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**UT Southwestern**  
Medical Center

# Master of Clinical Nutrition-Nutrition Science Online Program

*Virtual Open House*

Tailored for undergraduate students, nutrition enthusiasts, Registered Dietitian Nutritionists and healthcare practitioners seeking an advanced degree in nutrition

# UT Southwestern Medical Center

- **UT Southwestern is one of the premier academic medical centers in the nation**
- UT Southwestern medical providers provide medical care in about 80 specialties to more than 105,000 hospitalized patients, and nearly 370,000 emergency room cases, and oversee approximately 3 million outpatient visits a year.
- **Clinical Training Hospitals:**
  - William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital
  - Zale Lipshy Pavilion- William P. Clements Jr. University Hospital
  - Parkland Memorial Hospital
  - Children's Health
  - Dallas Veteran's Affairs Medical Center



**UT Southwestern**  
Medical Center

# Mission

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Promoting health and a healthy society that enables achievement of full human potential

## WE:

- **EDUCATE**  
Physicians, scientists, and caregivers are optimally prepared to serve the needs of patients and society
- **DISCOVER**  
Research that solves unmet needs by finding better treatments, cures, and prevention with a commitment to ensuring real-world application
- **HEAL**  
Best care possible today, with continuous improvement and innovation for better care tomorrow



# Is pursuing a master's degree in nutrition worth it?

- Career Advancement
- Specialization
- Credentialing: *Effective January 1, 2024, the minimum degree requirement to be approved for eligibility for the registration examination for dietitians changed from a bachelor's degree to a graduate degree. This decision was made by the Commission on Dietetic Registration based on the recommendations of the Council on Future Practice Visioning Report (2012).*
- Salary Potential
- Research Opportunities
- Networking Opportunities
- Personal Fulfillment

## Considering a Master of Clinical Nutrition-Nutrition Science Degree

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Should you enroll in an online Master's in Nutrition Program?

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What is your learning style?

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What's your budget?

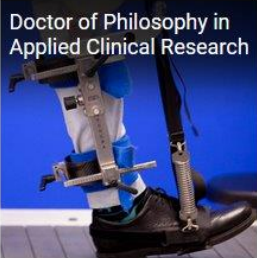
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How will your schedule accommodate school?

# School of Health Professions at UTSW

## Doctorate Programs

Doctor of Philosophy in Applied Clinical Research



Doctor of Physical Therapy



## Master's Programs

Master of Clinical Nutrition - Coordinated Program



Master of Clinical Nutrition - Nutrition Science



Master of Physician Assistant Studies



Master of Prosthetics-Orthotics



Master of Science in Genetic Counseling



Master of Science in Health Informatics



## Master of Clinical Nutrition–Nutrition Science Online Program

- Accredited by ***Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges*** (SACSCOC)
- Applications open until April 1st
- No application fee
- Matriculation: Fall '24
- Fully online program

## Meet the Department Chair



Jeffrey Browning, M.D.

Professor and Chair

Clinical Nutrition Department

**UT Southwestern**  
Medical Center

# Meet the Program Director

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Parul Sharma, Ph.D., RDN, LD, CNSC

Program Director and Assistant Professor  
**Master of Clinical Nutrition–Nutrition Science**



**UT Southwestern**  
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# Meet the Clinical Nutrition Department

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Lona Sandon, Ph.D., RDN, LD, FAND

Program Director and Associate Professor  
**Master of Clinical Nutrition–Coordinated Program**



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Gloria Vega, Ph.D.,  
Professor



Anne Gilmore,  
Ph.D., RD  
Assistant Professor



Hoda Yeganjehoo,  
Ph.D., RDN  
Assistant Professor



Justin Fletcher, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor



Tad Campbell,  
MCN, RDN, LD  
Assistant Professor



Kathleen Eustace,  
MPH, RDN, LD,  
Assistant Professor



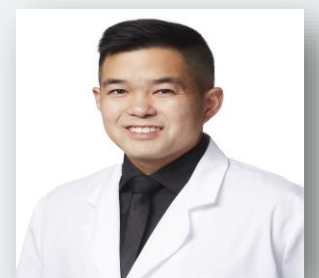
Alicia Gilmore,  
MS, RDN, CSO, LD,  
Assistant Professor



