FOOD SYSTEMS M.S.

All students must meet the Requirements for the Master’s Degree

Students in the Professional Track complete a final project in lieu of a thesis.

OVERVIEW

Food Systems M.S. graduates gain a broad and deep understanding of contemporary food systems, as well as a set of applied skills and experience – preparing them to succeed.

There are two phases to the Food Systems Graduate Program: Immersion and either Research or Application (Professional Track). All students will take the same first-year immersion program, then continue on either of two tracks:

- **Research Track** (two-year): Students design and complete a year-long project with a faculty mentor, continuing to take courses through the traditional academic year.
- **Professional Track** (accelerated): Students choose summer intensive courses and spend one semester designing and researching a final project.

For more information please visit the Food Systems Graduate Program website.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for Admission to Graduate Studies for the Degree of Master of Science

The Food Systems Graduate Program is transdisciplinary and involves an understanding of social, physical, and life science concepts related to food from production through consumption. Therefore, students from all academic backgrounds are welcome to apply. Minimum requirements include:

- GPA of 3.00 or higher
- Completion of the GRE with satisfactory results in the general (aptitude) portion. Read Graduate Admissions Tests for more information. If you have received a Master’s Degree from an accredited institution, you may request to have the GRE waived. Contact the Program Coordinator for more information.
- Completion of a college-level statistics course. If this information is not clearly listed on a college transcript, you will need to provide additional documentation as evidence that you have fulfilled this requirement.

Minimum Degree Requirements

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<th>Track</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>Required Courses</th>
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<tr>
<td>Research Track – 32 hours, including six hours of supervised thesis research</td>
<td>FS 345 Food Systems, Society &amp; Policy (fall)</td>
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<td>Professional Track – 31 hours, including a three-credit final project</td>
<td>FS 340 Food Systems, Science &amp; Policy (spring)</td>
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<td>Required Courses:</td>
<td>FS 395 Special Topics (fall)</td>
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<td>FS 350 Food Systems Immersion (spring)</td>
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<td>FS Graduate Seminar (one semester- Professional Track/two semesters- Research Track)</td>
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<td>Travel Immersion Course (summer or semester breaks)</td>
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**Comprehensive Examination**

The comprehensive examination must be taken by the end of the student’s first year spring semester. The examination will cover food systems knowledge. For Research track students the examination is structured to provide assessment in two formats: oral and written. For Professional track students, the details and format of the examination are decided upon by the Project Committee and will be discussed with the student well in advance of the exam.

**Requirements for Advancement to Candidacy for the Degree of Master of Science**

Satisfactory completion of the Comprehensive Exam.