DEPARTMENT OF NUTRITION AND FOOD SCIENCES

http://www.uvm.edu/nfs/

The mission of the Nutrition and Food Sciences department is to foster the intellectual and professional growth of our students through engaged teaching, innovative instruction, and community-based applied learning opportunities. We conduct research that contributes to the public good by advancing knowledge in weight inclusive nutrition; safe and innovative foods; food security and food agency; and sustainable food systems.

The shared requirements for the major reflect the departmental commitment to the life sciences while fostering crucial intersections with the social sciences. All students will engage in hands-on laboratory and field experiences and participate in a senior capstone course. Thus, NFS majors are able to meet the current and future needs in a number of fields and the ability to assume innovative leadership roles in society and industry.

Departmental majors may elect to meet the undergraduate requirements needed for admission to medical schools (including naturopathic, chiropractic or osteopathic) or graduate school in nutrition, dietetics, public health, food systems and food science.

Depending on current interests and future plans, majors may select 1 of 3 concentrations:

DIETETICS CONCENTRATION

Dietetics is a profession concerned with the science and art of human nutritional care, an essential component of human health science. This concentration retains the Dietetics program accreditation and provides the only pathway in Vermont for students to complete their didactic requirements to become a dietitian. This concentration prepares graduates to counsel people about the preventive and therapeutic role of nutrition in the maintenance of health and fitness.

The didactic program in Dietetics is accredited by the:

Accreditation Council for Education and Dietetics
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000
Chicago, IL 60606-6995
(312) 899-0040 ext. 5400

This program prepares students for careers as Registered Dietitians by providing the undergraduate requirements needed to apply to dietetic internships. Students graduating with this concentration could go on to become registered dietitians without taking additional undergraduate coursework.

To become a Registered Dietitian, students must complete the didactic program in Dietetics, complete an ACEND accredited supervised practice/internship program, and pass the National Registration Examination for Dietitians.

FOOD SCIENCES CONCENTRATION

The vision of the food sciences concentration is to provide graduates with a solid foundation in the field in order to be key contributors to the food and beverage industry and related fields. Graduates will obtain knowledge in nutrition, food chemistry and analysis, food microbiology and safety and food functionality. Students pursing this concentration will be provided with hands-on learning experiences in-house through a food industry practicum.

NUTRITION, SUSTAINABILITY AND SOCIETY CONCENTRATION

This concentration is designed for students who are interested in advancing health through nutrition in careers such as research, policy, or public health. Coursework and learning experiences address the ways in which food systems and nutrition are interrelated including for population and planetary health. This concentration does not prepare students to become a dietitian.

MAJORS

NUTRITION AND FOOD SCIENCES MAJORS

Nutrition and Food Sciences B.S.

MINORS

NUTRITION AND FOOD SCIENCES MINORS

Nutrition and Food Sciences
Food Systems

GRADUATE

Dietetics M.S.D.
Nutrition and Food Sciences M.S.
Nutrition and Food Sciences AMP
Food Systems M.S.
Food Systems AMP
Food Systems Ph.D.

See the online Graduate Catalogue for more information

Courses

NFS 1033. What’s Brewing in Food Science. 3 Credits.
This course will explore food science via the production of beer and other fermented beverages. Students will also identify mechanisms to modify their drinking habits.

NFS 1034. Food Safety for Food Service. 1 Credit.
This course will prepare students for the ServSafe Certification Exam. The topics include food safety and proper food handling in a restaurant setting.
NFS 1043. Fundamentals of Nutrition. 3 Credits.
The study of standard guidelines to select foods that maximize human health and the functions of the essential nutrients needed to sustain human life. Prerequisites: High school chemistry and biology. Catamount Core: N1.

NFS 1044. Survey of the Field. 1 Credit.
Nutrition and Food Sciences introduction to the professional field and career opportunities in dietetics, nutrition and food science. Required of all First-Year and transfer students. Fall. Prerequisite: Nutrition and Food Science majors and Dietetics, Nutrition and Food Science majors only, or Instructor permission.

