

FOOD STUDIES (MA)

Department Website (<https://steinhardt.nyu.edu/programs/food-studies/>)

NYSED: 08233 **HEGIS:** 1306.00 **CIP:** 19.0501

Program Description

The MA program in Food Studies employs approaches from the humanities and social sciences to prepare students to analyze the current American food system, its global connections, and local alternatives. The program examines cultural, political, economic, environmental, and geographic approaches to food within local, urban, and global contexts. The program's mission is to examine the ways in which individuals, communities, and societies produce, distribute, and consume food. Cities at the center of flows of people, produce, and media products, are the prime locus of student and faculty investigations.

The program:

- Focuses on policy and advocacy, business and social entrepreneurship, and media and cultural analysis
- Challenges students with core, specialization, and elective courses offered by the department and by New York University's Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development; Stern School of Business; Wagner School of Public Service; Graduate School of Arts and Sciences; and Tisch School of the Arts
- Broadens work experience. The program helps students locate internships in a vast array of potential employment sites, and places them in positions where they can develop new skills and gain access to potential employers.
- Gives access to food production companies, nonprofit food organizations, policy organizations and advocacy groups, publishers, public relations and marketing firms, magazines, food distributors, food producers and educational institutions, as well as to the food professionals who work in them and enrich the program by serving as adjunct faculty and guest lecturers
- Emphasizes development of critical thinking and research skills that help students analyze and solve problems that may be encountered in professional work
- Offers experiential learning courses in global, domestic, and urban venues

Dual Degree

Students may also pursue a dual degree in Library and Information Science (<https://steinhardt.nyu.edu/degree/ma-food-studies-mslis-library-and-information-science/>) offered in partnership with Long Island University' Palmer School. International students in the dual degree option may be able to work in the United States after graduation for an extended period of time through the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics) OPT extension.

Admissions

Admission to graduate programs in the Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development requires the following minimum components:

- Résumé/CV
- Statement of Purpose

- Letters of Recommendation
- Transcripts
- Proficiency in English

See NYU Steinhardt's Graduate Admissions website (<https://steinhardt.nyu.edu/admissions/how-apply/graduate-students/>) for additional information on school-wide admission. Some programs may require additional components for admissions.

See How to Apply (<https://steinhardt.nyu.edu/degree/ma-food-studies/how-apply/>) for admission requirements and instructions specific to this program.

Program Requirements

The requirements for the MA program in food studies include a core curriculum of 15 credits and an additional 18-24 credits of specialization in policy and advocacy, business and entrepreneurship, or media and cultural analysis.

Students may choose electives from alternative areas of study or other courses of interest within NYU: other programs in Steinhardt (e.g., Media, Culture, and Communication; Environmental Conservation Education, etc.); Stern School of Business; Wagner School of Public Service; Tisch School of the Arts; and the Graduate School of Arts and Science.

Course	Title	Credits
Core Courses		
FOOD-GE 2033	Food Systems	3
FOOD-GE 2191	Food and Culture	3
FOOD-GE 2017	Contemporary Food Sociology	3
FOOD-GE 2015	Food Policy	3
FOOD-GE 2061	Food Studies Capstone Seminar (repeatable)	3
Electives		
Select 18-24 credits by advisement from one of the following areas: 18-24		
Policy & Advocacy		
Business & Social Entrepreneurship		
Media & Cultural Analysis		
Experiential Courses		
Total Credits		33-39

Note: Students who wish to deepen their studies may take an additional 6 elective credits for a total of 39 credits.

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
FOOD-GE 2015	Food Policy	3
FOOD-GE 2191	Food and Culture	3
Elective Course		3
		Credits
		9
2nd Semester/Term		
FOOD-GE 2015	Food Policy	3
FOOD-GE 2033	Food Systems	3
Elective Course		3
		Credits
		9
3rd Semester/Term		
Elective Course		3
Elective Course		3

Elective Course		3
	Credits	9
4th Semester/Term		
FOOD-GE 2061	Food Studies Capstone Seminar	3
Elective Course		3
	Credits	6
	Total Credits	33

Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will:

1. Engage the study of food and its conventional and alternative systems using an interdisciplinary approach, allowing cultural, historical, political, and economic analyses of food.
2. Demonstrate mastery of the study of food and discuss the elements related to food sovereignty, sustainability, ethics and culture.
3. Describe all aspects related to food, including how individuals and societies make food choices; how food is produced and distributed; policies that alter the food landscape; equity in the food system; cultural norms and values; and historical and contemporary issues.
4. Succeed in careers within policy and advocacy; media, social, and cultural analysis; and business & social entrepreneurship.

Policies

STEM OPT Benefits for International Students

If you're an international student, you may be able to work in the United States after graduation for an extended period of time. Most students studying on F-1 visas will be eligible for 12 months of Optional Practical Training (OPT) off-campus work authorization. F-1 students in this program may also be eligible for the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics) OPT extension, allowing you to extend your time in the United States to pursue degree-related work experience for a total of 36 months or 3 years. For more information on who can apply for this extension visit NYU's Office of Global Services: STEM OPT (<http://www.nyu.edu/students/student-information-and-resources/student-visa-and-immigration/alumni/extend-your-opt/stem-opt.html>).

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

Steinhardt Academic Policies

Additional academic policies can be found the Steinhardt academic policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/graduate/culture-education-human-development/academic-policies/>).