NUTRITION
FOOD SCIENCE AND NUTRITION DEPARTMENT

OVERVIEW
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.

MAJORS
FOOD SCIENCE • NUTRITION

GRADUATE PROGRAMS
• MASTER OF SCIENCE IN FOOD SCIENCE
• MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NUTRITION
• DIETETIC INTERNSHIP

MINORS
• FOOD SCIENCE
• NUTRITION

NUTRITION CONCENTRATIONS
• APPLIED NUTRITION (ACEND ACCREDITED)
• NUTRITION SCIENCE

FOOD SCIENCE CONCENTRATIONS
• ADVANCED FOOD SCIENCE (INSTITUTE OF FOOD TECHNOLOGISTS-APPROVED)
• CULINOLGY

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS
+$22,000 in scholarships for Food science and nutrition students.
~176 students receive scholarships or are involved in paid opportunities in the Food Science and Nutrition Department.

STUDENT CLUBS
Food Science Club
Nutrition Club

DIETETIC INTERNSHIP PROGRAM
The Cal Poly San Luis Obispo Dietetic Internship is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. We are proud to have a 100% one-year pass rate on the Registration Examination for Dietitians. The internship is housed in Cal Poly’s Food Science and Nutrition Department and has rotation sites in two counties on California’s Central Coast: San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara.
The nutrition major offers two concentrations: applied nutrition, which is a Didactic Program in Dietetics accredited by The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) and Nutrition Science.

APPLIED NUTRITION/DIDACTIC PROGRAM IN DIETETICS provides students with contemporary knowledge, including medical nutrition therapy, and practical skills to prepare them for successful completion of a dietetic internship and a career in dietetics, including the option to become a registered dietitian (RD), clinical dietitian, nutrition consultant and more.

NUTRITION SCIENCE prepares students for post-graduate studies in health-related professions, such as medicine or nursing, by emphasizing a strong background in physical and life sciences as well as human nutrition. Graduates are poised to pursue careers in nutritional biochemistry, molecular nutrition, public health and more.

NUTRITION RESEARCH STRENGTHS

1. OBESITY, DIABETES, CARDIOVASCULAR AND OTHER DIET-RELATED CHRONIC DISEASES
2. SPORTS NUTRITION AND BODY COMPOSITION
3. METABOLICOMICS, GENOMICS AND THE MICROBIOME
4. GLOBAL AND COMMUNITY NUTRITION
5. FUNCTIONAL FOODS AND NUTRACEUTICALS

40 nutrition undergraduate students working closely with faculty on research projects with faculty.

The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) and Nutrition Science.

CONNECT

805-756-2660
fsn.calpoly.edu

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ON THE JOB

CAREERS
Registered dietitian nutritionists
Foodservice professionals
Public health officials

EXAMPLES OF EMPLOYERS
Valley Children’s Hospital, Fresno
Marian Regional Medical Center, Santa Maria
Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital, Stanford
Mount Sinai Hospital, NYC
Oregon Health and Science University
Kansas City Royals
Glanbia Nutritionals

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GLOBAL AND COMMUNITY NUTRITION
FUNCTIONAL FOODS AND NUTRACEUTICALS