NFS 1050. Cheese and Culture. 3 Credits.
The history of cheesemaking is used as a lens through which to view current conflicts in European and American attitudes towards foods.

NFS 1053. Basic Concepts of Foods. 0 or 3 Credits.
Introduces the basic concepts of foods central to the disciplines of nutrition, food science and food systems. Introduces these basic concepts in the same way as everyday Americans - through the process of meal preparation.

NFS 1072. Kitchen Science. 3 Credits.
Integrated lecture-lab course that explores the scientific concepts underlying why foods do what they do in the kitchen. Applications include topics such as ice cream, gluten, and molecular gastronomy. Labs and final project provide opportunities to design, conduct, and evaluate experiments investigating culinary phenomena. Catamount Core: N2.

NFS 1073. Farm to Table: Food Sys. 3 Credits.
This course provides an introduction to the contemporary food system, focusing on the interdependence of all components, from farm to table. Catamount Core: D2, S1, SU.

NFS 1990. Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
Introductory level special topics courses.

NFS 1991. Internship. 1-3 Credits.
On-site supervised work experience combined with a structured academic learning plan directed by a faculty member or a faculty-staff team in which a faculty member is the instructor of record, for which academic credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

NFS 1993. Independent Study. 1-18 Credits.
A course which is tailored to fit the interests of a specific student, which occurs outside the traditional classroom/laboratory setting under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

NFS 2113. U.S. Food Policy and Politics. 3 Credits.
Provides a systems perspective on U.S. food policies and politics across the food system. Focuses on understanding the U.S. food policy process, policymakers, stakeholders, issues, goals and feedbacks between food policy and politics. Prerequisites: NFS 1073 or CDAE 1020 or CDAE 1040. Cross-listed with: FS 2010.

NFS 2114. Human Health in the Food Syst. 3 Credits.
Explores the multifaceted and evolving intersection of food systems, dietary quality, food availability and human health outcomes. Investigates how political, economic, social and cultural drivers in the food system influence human health outcomes. Prerequisites: NFS 1043 or NFS 1073. Cross-listed with: FS 2030.

NFS 2143. Nutrition in the Life Cycle. 3 Credits.
Nutritional needs of people throughout the life cycle. Physiological and environmental factors which affect nutritional status. Designed for Nutrition majors. Prerequisite: NFS 1043.

NFS 2153. Principles of Food Technology. 3 Credits.
Food processing technologies and underlying principles of changes in microbiological quality and safety, chemical composition and nutritional value, and interaction of functional additives and ingredients. Prerequisite: CHEM 1580; organic chemistry.

NFS 2154. Principles Food Technology Lab. 1 Credit.
Experiential learning of principles of major modern food processing and preservation technologies, essential skills of food quality and safety assurance, and new product development. Pre/Co-requisite: NFS 2153.

NFS 2156. Deadly Food: Outbreak Investig. 3 Credits.
Investigates how U.S. public health officials discover, investigate, and solve foodborne outbreaks. Introduces common pathogens and foods involved in outbreaks in the U.S., the laboratory and investigative methods officials use to solve the outbreaks, and the government agencies involved. The second half of the semester will focus on case studies. Pre/Co-requisites: NFS 1053, NFS 1072, MMG 2010, ASCI 1000; or Instructor permission.

NFS 2163. Sports Nutrition. 3 Credits.
Timing and composition of meals for training and pre- and post-competition. Prerequisite: NFS 1043 or Instructor permission.

NFS 2183. Introduction to Biochemistry. 3 Credits.
Exploring biological processes at the molecular level and how they are controlled. Topics include enzymes, gene expression, and metabolism of carbohydrates and lipids. Restricted to Nutrition and Food Sciences and Dietetics, Nutrition and Food Sciences majors; others by Instructor permission. Prerequisites: CHEM 1580; or CHEM 2580 and CHEM 2585; or other acceptable coursework in organic chemistry.

