

Graduate Student Requirements for Progression Through the MS Program

I. Competency Exams

A. Students entering the MS program with an RD: must take Nutrition competency exam upon entrance to program (e.g. same semester they enroll in classes for the first time). Failure to take the exam at this time means student cannot enroll in any 200 level courses (except 201).

1. Pass competency exam (score 80% or above)
 - a. Proceed to coursework (see II. below)
 - b. Eligible to enroll in NuFS 217 (see II. below)

At this point, student moves from unclassified to conditionally classified.

2. Fail competency exam
 - a. Enroll in upper division undergraduate classes for graduate credit, but must wait to enroll in NuFS 217
 - b. Retake **entire** exam the next semester it is given
 - i. Pass exam: proceed to coursework
 - ii. Fail exam (2nd time): no longer eligible to enroll in the MS program

B. Students entering with degree in nutrition (from US or foreign school, including SJSU): must take competency exam (in Nutrition) upon entrance to program (e.g. the same semester they enroll in classes for the first time).

1. Pass competency exam (score 80% or above)
 - a. Proceed to coursework (see II. below)
 - b. Eligible to enroll in NuFS 217 if meet co-requisite requirements (see II. below)

At this point, student moves from unclassified to conditionally classified.

2. Fail competency exam
 - a. Retake class(es) (e.g. NuFS 8, 106A, or both) depending upon result of exam
 - b. Immediately after retaking classes (or the next time exam is offered if classes are not retaken), student retakes **entire** exam. Note: failure to retake exam at the next available date (without explanation) will result in student being no longer eligible to enroll in the MS program but they may continue to pursue the external DI track.
 - i. Pass competency exam: proceed to coursework (see II. below)

- ii. Fail competency exam (2nd fail): No longer eligible to enroll in the MS program but may continue to pursue external DI track

C. Nutrition students entering without a degree in nutrition

1. Must take NuFS 8 and 106A their first year (along with other required courses, e.g. Biochem, physiology, etc.)
2. Immediately after completion of 106A, take competency exam
 - a. Pass competency exam: Eligible to take 108A (also requires grade C or better in Biochem, physiology and 106A)
 - i. After taking 108A (and receiving a C), eligible to take NuFS 217 (see II. B. below)
 - ii. If student fails to take the exam upon completion of 106A, and does not provide an explanation of why they did not take the exam, missing the exam will count as their first failure. They MUST take the exam at the next date it is offered, or they will be considered to have failed twice. (See below)

At this point, student moves from unclassified to conditionally classified.

- b. Fail competency exam
 - i. Retake entire exam the next time it is offered
 - a.1. Pass exam, eligible for 108A, NuFS 217
 - a.2. Fail exam (2nd fail): dropped from the MS program; may continue to pursue 2nd baccalaureate degree, external DI

The following information refers to food science, food service management or packaging students who have enrolled either Fall 2006 or will enroll Spring 2007, and all subsequent food science, food service management or packaging students.

D. Students entering with degree in food science, food service management or packaging (from US or foreign school): must take appropriate competency exam upon entrance to program (e.g. the same semester they enroll in classes for the first time).

1. Pass competency exam (score 80% or above)
 - a. Proceed to coursework (see II. Below)
 - b. Eligible to enroll in NuFS 217 (see II. below)

At this point, student moves from unclassified to conditionally classified.

2. Fail competency exam
 - a. Retake class(es) depending upon result of exam (see advisor)
 - b. Immediately after retaking classes (or the next time exam is offered if classes are not retaken), student retakes **entire** exam (not just part failed)
 - i. Pass competency exam: proceed to coursework (see II. below)
 - ii. Fail competency exam (2nd fail): No longer eligible to enroll in the MS program

- E. Students entering without a degree in food science, food service, etc
1. Must take 101A (prerequisite NuFS 21 or equivalent or documented culinary experience) and 103 their first year (or upon completion of chemistry prerequisites).
 2. Immediately after completion of courses, they must take competency exam
 - a. Pass competency exam: proceed to coursework (see II. Below)
 - b. Fail competency exam: See progress outlined in D.2. above
 - c. If student fails to take the exam upon completion of 101A and 103, and does not provide an explanation of why they did not take the exam, missing the exam will count as their first failure. They **MUST** take the exam at the next date it is offered, or they will be considered to have failed twice.