Michaela Carrington,  
Ph.D., MS, RDN, LD,  
Instructor



Patricia Morrison,  
MCN, RD  
Instructor



Timothy Ng,  
MCN, RD, LD  
Assistant Professor

Clinical Nutrition Department

**UT Southwestern**  
Medical Center

# Master of Clinical Nutrition-Nutrition Science

1. **Registered Dietitians Nutritionists** looking for Master's degree
2. **Undergrad students** who desire to complete their **Master in Nutrition**
3. **Healthcare Professionals** like Physicians, PAs, Nursing, Nurse Practitioner's, Pharmacists etc. looking for an advanced degree in Nutrition.
4. MCN-NS will prepare for certificates like **CNSC**(Certified Nutrition Specialist Clinician and **NBPNS**(National Board of Physician Nutrition Specialists)

**Target Audience  
for this program**

# Master of Clinical Nutrition-Nutrition Science

Undergraduate  
with major in  
Nutrition or any  
other area

- DPD courses
- Masters in Coordinated Program(Dietetic Internship and Masters)
- RD exam eligible

Undergraduate  
with major in  
Nutrition or any  
other area

- DPD courses
- **Masters in Nutrition**
- Dietetic Internship
- RD exam eligible

**Where does this program  
fall if you want to be a  
Registered Dietitian?**

# Master of Clinical Nutrition-Nutrition Science

- Master of Clinical Nutrition-Nutrition Science is 36 credit-hour graduate-level program

36 Credit-  
Hours



- This fully online program delves into cutting-edge topics in nutrition science. Provide the knowledge and skills necessary to prevent and treat diseases, as well as to enhance overall health through evidence-based food and nutrition strategies

Fully Online



## Program Objectives:

1. Apply knowledge of clinical nutrition for patients with acute and chronic conditions and critical care.
2. To become a leader in specialized medical nutrition therapy and demonstrate an advanced knowledge of clinical nutrition and influence the development of other healthcare practitioners, with the potential to improve patient outcomes.
3. Collaborate within interdisciplinary teams to provide nutrition support for patients with complex medical problems.
4. Understand and provide nutrition education to populations with diverse nutritional needs.
5. Analyze published research to support the evidence-based practice of clinical nutrition.

## What sets this program apart?

- Complete this **36-credit** hour program in as little as **15 months**.
- Entire coursework is **entirely online** and **self-paced**, provided deadlines are met.
- Access advanced nutrition topics taught by **esteemed faculty** from the prestigious institution **UT Southwestern at Dallas, Texas**
- Ideal for **busy professionals** or those preferring **to avoid in-person class** commitments.

# MCN-NS Curriculum

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**Earn a Master's in Nutrition in 15-24 months by completing 36 credit hours, including:**

- 7 core courses
- 2 research non-thesis courses
- Choose from 11 elective options
- Transfer up to 12 graduate-level course credits with the program director's approval
- Utilize 3 credit hour special topics to work on research/capstone project





# MCN-NS Curriculum

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## Core Courses Offered:

- Introduction to Dietetics and Nutrition
- Nutrition in Human Metabolism
- Medical Nutrition Therapy in Chronic Care
- Medical Nutrition Therapy in Pediatrics
- Medical Nutrition Therapy in Acute Care
- Medical Nutrition Therapy in Critical Care
- Metabolic basis of inherited Diseases



# MCN-NS Curriculum

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## Electives:

- Nutrition in Health Promotion/Disease Prevention
- Food Policy and Agricultural Technology
- Sports Nutrition
- Nutrigenomics
- Nutritional Epidemiology
- Nutrition in Growth and Development
- Nutrition in Aging
- Introduction to Writing and Evaluating Nutrition Research
- Motivational Interviewing in Nutrition Counseling
- Cancer Prevention
- Nutrition Support: Current Issues



# MCN-NS Curriculum

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Research  
Non-thesis Courses

