

2026-2027 NSGP Curriculum

Courses	Units ^[1]	Typically Offered (check course schedule for exact days/times)	Notes Major Coursework = Required PhD Minor = Required	MS Total Units	PhD Total Units ^[1]
Fall Semester Courses					
NSC 597D Communicating Nutr Sci	1	Fall (yearly) in-person W 12-12:50pm	Major coursework yearly enrollment required	2	4
NSC 597E Exploring Wellness through Scientific Research (journal club)	1	Fall (yearly) in-person W 11-11:50am	Major coursework (PhD students x2 enrollments)	<i>optional</i>	2
NSC 699 Independent Study ^[2] (laboratory rotation)	3	Fall (yearly) in-person	Major coursework year 1	3	3
NSC 608 Immunometabolism in Nutrition and Exercise	3	Fall (even years) in-person M/W 2-3:15pm	Major coursework year 1 or 2	3	3
NSC 610 Nutrition and Disease	3	Fall (even years) in-person T/Th 11am-12:15pm	Major coursework year 1 or 2	3	3
NSC 624 Micronutrients	3	Fall (odd years) in-person T 9-11:30am	Major coursework year 1 or 2	3	3
BIOS 576A Biostats. in Public Health (<i>also offered spring online</i>)	3	Fall (yearly) in-person T/Th 4-5:15pm	Major coursework year 2	3	3
Spring Semester Courses			Fall courses subtotal	17	21
NSC 575 Nutrigenomics for Study of Dis Prevention and Intervention	3	Spring (yearly) online 7 week session 2	Major coursework year 1 or 2	3	3
NSC 595 Emerging Topics in Nutritional Sciences	2	Spring (yearly) in-person T 11am-1pm	Major coursework years 1 and 2	4	4
NSC 597D Communicating Nutri Sci	1	Spring (yearly) in-person W 12-1pm	Major coursework yearly enrollment required	2	4
HSD 649 Survival Skills & Ethics	3	Spring (yearly) in-person W 2-5pm	Major coursework year 1	3	3
Other required coursework			Spring courses subtotal (total)	12 (29)	14 (35)
Elective units ^[3]	≥ 1	Varies	Major coursework		1
PhD: 36 minimum units of major coursework required MS: 27 minimum units of nonthesis coursework required				29	36
PhD - minor units (specified by minor department)	≥ 9	Varies by department	Complete before comprehensive exam (typically year 3)		9
Units Subtotal				29	45
NSC 910 Thesis	6	Every semester	Thesis units required	6	
NCS 920 Dissertation	18	Every semester	Dissertation units required		18
Total Units^[4]				35	63

[1] GA appointments (TA, RA) appointments: CALES requires first-year (Y1) PhD students to enroll in a minimum of 9 units per semester; Y1 MS students are advised to enroll in at least 9 units/semester. Years 2+ MS & PhD must enroll in a minimum of 6 units per semester; all GA students are advised to enroll in the college teaching certification program (CTCP) courses—for PhD students, these courses may fulfill 7 of 9 units of the nutritional sciences minor: IA 697a, IA 697b, IA 697p. Details about the CTCP are discussed during new-student orientation.

[2] Lab rotation details appear in the NSGP Student Handbook. Students are expected to identify/confirm their lab rotations prior to the NSGP orientation or before the first day of the fall semester.

[3] Electives: PhD students should discuss course options with their faculty advisor/mentor and the NSGP director.

[4] Meets [Graduate College](#) minimum requirements (MS 30, PhD 63). Many students exceed the minimum unit requirements.