Master’s Degree Requirements

1) Admission requirements:

Admission to the program requires:

- a bachelor's degree with prior course work that includes (or is comparable to): one year of general chemistry, two quarters of organic chemistry, a course in statistics, one course in general physiology and two quarters of the biochemistry of nutrition (such as Animal Biology 102, 103). Students may opt for diagnostic exams to document knowledge that is equivalent to that obtained in courses such as Animal Biology 102, 103. A limited number of deficiencies in preparatory courses may be made up after admission to the program, though the courses will not count toward graduate unit requirements.

- a curriculum vitae/resume, a personal history statement and a statement of purpose reflecting the applicant’s experience and interests as related to this field of study.

- three letters of recommendation from former professors or persons familiar with the applicant’s capability and expertise and able to evaluate his or her readiness for graduate study in maternal and child nutrition.

- TOEFL or IELTS scores that meet university minimums, if applicants language of instruction was not in English.

- a completed Office of Graduate Studies online application submitted with the application fee by the application deadline.

a) Deficiencies: Course work deficiencies should be made up by the end of the first academic year following initial enrollment by earning a letter grade of “B” or better.

2) Master of Advanced Study Plan II

Plan II requires 36 units of graduate and upper division courses, of which at least 18 units must be graduate courses in the major field. Not more than 9 units of research (299 or equivalent) may be used to satisfy the 18-unit requirement. A comprehensive final examination in the major subject is required of each candidate. No thesis is required.

3) Course Requirements - Core and Electives (total 36 units)

The program consists of three required six-unit core classes (Nutrition During Pregnancy, Lactation and Infant Nutrition, and Child and Adolescent Nutrition), six to eight units of special topics seminars, four to six units of electives and a six-unit student project (produced in consultation with a 2 member guidance committee) for a total of 36 units. The student project (NUT 230) will be self-contained and selected at the beginning of the second year of study from a range of projects suggested by the guidance committee.

a) Core Courses (total 18 units)

1) NUT260 Nutrition During Pregnancy 6 units
2) NUT261 Lactation and Infant Nutrition 6 units
3) NUT262 Child and Adolescent Nutrition 6 units
b) Seminar Courses (total 6-8 units)
   1) NUT263 Applied Research Methods 4 units
   2) NUT264B Epidemiology of Maternal and Child Nutrition 2 units
   3) NUT264A Principles of Adult Education 2 units
   4) NUT264C Public Policy in Maternal and Child Nutrition 2 units

c) Elective Courses (total 4-6 units)
   1) AAS 123: The Black Female Experience in Contemporary Society 4 units
   2) AAS 133: The Black Family in America 4 units
   3) ASA 112: Asian/Pacific American Women 4 units
   4) NUT 114: Developmental Nutrition 4 units
   5) NUT 219A: International Nutrition 4 units
   6) NUT 219B: International Nutrition 4 units
   7) NUT 258: Field Research Methods in International Nutrition 3 units
   8) NUT 293A: Current Topics in Obesity, Food Intake and Energy Balance 3 units
   9) NUT 293B: Current Topics in Obesity, Food Intake and Energy Balance 3 units
  10) POL 109: Public Policy and Governmental Processes 4 units

Or others as approved by the student's faculty advisor.

d) Student Project (total 6 units)
   1) NUT230 Student Project (may be repeated) 2-4 units

e) Summary:

18 units of core coursework, 8-10 units of seminar courses, 4-6 units of approved electives and 6 units of student project are required for a total of 36 units. Students must enroll for 6 units per quarter including research, academic and seminar units. Courses that fulfill any of the program course requirements may not be taken S/U unless the course is normally graded S/U. Once course requirements are completed, students can take additional classes as needed. Per UC regulations students cannot enroll in more than 12 units of graduate level courses (200) or more than 16 units of combined undergraduate and graduate level (100, 200, 300) courses per quarter.

4) Special requirements: N/A

5) Committees:

a) Admissions Committee:

Once the completed application, all supporting material, and the application fee have been received, the application will be submitted to the Admissions Committee. The Admissions Committee consists of 5 graduate group faculty. Based on a review of the entire application, a recommendation is made to accept or decline an applicant’s request for admission. That recommendation is forwarded to the Dean of Graduate Studies for final approval of admission. Notification of admissions decisions will be sent by Graduate Studies. Applications are accepted on an every other year basis. The application deadline is April 15 of the year for the fall entering class.

b) Guidance Committee

Each student will be assigned a three-member guidance committee consisting of two members of the teaching faculty and an additional qualified faculty member to advise
the student in choosing electives and identifying a student project. Students will carry out a research or evaluation project during their second year in the program. Working closely with his or her guidance committee, the student will choose the project before completion of the first year in the program. While the focus of the project will vary from student to student, the project is intended to allow students to use the knowledge and skills gained during the program in a manner that may best serve them in their professional positions. For example, students who work in government agencies may choose to develop and evaluate pilot interventions, or students with the appropriate background in economics may conduct cost-effective or cost-benefit analyses of workplace program activities.

