Cal Poly’s Food Science and Nutrition Department offers comprehensive education in food science and nutrition, from the development of new foods to the study of how foods impact health, wellness and disease prevention. The department’s exceptional Learn by Doing methodology provides industry-ready graduates with the expertise to nourish the world.

Our students are directly involved in the community, participating in unique hands-on learning opportunities that enhance critical thinking and problem-solving. This active learning environment has earned Cal Poly and the Food Science and Nutrition Department tremendous respect throughout the industry.

The department’s on-campus food plant and cutting-edge laboratories provide top-of-the-line learning opportunities and promote safe, sustainable and nutritious foods through partnerships with the food industry. Human nutrition labs provide students with health assessment and chronic disease risk analysis skills.

**MAJORS:** Nutrition; Food Science

**MINORS:** Nutrition; Food Science

**GRADUATE PROGRAMS:** Master of Science in Agriculture, Specialization in Food Science; Master of Science in Nutrition

**FOOD SCIENCE CONCENTRATIONS:** Advanced Food Science (Institute of Food Technologists-approved); Applied Food Technology; Culinary

**NUTRITION CONCENTRATIONS:** Applied Nutrition (accredited by the American Dietetic Association); Nutrition Science; Nutrition and Food Industries
Human Nutrition Labs & Pilot Food Plant

The pilot food plant and labs are designed to give students a variety of Learn by Doing opportunities. Labs include food safety, sensory evaluation, quality control, culinary science/product development and chemistry. Human nutrition labs provide students with hands-on learning experiences in health assessments and nutrition counseling.

Student Teams

Members of the Cal Poly Food Science Product Development teams compete against other universities and develop nutritious food solutions for a variety of real-world challenges. Human Nutrition Research teams compete regionally and across the California State University system.