University College Dublin
Ireland's Global University

MSc Food Safety (Online)
(Two Years, Part-time)

As the global population increases, creating a demand for even more food, producing safe food has never been as important. Many of us are in the lucky position that we can say we get to eat something everyday, and ideally, that food which we eat should not make us sick or cause us to feel unwell. Put simply: 'If it isn't safe, it isn't food!'.

This programme, which is underpinned by current and ongoing research, will give students a detailed understanding of the issues affecting food safety both from the perspective of the food industry and regulatory authorities, as well as enabling students to develop the necessary analytical skills and theoretical understanding to manage food safety programmes within global food companies or within national and international food safety regulatory agencies.

This programme is delivered by leading international experts from the UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science and the UCD Institute of Food and Health and will develop committed and interdisciplinarily trained graduates skilled in the area of Food Safety in the context of the broader food industry.

The MSc Food Safety is designed for and will appeal to Science or Technology graduates who currently don't have a qualification in Food Safety, as well as professionals who are currently working in the Food Industry, that wish to upskill and further develop their expertise in food safety.

UCD Institute of Food and Health

The UCD Institute of Food and Health brings together UCD academic staff with active research programmes in the area of Food and Health into one centre of excellence. The Institute is a multi-disciplinary, campus-wide initiative, comprising 60+ Principal Investigators and their teams with multidisciplinary expertise, all working together to deliver pioneering research in the area of food and health.

Why study at UCD?

Tradition
Established 1854, with over 165 years of teaching & research excellence

Global profile
UCD is ranked in the top 1% of higher education institutions worldwide

Global community
Over 8,500 international students from over 139 countries study at UCD

Global careers
Degrees with high employability; dedicated careers support; 1 year stay-back visa

Safety
Modern parkland campus with 24 hour security, minutes from Dublin city centre

Course Content and Structure

90 credits taught masters

This programme is delivered and assessed entirely online. The minimum registration to the MSc is two years, however, students have four years in which to complete the programme thereby affording flexibility. The online format of the programme enables students enrolled to combine studying while in employment.

Modules for students enrolling in this programme include:

- Advanced Food Safety and Security
- Bioinformatics in Food Safety
- Food Chain Integrity
- Food Microbiology and Safety
- Food Preservation
- Food Safety Project
- Food Security: Food Access and Availability
- Microbiology
- One Health
- Precision Food Safety in the Genomics Era
- Quantitative Risk Assessment for Human and Animal Health
- Research Design and Statistics
- Risk Analysis in Food Safety
- Traceability and Authenticity in Food Supply

Modules include a mixture of autonomous student learning, course work, and lectures. The course is assessed by a combination of assignments, in-trimester continuous assessment exercises, and end of trimester examinations.

Career Opportunities

This programme is suitable for individuals working full-time in the food industry charged with improving the safety and security of food systems as well as recent graduates of Science and Technology from areas such as Agriculture, Bioinformatics, Microbiology, and Molecular Biology who are interested in enhancing their knowledge in the area of Food Safety.

The UCD MSc in Food Safety positions graduates for leadership roles in this critically important area for the Irish and Global economy. There are excellent career opportunities for graduates in advisory, technical, and management roles both within the food industry, government organisations, and regulatory agencies.

Graduate Roles include:
- Food Regulation
- Food Safety and Risk Analysis
- Food Safety Research
- Policy Development
- Scientific Analyst

Apply Now

Apply online at www.ucd.ie/apply

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must hold a minimum of an upper second-class level 8 degree, or international equivalent, in a cognate subject (Science, Engineering, or related discipline) and/or have considerable relevant work experience in the Agri-Food industry.
- Applicants who do not hold the requisite Science qualification (but who hold a Level 8 Honours degree or equivalent) have been admitted previously and are advised to submit an application for assessment by the Programme Director to determine eligibility.
- Applicants with other awards who hold substantial relevant work experience will be considered.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.

Staff Profile

Dr. Daniel Hurley,
Programme Director

My research interests include the application of bioinformatics and molecular microbiology techniques to food safety with a focus on functional genomics and whole genome sequencing for foodborne outbreak epidemiology.

My background is in biochemistry and computational infection biology where my research has focused on the host-pathogen interactions with Salmonella and other foodborne pathogens.

Fees

Tuition fee information is available on www.ucd.ie/fees.

Scholarships

Please note that UCD offers a number of graduate scholarships for full-time, self-funding international students, holding an offer of a place on a UCD masters programme. Please see www.ucd.ie/global/scholarships for further information.

Related Masters Programmes of Interest

- MSc Food, Nutrition and Health (Online)
- MSc Sustainable Food Processing (Online)
- MSc Animal Science (Online)
- Professional Diploma in Food Safety and Regulatory Science (Online)

Contact Us

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