Research Principles in Nutrition

Nutrition Research



# Master of Clinical Nutrition–Nutrition Science

## Tailored Degree Plan:

1. To accommodate students aiming to complete the program within either a 15-month, or
2. Duration exceeding 24 months.

## Specific details will be provided:

1. Upon enrollment in the program
2. Addressing individual needs on a case-by-case basis.

# MCN-NS Online Expectations

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Orientation during the first week of the program to ensure a smooth start:

- 1 Technical specifications
2. e-Learning management system tutorial
3. Other critical details



Additionally, students will be briefed on the **expectations associated with fully online programs** to optimize their learning outcomes and achieve success in their online studies

## Course Sequence for Fall 2024

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Introduction to Dietetics and Nutrition

Nutrition in Human Metabolism

Food Policy and Agricultural Technology

Nutrition in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

Introduction to Writing and Evaluating Nutrition Research

Fall 2024

## Course Sequence for Spring 2025

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Medical Nutrition Therapy in Chronic Care

Nutrition in Growth and Development

Research Principles in Nutrition

Spring 2025

## Course Sequence for Summer 2025

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Medical Nutrition Therapy in Chronic Care

Nutrition in Growth and Development

Research Principles in Nutrition

Summer 2025



## Course Sequence for Fall 2025

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Medical Nutrition Therapy in Pediatrics

Nutrigenomics

Metabolic Basis of Inherited Diseases

Nutrition Support Current Issues

Fall 2025

## Course Sequence for Spring 2026

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Sports Nutrition

Medical Nutrition Therapy in Critical  
Care

Nutritional Epidemiology

Spring 2026

## Course Sequence for Summer 2026

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Cancer Prevention

Nutrition Research

Special Topics 3 credit hours

Upon approval from the program director, students may transfer between **0 to 12 credit hours of graduate-level coursework** completed previously

Summer 2026

# Careers in Nutrition



## Career Opportunities:

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- Research and development in the food industry
- Academia
- Writing and publishing
- Nutrition consultancy
- Marketing for nutrition companies
- Inpatient in hospital settings
- Outpatient or ambulatory setting
- Healthcare data Scientists
- Hospital Management
- Employee Wellness
- Leadership roles



## Registered Dietician Pathway:

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- Employment of **dietitians and nutritionists** is projected to grow **7 percent** from 2022 to 2032, faster than the average for all occupations.
- The median annual wage for **dietitians and nutritionists was \$66,450** in May 2022. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$44,140, and the highest 10 percent earned more than **\$95,130**
- Good return on investment for a degree that costs less than **\$40,000**

# Career Profile in Nutrition:

## National estimates for Dietitians and Nutritionists:

Employment estimate and mean wage estimates for Dietitians and Nutritionists:

Employment (1)	Employment RSE (3)	Mean hourly wage	Mean annual wage (2)	Wage RSE (3)
69,880	2.5 %	\$ 33.34	\$ 69,350	0.6 %

Percentile wage estimates for Dietitians and Nutritionists:

Percentile	10%	25%	50% (Median)	75%	90%
Hourly Wage	\$ 21.22	\$ 27.16	\$ 31.95	\$ 38.67	\$ 45.74
Annual Wage (2)	\$ 44,140	\$ 56,490	\$ 66,450	\$ 80,430	\$ 95,130

Source: Bureau of labor and Statistics



# Job Outlook:

## Employment projections data for dietitians and nutritionists, 2022-32

Occupational Title	SOC Code	Employment, 2022	Projected Employment, 2032	Change, 2022-32		Employment by Industry
				Percent	Numeric	
Dietitians and nutritionists	29-1031	78,600	83,800	7	5,200	<a href="#">Get data</a>

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment Projections program

Source: Bureau of labor and Statistics



# Job Outlook for Dietician and Nutritionists

Industry	Hourly mean wage	Annual mean wage
Computer Systems Design and Related Services	\$ 40.15	\$ 83,510
Home Health Care services	\$ 39.83	\$ 82,850
Scientific Research and Development Services	\$ 39.65	\$ 82,470
Merchant Wholesalers and Non-durable goods	\$ 39.03	\$ 81,180
Federal executive Branch	\$ 39.00	\$ 81,120
Outpatient care centers	\$ 36.70	\$ 76,330
General medical and surgical hospitals	\$ 33.83	\$ 70,360
Skilled nursing care facilities	\$ 31.63	\$ 65,790

Source: Bureau of labor and Statistics

## Admissions:

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- What do I need to provide to submit an eligible application?
- What is the start date of the program?
- Are there any Scholarships?
- What is Tuition and Cost of attendance?



