

Graduate Programs in Human Nutrition

Graduates of the Dietetic Internship Program and the Combined Dietetic Internship Program/Master of Science in Clinical Nutrition enter the field of nutrition and dietetics from a variety of backgrounds, with diverse interests, and with a passion to serve. These future leaders use innovative, evidenced-based, nutrition care and dietetics services to promote and enhance health and wellness. Our students become efficient and effective communicators who use far-reaching, social networking mediums to disseminate information about nutrition to clients, colleagues, and the global community. Four options for graduate study in nutrition and dietetics are offered at OHSU.

Dietetic Internship Certificate Program

The Dietetic Internship Program balances practical experience with a variety of didactic learning opportunities. Interns complete supervised practice rotations at sites throughout Oregon and southwest Washington to experience nutrition care in urban and rural settings. The majority of interns are placed within the Portland area. Each year, a few interns complete rotations in Medford and Eugene for the duration of the program.

Service Learning is valued at OHSU and supported by our program through our concentration in "Community

Outreach." Students select a food or nutrition-related project of personal interest and work throughout the program to plan, implement, and evaluate the project.

Students who complete the program earn 36 graduate credits, receive a verification statement and become eligible to take the Commission on Dietetic Registration, Registration Examination for Dietitians, a requirement for becoming a Registered Dietitian. The annual first-time pass rate of our graduates is routinely between 90-100%. Over 90% of graduates secure employment in the field within one year of graduation.

Supervised Practice/Experiential Learning opportunities include placements in public health, nutrition education, patient and retail food service, management, medicine, surgery, critical care, pediatrics, renal, geriatrics, research and primary care settings. Interns also complete clinical "staff experience" and a "student choice" rotation in an area of personal interest.

Examples of Public Health and Nutrition Education Sites

- Salud Clinic for Migrant Workers
- Women, Infants & Children (WIC) Oregon Program and Local Agency Clinics
- Oregon Dairy Council
- Oregon Department of Human Services
- Portland Public Schools, Nutrition Services



Examples of Clinical Nutrition Sites

- Oregon Health & Science University Hospital and Clinics
- Doernbecher Children's Hospital
- Randall Children's Hospital
- Portland VA Medical Center
- Kaiser Permanente of Oregon
- Providence Health & Services
- Legacy Health Systems
- Rogue Valley Medical Center (Medford)
- Sacred Heart Medical Center (Eugene)

Examples of Special Interest Sites

- Shriners Children's Hospital
- Oregon Burn Center
- Our House of Portland, HIV Care Center
- Oregon Clinical & Translational Research Institute
- Oregon State University Food Innovation Center

Combined Dietetic Internship/Master of Science in Clinical Nutrition

The Combined Dietetic Internship/
Master of Science in Clinical Nutrition

takes about two years to complete, is research-oriented and provides advanced training in macro- and micronutrient metabolism, statistics, physiology, and clinical and laboratory nutrition assessment. Courses in nutritional epidemiology, global health, international nutrition, sustainable food systems, cultural competency, and sports nutrition are available on an elective/independent study basis. Most students in the combined program complete internship rotations at the Portland Veterans Affairs Medical Center. A government stipend may be available for these students. Students complete clinical or public health-related nutrition research projects that culminate in a Master's thesis.

Recent Thesis Topics Include:

- Obesity and Vitamin D Status
- Pregnancy and Vitamin E Metabolism
- Diet Composition, and Weight Loss
- Prostate Cancer and Inflammation
- Nutrition Interventions among Children with Fatty Acid Oxidation Disorders

Master's Programs for Registered Dietitians

Registered Dietitians or recent graduates of the OHSU Dietetic Internship Program who are interested in advancing their education may complete the Master of Science in Clinical Nutrition. Students complete an original nutrition-related thesis project in addition to advanced coursework.

The Master of Clinical Dietetics is a non-thesis option designed to enhance clinical practice skills and applied nutrition knowledge. Students complete a capstone project focusing on a nutrition-related topic of their choice.



Program Faculty

Diane Stadler, PhD, RD, LD

Program Director & Assistant Professor
Metabolic nutrition, children with special health care needs, weight loss trials, and international nutrition

Jeri Greenberg, MS, RD, LD

Dietetic Internship Director & Instructor
Community and school-based nutrition education

Melanie Gillingham, PhD, RD, LD

Master's Program Director & Assistant Professor
Pediatric nutrition, fatty acid oxidation disorders and exercise studies

Kathleen Holton, PhD, MPH

Research Assistant Professor
Effects of dietary excitotoxins and micronutrients on neurological function

Julie McGuire, MS, RD, LD

Clinical Nutrition Education Coordinator
Medical nutrition therapy

Affiliate Faculty

Elizabeth Adams, PhD, RD

Assistant Professor
Public Health & Preventive Medicine
Children with special healthcare needs, food insecurity

Steve Hiatt, MBA, FMP

Director, OHSU Food and Nutrition Services
Hospital food service management

Maureen McCarthy, MPH, RD, CSR, LD

Transplant Dietitian & Assistant Professor
Nutrition intervention for transplant patients, medical ethics

Jessie Pavlinac, MS, RD, CSR, LD

Past President, Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics
OHSU Clinical Nutrition Manager
Medical nutrition therapy, clinical nutrition management

Jackie Shannon, PhD, RD

Associate Professor, Public Health & Preventive Medicine
Nutrition epidemiology, clinical and translational research

Mike Lasarev, MS

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Want to Know More?

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