At this point, student moves from unclassified to conditionally classified.

I.B. Second Competency Exam

- There is no deadline for students to take their second competency exam, however, student must pass both competency exams before filling out paperwork to advance to classified status and enroll in HPRF/NuFS 295. Thus, failure to take and pass the second competency exam might potentially DELAY student from enrolling in NuFS 295 and advancing to classified status (see II. C. below).

II. Course Work

- A. **NuFS 201**: All MS students who are enrolled in the MS program (whether or not they enroll in 201 that semester) are encouraged to attend the first two class meetings held at the beginning of **EVERY** semester to become familiar with the MS program, requirements and faculty.

1. Students entering with an undergraduate degree in their area of emphasis (e.g. nutrition, food science, food service management, packaging) can enroll as a 1st semester graduate student.
2. Students without undergraduate degree in area of emphasis may enroll depending upon what degree they hold; however, all nutrition students need to have taken 108A or equivalent before enrollment.
3. For second semester 201 students, a co-requisite or completion of NuFS 217 is required.

B. **NuFS 217:** Beginning in Spring 2007, enrollment is limited to students who have passed appropriate competency exams and taken appropriate coursework, as outlined above (and repeated below) (1-5). Beginning Fall 2008, students enrolling in 217 will be required to have taken, or be enrolled as a co-requisite, and upper division statistics class (Stats 115, HS 147 and Soc 103)

1. Students who enter as an RD must pass the nutrition competency exam.
2. Students whose emphasis is in nutrition and have an undergraduate degree in nutrition must pass the nutrition competency exam, and receive at least a C in 108A.
3. Students entering with undergraduate or advanced degrees in other disciplines (e.g. Food Science, Packaging, Food Service Management, Gerontological Nutrition) must pass the competency exam in their emphasis.
4. Students whose emphasis is in food science who do not have an undergraduate degree in food science must take 118 and 122 (or with the consent of an advisor, 133 or 155) **and** pass food science competency exam prior to enrollment.
5. Students whose emphasis is in food service management must take both 112 and 113 and pass the food service management competency exam prior to enrollment.

After successful completion of NuFS 217, the student will have fulfilled the graduate writing requirement. At this point, the student can request change of status from conditionally classified to classified status. Note, they must receive and maintain a 3.0 GPA or better. Further, they must fill out both Form C and Form D and present for evaluation to Graduate Advisor, along with SJSU transcripts. Thus, all students advancing to classified status will have passed TWO competency exams, and fulfilled the writing requirement.

C. **NuFS 295**

1. All students who have advanced to classified status, or are in the process of advancing (simply waiting for graduate studies to confirm), and have a major advisor may enroll in NuFS 295.
2. Enrollment requires co-requisite of 298/299.

3. Beginning Fall 2008, students enrolled in 295 will be required to have taken an upper division statistics course (HS 147, Stats 115 or Soc 103). Students enrolling after Fall 2008 will have met this requirement before enrolling in NUFS 217.
4. Students should have discussed their project/thesis/purpose/hypothesis with their graduate advisor and obtained approval prior to enrolling in 295 so that they can successfully complete requirements for completion of 295. Incompletes will not be granted to students who do not have a project and are not able to complete assignment #5 the semester they enroll in 295.

D. Thesis/Project

1. Only classified students may work on MS thesis/projects.
2. Students will enroll in NuFS 295 as well as 298 or 299 concurrently with starting a project as outlined in the MS Handbook.