# Admission Requirements

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Baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution

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Earn a recommended GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.

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Complete the required prerequisite courses.

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Official transcripts from all schools attended

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Complete and submit an online application by April 1.

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Three letters of recommendation.

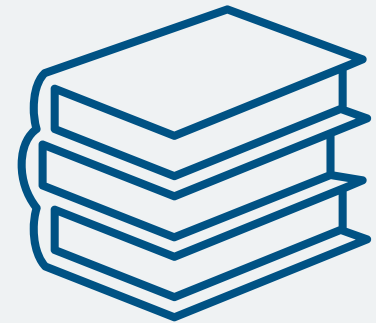
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Personal interview.

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Personal statement of career goals and description of work experience.

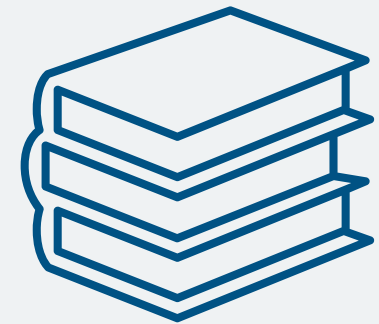
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# Pre-requisites: Communication

Pre-requisites must be completed before the program start date. All courses must be completed with a grade of C or higher.

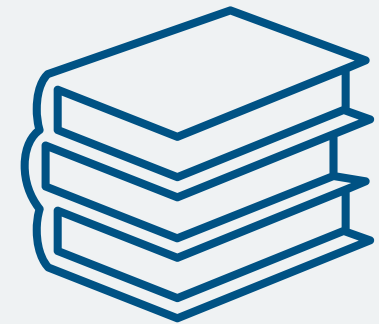
- **English Composition | 6 Credit Hours**
  - ENGL 1301, 1302, 1311, 1312, 2311, 2314, 2315, or equivalent (must include composition; technical writing is also recommended)



# Pre-requisites: Mathematics

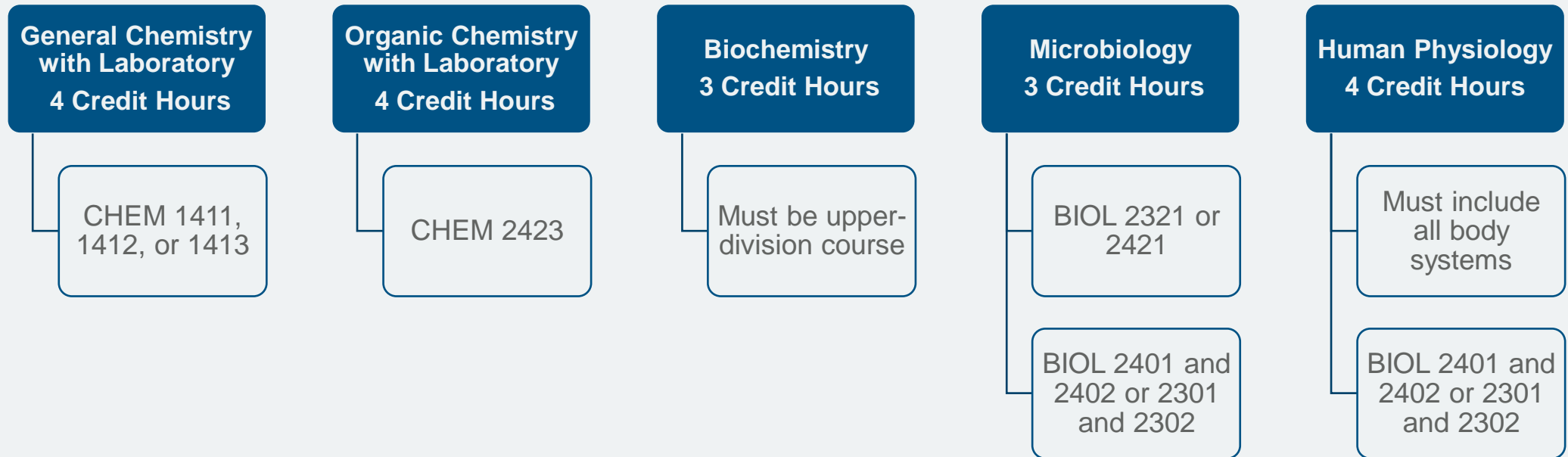
Pre-requisites must be completed before the program start date. All courses must be completed with a grade of C or higher.

