Contribute to nutrition and dietetic research, surveys, and surveillance programs.

Admission Requirements

All applicants to the Master of Science in Human Nutrition program who meet the following minimum criteria will be considered for admission to Qatar University:

- Applicants must have earned a baccalaureate degree from a University or College accredited by an International Accrediting Association or by the Ministry of Higher Education or comparable in that country. An official transcript from each college or university attended as an undergraduate or graduate student must also be submitted. Individuals possessing a baccalaureate degree in nutrition, dietetics or related health fields are eligible to apply.
- Applicants must have an overall undergraduate grade point average (GPA) of 2.8 or more on a 4.0 scale.
- TOEFL (C-based exam) minimum score of 520 or IELTS minimum score of 6 are required of applicants seeking admission taken within 2 years of the start of the intended semester of admission.
- Successful performance in the personal interview with the Admissions committee
- Applicants must provide two letters of recommendation from professors and/or supervisors, submitted to the Head of the Department of Human Nutrition, College of Health Sciences, Qatar University, and sent directly to the department by the recommender.
- Applicants must submit a typed, 300-word personal statement discussing their motivation for seeking a master's degree in view of prior formal education, current job responsibilities, and career plans.
- The application process is coordinated by University admissions and is made on an annual basis. The admission process is competitive and the number of available seats is limited.

Application Procedure:

All applicants to the Master of Science in Human Nutrition program are required to submit the following documents to the Admissions Department:

- Complete Online Admissions Application
- Final, official, and certified university transcripts
- Official TOEFL score report or equivalent score report or other evidence of English proficiency in accordance with QU Policy.
- Two confidential recommendation letters from undergraduate professors or employers
- Curriculum Vitae (C.V.)
- A typed, 300-word personal statement
- Health Certificate
- Photocopy of the applicant's Qatar ID card, if available (Non-Qatari applicants must provide a copy of their passport)
- Two recent passport-sized photograph
- Application Fees

Admission to the Master of Science in Human Nutrition program takes place in the fall semester only. For additional information on the program, please see our website at <http://www.qu.edu.qa/students/admission/graduate>

Learning Outcomes

Graduates of the Master of Science in Human Nutrition will be able to:

Students shall be able to:

- 1) Apply the knowledge of biochemistry, physiology, and genetics to understand the use of nutrients by the human body and in the development of nutrition recommendations for health promotion and disease prevention.
- 2) Evaluate nutritional status using appropriate and advanced clinical assessment strategies and Plan and implement individualized, appropriate medical nutrition therapy for clients.
- 3) Understand the socio-cultural, psychological, economical, and political factors influencing food choices and nutrition behaviors and Plan, implement, and evaluate nutrition education programs for specific population groups.
- 4) Evaluate the Biochemical mechanism of metabolic and cardio risk factors and implementation strategies in the management of these diseases.
- 5) Design and implement appropriate research methods and nutrition surveys to investigate nutrition problems and nutrition behaviors
- 6) Interpret and prepare professionally written reports and oral presentations of research findings appropriately

Potential Careers

It is expected that around a half or more of our students will be already employed by different health providers such as HMC, MOPH, PHCC, and others.

For the non-employed, there are many employment opportunities in the growing Qatari health sector including:

Hospitals: Hamad General Hospital, Al Khor Hospital, National Center for Cancer Care and Research, Heart Hospital, Al Wakra Hospital, Cuban Hospital, Qatar Rehabilitation Institute, Women's Wellness and Research Center, Ambulatory Care Center, Mental Health Hospital, Surgical Specialized Center, Umm Saeed Hospital, Ras Lafan Hospital, Rumailla Hospital, Enaya, Homecare Services, Qatar Military Hospital, Private hospitals and clinics, SIDRA Medicine, Ministry of Public Health, Primary Health Care Corporation (PHCC) and Primary Healthcare centers.

Schools and universities: Private and public schools, Qatar University, Qatar Foundation.

Catering companies and association: Food catering companies, Qatar Diabetes Association, Qatar Cancer Society, ASPETAR, ASPIRE, Private Health & Fitness clubs, and Diet centers.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Master of Science in Human Nutrition

A minimum of 36 credit hours are required to complete the Master of Science in Human Nutrition including the following:

- A minimum of 24 credit hours in Major Core Requirements
- A minimum of 6 credit hours of Electives (chosen with the consultation of program coordinator/thesis supervisor)
- A minimum of 6 credit hours of Thesis
- A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 upon completion of the program.
- Passing of thesis defense exam
- A maximum period of program completion of 4 years

For more details

[Qatar University Graduate Study Policy](#)

Retention Requirements

- Students will be under academic probation if their GPA falls below 3.0
- Graduate students placed under Academic probation are only allowed to register a maximum of six (6) credits hours per regular semester
- Students will be dismissed from the program if they failed to achieve a GP of 3.0 by the end of the following semester after having been placed on Academic Probation.

For more details

[Qatar University Graduate Study Policy](#)

Major Requirements (36 CH)

The following courses must be completed by all students in the Master of Science in Human Nutrition program:

Course Id.	Course Title	# Credit Hours	# Contact Hours		Prerequisites
			Theory/ Discussion	Lab.	
NUTR 620	Advanced Nutrition I	3	3	0	-
NUTR 621	Advanced Nutrition II	3	3	0	NUTR 620
NUTR 601	Advanced statistics for nutrition research	3	3	0	-
NUTR 631	Research Methods in Human Nutrition	3	3	0	NUTR 601
NUTR 640	Nutrition Care Management	3	3	0	-
NUTR 645	Nutrition Epidemiology	3	3	0	NUTR 631
NUTR 650	Cardiometabolic Diseases and Nutrition	3	3	0	NUTR 621
NUTR 681	Graduate seminar	1	1	0	NUTR 631
NUTR 682	Nutrigenomics	2	2	0	NUTR 621
NUTR 698	Master's Thesis I	3			NUTR 631
NUTR 698	Master's Thesis II	3			NUTR 698-I
	Electives	6			
	Total	36			

STUDY PLAN

Master of Science in Human Nutrition

FIRST YEAR [18 credit hours]		
Fall Semester III [9 credits]		
Course #;	Course Title	Cr Hrs
NUTR 620	Advanced Nutrition I	3
NUTR 601	Advanced Statistics for Nutrition Research	3
NUTR 640	Nutrition care management	3
Spring Semester II [9 credits]		
Course #;	Course Title	Cr Hrs
NUTR 621	Advanced Nutrition II	3
NUTR 631	Research Methods in Human Nutrition	3
	Elective	3
SECOND YEAR [18 Credit hours]		
Fall Semester III [9 credits]		
Course #;	Course Title	Cr Hrs
NUTR 645	Nutrition epidemiology	3
NUTR 650	Cardiometabolic diseases and nutrition	3
NUTR 698	Master's Thesis I	3
Spring Semester IV (9 credits)		
Course #;	Course Title	Cr Hrs
NUTR 682	Nutrigenomics	2
NUTR 681	Graduate Seminar	1
NUTR 698	Master's Thesis II	3
	Elective	3

Graduate Faculty in the Human Nutrition Department

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Additional resources

- [Graduate studies Home page](#)
- [Academic Policies](#)
- [Graduate Learning Support](#)
- [Qatar University Library](#)
- [Writing and Language Support](#)