Program Description

In our five-year combined B.S. and M.S. nutrition sciences program, you’ll get the attention you deserve. We might have outsized ambitions, but our student-to-faculty ratio remains low, which means you’ll benefit from small class sizes in which instructors who know your name will provide valuable guidance to prepare you to enter this rewarding profession.

Registered dietitians already work in a wide variety of settings — clinics, hospitals, community health programs, school lunch programs, research centers, supermarket chains, industry, sports, and bariatrics — and the diversity of opportunities continues to expand. Meanwhile, the public’s interest in nutrition is higher than ever, as is recognition of the registered dietitian as the nutrition expert.

Our program, with its small classes and personal attention from experienced faculty, is well positioned to teach you about these evolving trends and innovations, including telenutrition and precision nutrition.

Why Nutrition?

Nutrition professionals have knowledge and skills that are desired by a diverse set of healthcare organizations, including hospitals, nursing facilities, and outpatient settings. When you complete this program, you will have comprehensive knowledge that prepares you for a wide range of careers. Career opportunities include:

- Clinical dietitian
- Community health professional
- Food service manager
- Sports nutritionist
- School lunch manager
- University instructor

Did you know?

**EMPLOYMENT DEMAND:**
Expected to grow by more than 13% by 2026

**EMPLOYMENT SETTINGS:**
Recreation centers, gyms, schools, corporate wellness programs

**AVERAGE SALARY:**
$59,000 per year

*According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics

The University of New Haven has been recognized as one of The 386 Best Colleges in the country by The Princeton Review.

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Curriculum

Students will take a wide range of courses to prepare for work in the healthcare industry. The School of Health Sciences core curriculum provides a broad, interdisciplinary understanding of how prevention, health policy, and person-centered care affects all health professionals.

The strengths of our nutrition and dietetics curriculum are rooted in culinary nutrition, nutrition through the life stages, medical nutrition therapy, and professional leadership. Because biochemistry is the origin for the field of nutrition, we provide basic science courses as prerequisites to many of the nutritional science courses. We will teach you all about food, its properties, and its nutritional qualities — even food you’ve never tried before. (Come with an open mind!) We take a science-based, healthcare-oriented approach to food and nutrition. Our curriculum is designed for students who believe in the important role that nutrition plays in our health and fitness and who want to turn their passion into a career in motivating others to improve their eating habits.

In the second and third years of the program, students take the prerequisites for admission to our M.S. program and our dietetic internship program.

In the fourth year, students complete master’s-level coursework in advanced scientific and clinical areas to prepare for their dietetic internship year.

In the fifth year, students complete their supervised clinical practice, where they master all competencies through approximately 1,200 hours of supervised practice. Some of the clinical sites include Yale New Haven Hospital, St. Vincent’s Hospital, West Haven Emergency Taskforce, Sodexo Food Services, Yale University, Jones Family Farms, Masonicare Health Center, and Waterbury Hospital.

FEATURED COURSES

- Community Nutrition
- Nutrition and Disease
- Nutrition Care Process
- Nutrition Counseling
- Nutrition throughout the Life Cycle
- Principles of Nutrition
- Sports Nutrition
- Food, Nutrition, and Culture
- Food Science and Preparation with Laboratory
- Healthy Food Preparation
- Institutional Food Service

Experiences and Facilities

You’ll learn research skills that will prepare you to translate nutrition research results into clear, accurate, and simple messages for your clients, patients, the public, and the media.

Our service-learning curriculum provides students with hands-on, real-world experience at health fairs, soup kitchens, and the USDA Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, among other settings. These opportunities are built into courses, offered as work or volunteer options or made available through the Nutrition and Dietetics Club.

Our on-campus greenhouse is a great opportunity for students to work and obtain hands-on learning about the importance of agriculture, sourcing of food materials, and the use of herbs in cooking.

"Because our program is located in a small, private university, I am able to closely mentor our students throughout their academic careers and as alumni. This strong alumni network provides opportunities for students to gain volunteer and work experience during college and as future nutrition professionals.”

GEORGIA CHAVENT, R.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of Nutrition Sciences
M.S. in Nutrition Education, Columbia University
B.S. in Nutrition, University of New Hampshire
Dietetic Internship, Medical College of Virginia

Nutrition Sciences at the University of New Haven

Demonstrating its leadership in education, the University of New Haven is taking a progressive approach to nutrition education by offering an accelerated 3+2 program that combines undergraduate coursework, graduate coursework, and supervised practice experience that allows students to become a registered dietitian in five years. Effective January 1, 2024, a master’s degree will be required for eligibility to take the credentialing exam to become a registered dietitian nutritionist.

Earning both a bachelor’s and a master’s degree gives students an advantage in the job market and in competing for dietetic internship matches around the country. Select students will gain direct admission to our dietetic internship program at the University of New Haven. This makes for a seamless transition from undergraduate to graduate coursework to practical training.

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAVEN SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

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UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAVEN SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES
Accreditation

Our program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). The accredited program provides verification statements to successful graduates to go on to dietetic internship programs or become registered dietetic technicians.

About Us

The University of New Haven, founded on the Yale campus in 1920, is a private, coeducational university situated on the coast of southern New England. It’s a diverse and vibrant community of more than 7,000 students with campuses across the country and around the world.

Within our colleges and schools, students immerse themselves in a transformative, career-focused education across the liberal arts and sciences, fine arts, business, healthcare and health sciences, engineering, public safety, and public service. More than 100 academic programs are offered, all grounded in a long-standing commitment to collaborative, interdisciplinary, project-based learning.