- **College Algebra | 3 Credit Hours**
  - MATH 1314 or higher
- **Statistics | 3 Credit Hours**
  - MATH 1342 or 2342



# Pre-requisites: Natural Science

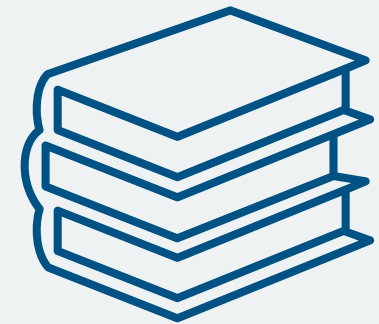
Pre-requisites must be completed before the program start date. All courses must be completed with a grade of C or higher.



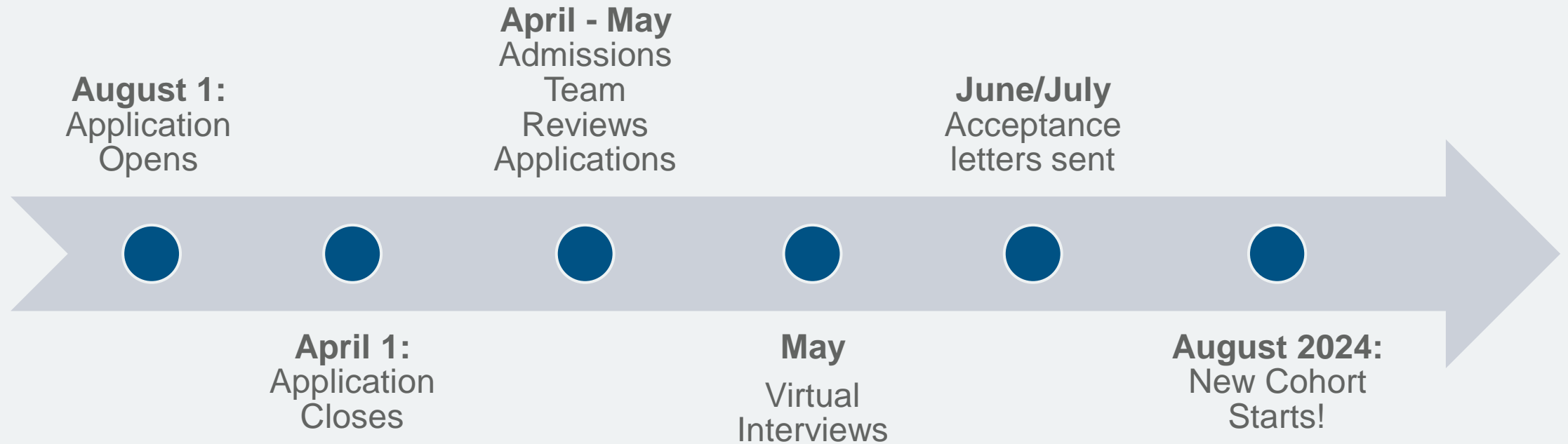
# Pre-requisites: Social and Behavioral Sciences

Pre-requisites must be completed before the program start date. All courses must be completed with a grade of C or higher.

