

Master of Arts in **Food Studies** **+ MBA** dual degree

Transform the future of food

Chatham University is proud to offer our Master of Arts in Food Studies degree in conjunction with our Master of Business Administration degree. Core courses provide breadth and depth in food studies, business, and sustainable markets, equipping all students with a holistic understanding of food systems and business skills.

Students benefit not only from the 388-acre Eden Hall Campus, but also from Pittsburgh's explosive culinary scene. An in-depth knowledge of food production, culture, and history combined with unimpeachable mastery of business concepts and strategy prepares students to move into positions as leaders and entrepreneurs in these increasingly important areas.

[falk.chatham.edu/
mafs-mba](http://falk.chatham.edu/mafs-mba)



chatham[®] UNIVERSITY

IT'S NOT JUST EARTH DAY. IT'S EVERY DAY.

We are inspired by environmental icon and Chatham alumna Rachel Carson '29, whose own work over 50 years ago continues to change the world.

The Princeton Review and the U.S. Green Building Council recognized Chatham University as one of the most environmentally responsible colleges in the United States and Canada. Chatham received a “Green Rating” score of 98 out of a possible 99 – the highest of any university in Pittsburgh.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Students graduate with all of the requirements for both degrees in only 51 credits—a savings of 26 credits compared to taking the programs separately.

- Full-time students can complete the degree in five terms (including fall, spring, and summer).
- An optional first summer is offered for students who require prerequisites or simply want more time to take classes.
- Faculty and staff draw from the Department of Business and Entrepreneurship and the Falk School of Sustainability & Environment, bringing a range of experiences and expertise to the program.
- Each student completes a thesis or project in food studies.
- Internships and directed study in community settings are highly encouraged.
- All students gain applied skills in sustainable agriculture, culinary, and product development.

SAMPLE COURSES

BUS577: Information Systems and Analytics

This course explores the strategic management of technology, information, and people from a Chief Information Officer's (CIO) perspective. The business value and organizational challenges of enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems, customer relationship management (CRM) systems, data warehouses, analytics, and Big Data are critically examined through cases and hands-on projects.

SUS581: Entrepreneurial Alternatives

The class examines alternative paths to entrepreneurship for students interested in owning and operating an existing business. There is an emphasis on food-related businesses (production/processing, distribution, retail). Students will learn about acquiring an existing business or franchise. Skills covered include selecting targets, evaluation, appropriate financial valuation, deal structuring, arranging financing and post-closing operations planning.

FST508: Food Systems

Examines philosophical, sociological, economic, and cultural issues related to the production and consumption of food. From Agrarianism to the Green Revolution, explores the transformations of industrialization, technology, and migration. Provides foundation in food systems and commodity chains as concepts and methodological tools for uncovering the relationship between communities, agriculture, markets, and consumers.

▶ falk.chatham.edu/mafs-mba/curriculum.cfm

OUTCOMES

Students with these degrees are especially well-suited for employment within the following sectors:

Non-Profits

- Consulting on food justice, security, and sustainable community development
- Local food system mapping and historic preservation (land, agriculture, food heritage)
- Food security and policy, anti-hunger organizations
- Urban development
- Farm-to-table
- Education: farm-to-school programs
- Fair trade advocacy and oversight

Businesses

- Regional or national food production or distribution companies
- Food marketing
- Food innovation and commercialization
- Sustainable farm-to-table consulting for food production companies, restaurants, small businesses, farms, and other producers
- Sustainable and heritage culinary education and product development
- Urban and rural planning related to local food systems and economic infrastructure growth

- Green marketing
- Ethnic entrepreneurship and women's business development
- Neighborhood development and economic preservation
- Geographical indicator promotion
- Food operations and distribution

Communications

- Food writing/publishing
- Web development and other online food sites
- Public relations and marketing (particularly sustainably-oriented restaurants, lobby groups, and promotional organizations)
- Regional promotion and development
- Policy and advocacy work

Government

- Local and regional development
- Community-building organizations
- Fair trade regulation
- NGO work

“As Pittsburgh becomes the hub for regional and national food suppliers, this unique program provides both the critical discourse we need for the food systems in the region, and the business skills the region needs to make awesome food innovations happen!”

— TINGTING (RACHEL) CHUNG, PH.D.,
*program director and
chair of business programs*

LEARN MORE

Chatham University
Office of Admission
Woodland Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15232
800-837-1290 or 412-365-1825
graduate@chatham.edu

falk.chatham.edu/mafs-mba

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university
- Overall grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale. (Applicants with less than a 3.0 who show extreme promise through other achievements may be granted conditional admission.)
- Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended
- Curriculum vitae or resume
- Completed application form
- Two letters of recommendation describing an applicant's capacity for independent thinking, written and verbal communication skills, and ability to thrive in a collaborative, interdisciplinary academic setting. At least one letter should be from an academic source.
- Personal essay or statement of approximately 500 words stating experiences and interests in business, food, sustainability or agriculture, and motivation for pursuing a graduate degree. An optional additional writing sample is encouraged.

Note: Admission to the program requires that you take Business Statistics and Financial Accounting. If admitted, you can take these courses before, or in conjunction with, the beginning of the dual degree program.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

- Fall Priority Deadline: February 1. All application materials must be received by this date for first consideration of assistantships.
- Fall Regular Deadline: June 15
- Spring Deadline: November 1

 **Apply online at chatham.edu/apply**

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

A limited number of Graduate Teaching Fellowships and Assistantships are available to full-time graduate students. These are awarded in the form of tuition remission and can save a student 30% or more off the price of tuition, depending on the

number of credits taken per term. Chatham also offers a limited number of paid graduate student employment positions in various academic and administrative departments across campus. Please contact your admission counselor to learn more.