NFS 2195. Foods for Planetary Health. 3 Credits.
Introduces students to the key tradeoffs inherent to developing dietary patterns that align with planetary health. Incorporates the four pillars of sustainability in an exploration of major foods, dietary patterns, and food systems. Students will learn how to evaluate sources of information and data related to sustainable dietary patterns and engage in discussions about key topics related to the growing interest in aligning human and planetary health. Prerequisite: NFS 1043. Co-requisite: NFS 2196.
NFS 2196. Planetary Health Foods Lab. 1 Credit.
Introduces students to different strategies and important concepts involved in developing a lifetime practice of sustainable cooking. Considers the 4 pillars of sustainability and the key tradeoffs involved in concert with the Foods for Planetary Health seminar course. Students are introduced to these concepts and strategies in the same way as everyday Americans - through the process of meal preparation. Co-requisite: NFS 2195.

NFS 2990. Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
Lectures, laboratories, readings, or projects relating to contemporary areas of study. Credits negotiable. Enrollment may be more than once, maximum of 12 hours in NFS 2990 and NFS 3990 combined. Prerequisite: Department permission.

NFS 2991. Internship. 1-18 Credits.
On-site supervised work experience combined with a structured academic learning plan directed by a faculty member or a faculty-staff team in which a faculty member is the instructor of record, for which academic credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion. Prerequisite: Department permission.

NFS 2993. Independent Study. 1-18 Credits.
A course which is tailored to fit the interests of a specific student, which occurs outside the traditional classroom/laboratory setting under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

NFS 2994. Teaching Assistantship. 1-3 Credits.
Undergraduate student service as a teaching assistant, usually in an introductory level course in the discipline, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

NFS 2995. Undergraduate Research. 1-18 Credits.
Undergraduate student work on individual or small team research projects under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

NFS 3203. Food Microbiology. 3 Credits.
Foodborne pathogens and spoilage microorganisms of commercial and epidemiological relevance. Conditions favorable to microbial growth, evaluation of foods for microbial content, and measures to prevent/reduce/eliminate potential microbe related food borne illness. Positive uses of microbes in the production of foods are also discussed (i.e. fermentation). Prerequisite: NFS 2153, NFS 2156 or NFS 2183.

NFS 3204. Food Microbiology Lab. 1 Credit.
Introduces microbiological techniques such as Gram Stain, Streak for Isolation, dilutions, aseptic technique as well as means of identifying the microbial content of food products. Pre/Co-requisite: NFS 3203.

NFS 3205. Functional Foods:Prncpl & Tech. 3 Credits.
Examines the constituents that make food products functional and provides laboratory techniques needed to create a functional food. Prerequisites: NFS 2153, NFS 2154, or Instructor permission.

NFS 3223. Nutrition Educ & Counseling. 3 Credits.
Use of appropriate education theory, techniques, and media in nutrition education and counseling theories and negotiation, interviewing and counseling skills in individual and group counseling. Pre/Co-requisites: NFS 2143; minimum Junior standing.

NFS 3243. Advanced Nutrition. 3 Credits.
Study of nutrients and their specific functions in metabolic process integrating cellular physiology, biochemistry, and nutrition. Prerequisites: ANPS 1190, ANPS 1200, and NFS 2183; minimum Junior standing.

NFS 3246. Weight Inclusive Nutrition. 3 Credits.
Teaches an approach to nutrition through a weight-inclusive lens. Examines how diet culture influences our view of foods, eating choices, and our bodies. Discusses the principles of Health at Every Size and Intuitive Eating. Prerequisites: NFS 1043; minimum Junior standing.

NFS 3250. Foodservice Systems. 4 Credits.
Emphasis on the foodservice system model for understanding quality control; food procurement, production, and marketing; management and evaluation of foodservice facilities, human and financial resources. Prerequisites: NFS 1043, NFS 1053, NFS 2143, minimum Junior standing.