- **Psychology, Sociology, or Anthropology | 3 Credit Hours**
  - PSYC 2301, SOCI 1301, ANTH 1301, or higher



# Important Dates





# Holistic Approach of the Admissions Committee

## Diverse Admissions Committee

### ➤ Part 1: Application Review

- Review all components of an application
  - Academic preparation
  - Knowledge/understanding of nutrition field
  - Service/related experiences to nutrition
  - Interpersonal Skills
- Recommend who to select for virtual interviews

### ➤ Part 2: Virtual Interviews

- Interviews with members of the Admissions Committee
- Holistic discussion to make rank list



# Tuition, Costs, and Financial Aid

## MCN-NS tuition

- \$21,484 for Texas Residents
- \$36,604 for non-Texas residents
- Additional estimated expense information can be found online: :

<https://www.utsouthwestern.edu/about-us/administrative-offices/financial-aid/cost-of-attendance/health-professions/#clinical>

## Financial Aid

- The Master of Clinical Nutrition–Nutrition Science online program offers three scholarship opportunities for Texas residents(\$ 2,500 per semester for 6 semesters)
- All students must file a [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) if they wish to be considered for scholarships.

## Inclusive Excellence:

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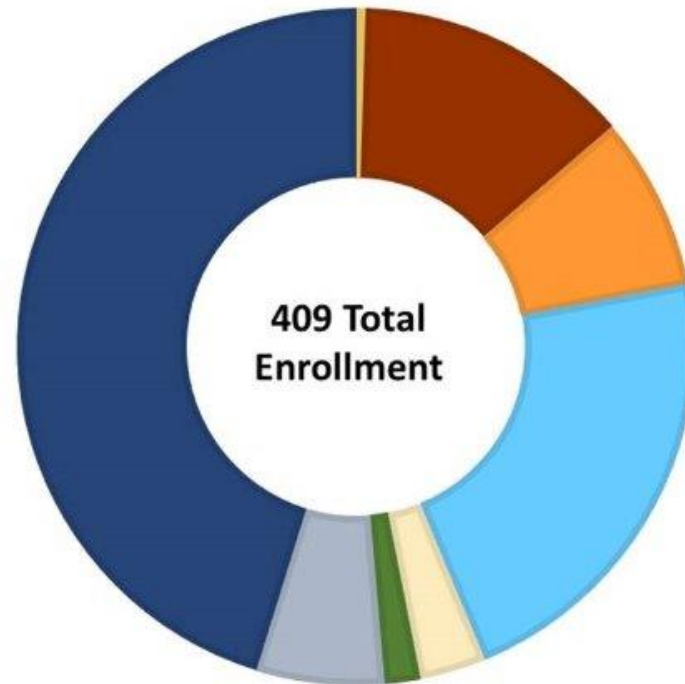
- Cohorts from a variety of backgrounds add different viewpoints which creates a robust learning environment for both students and faculty.
- Our goal is to cultivate a learning community where similarities and differences of individuals are valued so that all students can reach their academic potential.
- These goals align with contributions to develop a workforce representative of the nation's changing demographics.



# School of Health Professions Demographics

## SHP Demographics

2023 SHP Demographics



**Female 72%**  
**Male 28%**  
**URM 34%**

- AM Native/ AM Indian 1%
- Asian 13%
- African American 8%
- Hispanic 22%
- Multi-Racial URM 3%
- Multi-Racial Non-URM 2%
- Not Reported 6%
- White 45%

## Student Support Services at SHP:

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- Student Wellness & Counseling
- Student Assistance Committee
- Student Health Services
- Student Academic Support Services
- Office of Access and Title IX
- Student Life



# Thank You

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For questions or additional information, please email us at [clinicalnutritionns@utsouthwestern.edu](mailto:clinicalnutritionns@utsouthwestern.edu)

**Program Director:**

Parul Sharma PhD., RDN, LD, CNSC

[Parul.Sharma@utsouthwestern.edu](mailto:Parul.Sharma@utsouthwestern.edu)



Team Based  
Interprofessional  
Approach

**UT Southwestern**  
Medical Center