

Restaurant Operations

The daily responsibilities of culinary arts graduates and food service managers can often be as complicated as some of the meals prepared by a fine chef. Graduating from NMU's Restaurant Operations program prepares students for professional positions in food production and baking. Small classes promise personal interaction between students and instructors.

Graduates are prepared to select and price menu items, use food and other supplies efficiently, and achieve the highest quality food preparation and service skills. Managers today are also responsible for a growing number of administrative and human resource tasks. For example, managers must carefully find and evaluate new ways of recruiting employees in a tight job market.

One of the most important tasks of restaurant operations is selecting successful menu items. This responsibility varies by establishment because, although many restaurants rarely change their menu, others make frequent alterations. Another fundamental role of restaurant operations is supervising the kitchen and dining room staff. For example, managers often oversee all food preparation and cooking, examining the quality and portion sizes to ensure that dishes are prepared and garnished correctly and in a timely manner.

Skills and Competencies

Students considering a career in the restaurant operations field should prepare themselves for working night shifts or weekends; overtime is common in the business. A person in this field should be responsible, have good coordination skills, and should not mind working under pressure. Restaurant Operations will have to deal with unhappy customers and other problems in the business. Good communication skills are important when dealing with suppliers and staff. A clean and healthy appearance is a must because workers often come in close contact with the public. Employees should be open to relocate for better career opportunities.

Course Work

This degree includes the following courses as part of the program requirements, and specific major requirements along with general education courses and graduation requirements.

General Education

EN111 college Composition I (4 cr.)

MA101 Quantitative Literacy (4 cr.)

Choose eight credit hours from the following categories:

Effective Communication elective (4 cr.)

Social Responsibility in a Diverse World Elective (4 cr.)

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Integrative Thinking Elective (4 cr.)

Human Expression Elective (4 cr.)

Perspectives on Society Elective (4 cr.)

Scientific Inquiry Elective (4 cr.)

Core

HM111 Food Service Sanitation (2 cr.)

HM112 Intro to the Tourism and Hospitality Industry (4 cr.)

HM115 Professional Cooking I (4 cr.)

HM120 Professional Cooking II (4 cr.)

HM126 Procurement for Restaurant Operations (2 cr.)

HM214 Cost Control for Hospitality Industry (4 cr.)

HM221 Hospitality Services Management (4 cr.) or
HM260 Front Office Operations (3 cr.)

HM265 Facilities, Equipment, & Technology (4 cr.)

Other Required Courses

MKT230 Introduction to Marketing (4 cr.)

Electives (12 cr.)

Career Development

You should begin the resume-building process as soon as you can. The Academic and Career Advisement Center can assist you with career planning, while Career Services will help you fine tune your resume and look for jobs related to your field. In the meantime, the more hands-on experience you have, the better the chances are that you will find a job. Becoming involved in a professional related internship is a way to develop your professional skills and gain experience. Your academic course work is important as well, so be sure to maintain a high grade point average.

Additional Considerations

Restaurant Operations is an associate of applied science requiring 62 credits, approximately four semesters, to complete.

This degree will ladder into the Hospitality Management baccalaureate degree program, meaning that the 62 credits can be applied directly toward the 124 credits required to earn a baccalaureate degree.

Job Outlook

As a profession, Restaurant Operations is expected to decline slowly, losing position at a rate of 20%. Average earnings is \$28,400.

Potential Careers

NMU's Restaurant Operations Program prepares students for employment in the following careers:

- Banquet Cook-Care
- Deli Worker
- Dietary Aide-Cook
- Food Service Manager
- Food Service Worker
- Kitchen Manager
- Lunch/Prep Cook
- Sous Chef

Additional Resources and Information

For Career Planning and Opportunities:
Academic & Career Advisement Center
3302.1 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2971
103 Jacobetti Complex
906-227-2283
www.nmu.edu/acac

Technology and Occupational Sciences
101 Jacobetti Complex
906-227-2135
www.nmu.edu/tos

For Job Search, Resume and Career Information:
Career Services
3302.3 C.B. Hedgcock
906-227-2800
www.nmu.edu/careers

For Information about NMU Student Organizations Associated with this Major Contact:
Center for Student Enrichment
1206 University Center
906-227-2439
www.nmu.edu/cse

Internet Resource Links:
www.careers.org
www.bls.gov

For Career Information with National Organizations:
www.chrie.org -The International Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education
www.hfm.org -National Society of Healthcare Food Management
www.restaurant.org -National Restaurant Assoc.



**NORTHERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY**

The Academic & Career Advisement Center
2022



What to do with
a major in...

Restaurant Operations

Associate's Degree

