The overarching mission of the Department of Nutrition and Food Studies (NUTR) is to inform students and the public about the role of food and nutrition in improving health and well-being among local and global populations through the integration of education, research, and outreach. The educational mission is to provide undergraduate and graduate degrees and certificates in food and nutrition-related studies. The research mission is to promote, develop and support research programs that help define and address food and nutritional issues. The outreach mission is to increase the awareness of food and nutrition-related issues among local and global communities, support local and global food and nutrition initiatives, and enhance collaboration among individuals and organizations to improve nutrition and health-related outcomes. Part-time students are encouraged to take at least 6 credits per semester to promote timely completion of the program.

Students also should run their own degree-evaluation (http://registrar.gmu.edu/students/degree-evaluation) to identify graduation requirements and progress towards their degree. While academic advisors can give advice to students, students are responsible for the academic planning decisions they make. Academic advisors cannot be held responsible for mistakes made by students in selecting courses that may not count toward their degree and thus delay a desired graduation date.

**Requirements & Policies**

**Requirements**

**Academic Advising**

Each student is assigned an academic advisor who is a faculty member within their academic department or a professional academic advisor within the Office of Student Affairs (OSA). Academic advisor assignments are listed on the CHHS website (https://chhs.gmu.edu/students/academic-advising), and students are expected to meet with their advisor regularly (at least once each semester) to seek advice about academic schedules and program plans, internships, and career guidance. Students also should meet with their advisor if they are experiencing academic difficulty or personal challenges or if they are feeling overwhelmed.

All students are responsible for knowing the requirements of their major as specified in the university catalog for their catalog year; academic deadlines outlined in the semester academic calendar (http://registrar.gmu.edu/calendars); and university policies and procedures as stated in the catalog.