NFS 3254. Global Food Safety. 3 Credits.
Overview of food safety issues, policies, and opportunities around the globe, with a focus on bacterial, viral, and parasite-based food safety challenges. Prerequisites: NFS 2113 or NFS 2114; NFS 2153, MMG 1020, or MMG 2010.

NFS 3261. Clinical Nutrition 2. 3 Credits.
Builds further understanding of various disease conditions and how different food patterns relate to the prevention and management of common diseases. For specific disease states students will examine how diet should be modified to prevent, treat, or manage the disease condition. Prerequisite: NFS 3260.

NFS 3262. Community Nutrition. 3 Credits.
Study of U.S. public health nutrition policies, programs and practices. Emphasis on community nutrition program planning including needs assessment, intervention development and evaluation. Prerequisite: Minimum Junior or Graduate standing.

NFS 3283. HACCP: Theory & Application. 3 Credits.
This course addresses the development of a HACCP plan. Requirements of both the USDA-FSIS and FDA are examined. A mock HACCP plan will be developed. Prerequisites: NFS 3203 and Instructor permission.

NFS 3890. Community Practicum. 1-3 Credits.
Professional field experience in a community nutrition organization. Credit negotiable but not to exceed three per semester. Enrollment may be more than once, maximum of six credits. Prerequisite: Instructor permission.
NFS 3990. Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
Lectures, laboratories, readings, or projects relating to contemporary areas of study. Credits negotiable. Enrollment may be more than once, maximum of twelve hours in NFS 2990 and NFS 3990 combined. Prerequisite: Department permission.

NFS 3991. Internship. 1-18 Credits.
On-site supervised work experience combined with a structured academic learning plan directed by a faculty member or a faculty-staff team in which a faculty member is the instructor of record, for which academic credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion. Prerequisite: Departmental permission.

NFS 3993. Independent Study. 1-18 Credits.
A course which is tailored to fit the interests of a specific student, which occurs outside the traditional classroom/laboratory setting under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

NFS 3994. Teaching Assistantship. 1-3 Credits.
Undergraduate student service as a teaching assistant, usually in an introductory level course in the discipline, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

NFS 3995. Undergraduate Research. 1-18 Credits.
Undergraduate student work on individual or small team research projects under the supervision of a faculty member, for which credit is awarded. Offered at department discretion.

NFS 4245. Nutrition for Global Health. 3 Credits.
An upper-level course designed to expose students to contemporary issues in public health nutrition in a global setting, with an emphasis on maternal and child nutrition in low and middle-income countries. The course has a particular focus on the interplay between demographic, nutritional and epidemiologic transitions. Use of case studies from different countries and world regions to explore public health nutrition issues of importance, and efforts to control and prevent hunger, malnutrition, and diet-related problems. Prerequisites: NFS 1043, NFS 2143, NFS 3243; Senior Nutrition and Food Sciences majors and minors only. Catamount Core: GC1.

NFS 4262. Community Nutrition. 3 Credits.
Students preparing for careers in nutrition and dietetics are expected to gain competency for professional practice in a wide range of disciplines and be able to effectively translate sciences including epidemiology, food, nutrition, and human behavior, in a manner that strives to improve the health, nutrition, and well-being of individuals and groups within communities. Prerequisites: NFS 2143, Nutrition and Food Science major with Dietetics or Nutrition, Sustainability and Society concentration, Senior standing.

NFS 4260. NFS Senior Seminar. 1 Credit.
Designed to help students through the process of identifying what they’d like to do with their degree after graduating from UVM, as well as prepare students to complete the required materials for future opportunities. Prerequisites: Nutrition and Food Sciences major; Senior standing.

NFS 4990. Special Topics. 1-18 Credits.
See Schedule of Courses for specific titles.