



University of Arizona – Morrison MSDI Program

MHC DI has formed a partnership with The University of Arizona (UArizona) to give interns the chance to enroll in fully online, 30-credit-hour, [Professional Science Master's in Applied Nutrition: Nutrition and Wellness \(PSMNW\)](#). The program allows students to pursue their master's degree while completing their dietetic internship. MHC DI guarantees acceptance into the internship if students have a didactic program in dietetics (DPD) verification statement, have completed the DICAS application for Fall MHC DI placement (see Application Steps below), are enrolled in the fully online PSMNW program, and have completed at least 9 units of PSMNW coursework with a minimum 3.0 GPA. Students who successfully complete the MHC DI and the PSMNW graduate program are awarded the verification statement from MHC DI and are eligible to sit for the registration examination for dietitians (RDN credential).

Admission and Application Requirements:

There are two scheduled options for students enrolled in the PSMNW-MHC DI experience. Students must complete 30 units of PSMNW coursework as listed. Refer to the [PSMNW website](#) for full application details.

The admission requirements for UArizona are as follows:

- Bachelor's degree in nutrition or similar field from an accredited institution
- Minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA
- Prerequisite coursework (typically obtained through bachelor's degree)
- Application, required documents, and application fee submitted through the [UArizona application](#) portal by/before the posted deadline (March 15 for June start, June 15 for August start, October 15 for January start)

Tentative Plan of Study:

Option 1 (15 months): Summer Start (June), PSMNW Application Deadline – March 15

Semester or Term	Summer 1 (June-August)	Fall 1 (August-December)	Spring 1 (January-May)	Summer 2 (June-August)
Units	9 units (9 of 30)	10 units (19 of 30)	6 units (25 of 30)	5 units (30 of 30)
PSMNW Courses	NSC 509** (3 units): Jun-Jul NSC 519** (3 units): Jul-Aug	NSC 535** (3 units): Aug-Dec NSC 597** (1 unit): Aug-Dec	NSC 698A** (3 units): Jan-Mar NSC 698B** (3 units): Mar-May	Electives**(5 units): Varies Graduate: August

	NSC 562** (3 units): Jun-Aug Note: These 3 courses are only offered summer session	Electives** (3-6 units): Varies Note: Students are advised to enroll in 6 elective units if their schedules permit		
MHC DI		Begin MHC DI: September	Complete MHC DI: May	Graduate PSMW: Aug Receive MHC DI verification statement

* Elective options are many and varied; most courses are 3 units, but units may range from 1 to 4. Summer may offer fewer elective options than fall and spring semesters. See next page for brief list of nutrition-related elective-course options (11 units ELECTIVES)

* Financial Aid: Students must be enrolled in at least 5 units per term/semester to qualify for federal financial aid. ** Required core and capstone courses (12 units CORE, 7 units CAPSTONE)

Option 2 (17 months): Spring Start (January), PSMNW Application Deadline – October 15

Semester or Term	Spring 1 (January-May)	Summer 1 (June-August)	Fall 1 (August-December)	Spring 2 (January-May)
Units	9 units (9 of 30)	9 units (18 of 30)	6 units (24 of 30)	6 units (30 of 30)
PSMNW Courses	NSC 535** (3 units) : Jan-May Electives** (6 units) : Varies Note: Students are advised to enroll in 6 elective units if their schedules permit	NSC 509** (3 units): Jun-Jul NSC 519** (3 units): Jul-Aug NSC 562** (3 units): Jun-Aug Note: These 3 courses are only offered summer session	NSC 597 ** (1 unit): Aug-Oct Electives (5 units): Varies	NSC 698A** (3 units): Jan-Mar NSC 698B** (3 units) Mar-May Graduate: May
MHC DI			Begin MHC DI: September	Complete MHC DI: May Graduate PSMNW: May Receive MHC DI verification statement

* Financial Aid: Students must be enrolled in at least 5 units per term/semester to qualify for federal financial aid. ** Required core and capstone courses (12 units CORE, 7 units CAPSTONE)

* Elective options are many and varied; most courses are 3 units, but units may range from 1 to 4. Summer may offer fewer elective options than fall and spring semesters. See next page for brief list of nutrition-related elective-course options (11 units ELECTIVES)

Program Costs:

PSMNW tuition is \$650 per unit, plus fees ([refer to the Tuition Estimator Tool](#)). Note: To qualify for financial aid for this degree, students must be enrolled for at least 5 units per term/semester.

PSMNW Coursework Requirements

Unit Requirements:

- TOTAL: 30 minimum units (some students may have more units due to unit variations among elective courses)
- SPECIFIED CORE-COURSE REQUIREMENTS: 12 units (4 courses)
- SPECIFIED CAPSTONE-COURSE REQUIREMENTS: 7 units (3 courses) ELECTIVES: 11 units (typically 4 courses)

Orientation:

All newly admitted PSMNW students must attend the PSMNW orientation before their first term in the program starts. Dates/details are shared with new students soon after they have accepted their admissions offer from the UArizona Graduate College.