6) Advising Structure and Mentoring:

The Graduate Advisor, who is appointed by Graduate Studies, is a resource for information on policies and procedures, and registration information and has the overall responsibility for advising the students in the program, including evaluation of the adequacy of preparative coursework, interpretation of requirements, and appointment of guidance committees. The Graduate Program Staff assists students with general university policies. The Mentoring Guidelines can be found in the graduate student handbook on the web at (http://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/students/handbook/).

7) Advancement to Candidacy:

Every student must file an official application for Candidacy for the Degree of Master of Advanced Study after completing one-half of their course requirements and at least one quarter before completing all degree requirements; this is typically in the 5th quarter. The Candidacy for the Degree of Master form can be found online at: http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/forms/. A completed form includes a list of courses the student will take to complete degree requirements. If changes must be made to the student’s course plan after she or he has advanced to candidacy, the Graduate Adviser must recommend these changes to Graduate Studies. Students must have their Graduate Adviser and committee Chair sign the candidacy form before it can be submitted to Graduate Studies. If the candidacy is approved, the Office of Graduate Studies will send a copy to: the appropriate graduate staff person and the student. If the Office of Graduate Studies determines that a student is not eligible for advancement, the department and the student will be told the reasons for the application’s deferral. Some reasons for deferring an application include: grade point average below 3.0, outstanding “I” grades in required courses, or insufficient units.

8) Student Project Requirements (Capstone Event):

Fulfillment of a student project is the last requirement of the M.A.S. Plan II. The student will be required to carry out a research or evaluation project during their second year in the program. Working closely with his or her guidance committee, the student will choose the project before completion of the first year in the program. While the focus of the project will vary from student to student, the project is intended to allow students to use the knowledge and skills gained during the program in a manner that may best serve them in their professional positions. For example, students who work in government agencies may choose to develop and evaluate pilot interventions or students with the appropriate background in economics may conduct cost-effective or cost-benefit analyses of workplace program activities. Upon completion of the project, the student will be required to submit a report.
describing the project that will be submitted for approval to the guidance committee members. The report will include 1) a relevant literature review, 2) a methods section describing the approach used, 3) a section describing the findings or results of the project, 4) a discussion section, and 5) a bibliography.

All three members of the guidance committee must approve the project report. If the student project is not approved, the committee may recommend changes or identify deficiencies in the project report. The student may re-submit an updated project report within one quarter, but only if the Graduate Adviser concurs with the committee. A student who does not have their project approved on the second attempt is subject to disqualification from further graduate work in the program.

Once passed, the Master’s Report Form is signed by the Program Graduate Adviser and then forwarded to the Office of Graduate Studies. The deadlines for completing this requirement are listed each quarter in the campus General Catalog (available online at the website of the Office of the Registrar or from the Bookstore). A candidate must be a registered student or in Filing Fee status at the time the program submits the form, with the exception of the summer period between the end of the Spring Quarter and the beginning of Fall Quarter. The program must file the report with Graduate Studies within one week of the end of the quarter in which the student’s degree will be conferred.

9) **Normative Time to Degree:**
Normative time for a student to complete all requirements for the M.A.S. degree, assuming that they are engaged in normative part-time study and making adequate progress is 2 years.

10) **Typical Time Line and Sequence of Events:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year One</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Winter</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NUT 260 Nutrition During Pregnancy</td>
<td>NUT261 Lactation and Infant Nutrition</td>
<td>NUT262 Child and Adolescent Nutrition</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year Two</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Winter</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elective 200 level course</td>
<td>Elective 200 level course</td>
<td>NUT230 Student Project</td>
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<td>NUT230 Student Project</td>
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11) **Sources of funding**

Students enrolled in at least six (6) units per quarter may be eligible for federal financial aid and/ or educational loans. Because this is a self-supporting program, state-funded aid sources are not available. Each category has different requirements and restrictions. For details on how to apply, please visit the Financial Aid Office website.

http://financialaid.ucdavis.edu/graduate/apply/Apply.html
12) PELP, In Absentia and Filing Fee status.

Information about PELP (Planned Educational Leave), In Absentia (reduced fees when researching out of state), and Filing Fee status can be found in the Graduate Student Guide: http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/publications/