PSMNW Requirements:

The following are course descriptions for the required CORE (12 units) and CAPSTONE (7 units) courses. Students must also complete 11 units of elective courses (details below).

CORE Courses (12 units):

NSC 509 Advanced Nutrition Metabolism and Disease (3 units)

Offered: Summer only, 5 week-1 (June-July)

This class will review the multi-facets of macronutrient metabolism and application to the prevention and development of common chronic diseases. The clinical applications of nutrient deficiencies and toxicities will also be reviewed. Metabolic alterations associated with obesity, metabolic syndrome, and other diseases will be discussed. The application of evidence-based guidelines and research for nutritional interventions will be discussed through weekly readings and assignments.

NSC 519 Advanced Applied Nutritional Sciences (3 units)

Offered: Summer only, 5-week-2 (July-August)

This course will advance understanding of research design, methods, and research findings, and advances in nutritional science research for selected chronic diseases. Course Prerequisites: NSC 509

NSC 562 Professional Ethics and Best Practices in Nutrition Education and Counseling (3 units)

Offered: Summer only, 10 weeks (June-August)

Students will learn and implement inclusive best practices in nutrition education and counseling to serve diverse audiences in preparation for supervised experiential learning in food, nutrition, and healthcare settings. This course will touch on various theories and best practices in culturally

responsive education, counseling, leadership, and communication to help students demonstrate the professional competency required for dietetics professionals by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). Students will complete the course with a deeper understanding of the Code of Ethics for the Profession of Nutrition and Dietetics and practice applications that align with the core values of customer focus, integrity, innovation, social responsibility, and diversity, including the influence of personal identities and biases on practitioner interactions. Students will complete written and oral deliverables, including self-assessments, reflections, case studies, and targeted education materials. Students will also begin the process of developing their professional digital portfolios. Course Prerequisites: Students must be enrolled in the PSMNW program.

NSC 535 Advanced Clinical Nutrition (3 units)

Offered: Fall, Spring (August-December or January-May)

This course will review the nutrition care process and the application of nutrition science principles in the selection of the appropriate medical nutrition therapies related to gastrointestinal disorders, cancer, diabetes mellitus, neurological impairment, renal disease, wound healing, and critical illness. The role that integrative medicine may play will also be reviewed. A case-based approach will be used to foster analytical and critical thinking skills related to designing nutrition prescriptions and interventions and redesigning nutrition care plans related to monitoring and evaluation. This course will cover disease prevention and management utilizing lifestyle and nutrition therapies including oral diet and nutrition support. Recommended Course Prerequisites: NSC 509, NSC 519.

Capstone Courses (7 units):

NSC 597 Capstone Prep Workshop (1 unit)

Offered: Fall, Spring, 7-week-1 (August-October or January-March)

The Capstone Workshop course is designed to help students: identify potential sites for their capstone courses, develop talking points when discussing the capstone with potential sites, obtain the required affiliation requirements with their site, build knowledge of research requirements through completion of CITI trainings and further develop presentation and writing skills.

NSC 698A: Capstone/Final Project I (3 units)

Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer, 7-week-1 (August-October, January-March, May-June)

Capstone/Final Project I consist of 135 hours of practical professional training with a sponsoring agency/facility. Students will conduct a needs assessment and propose a topic for the final project to be completed in NSC 698B. Students will write a progress report which will be presented to the class. Alternative grades S/P/F. Course Prerequisite: NSC 597

NSC 698B: Capstone/Final Project II (3 units)

Offered: Fall, Spring, Summer, 7-week-2 (October-December, March-May, July-August)

Capstone/Final Project II consists of 135 hours of practical professional training with a sponsoring agency/facility that culminates the Professional Science master's program and produces a final project. Students will develop a final report on the project objectives, methods, and outcomes. The project will be presented to the class in presentation form, and a poster will also be produced. Alternative grades S/P/F. Course Prerequisite: NSC 698A

Electives (11 UNITS):

Students must complete 11 units of electives. The following is a brief list of possible nutrition-related elective courses. Students may enroll in online non-nutrition elective courses that align with their professional goals. The program provides enrolled students with a comprehensive list of possibilities.

- NSC 512 The Body Positive Concept & You (3 units)
- NSC 522 Weight Inclusive Approach to Counseling (3 units)
- NSC 532 Exploring Eating Disorders & Body Image (3 units)
- NSC 540 Nutrition Interventions (3 units)
- NSC 545 Assessment and Regulation of Human Body Composition (3 units)
- NSC 558 Advanced Foodservice Management (3 units)
- NSC 570 Agriculture and Food Literacy for Nutrition and Health Professionals (3 units)
- NSC 575 Nutrigenomics for the Study of Disease Prevention and Intervention (3 units)
- Other Arizona Online courses can be used for elective courses with the program director's approval.

Contact Information

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