



Didactic Program in Dietetics Student Handbook

A supplement to the Undergraduate Student Handbook for Health Promotion Programs

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Table of Contents

Academic Advising Center	3
Goals of the Didactic Program in Dietetics	4
Accreditation Status	4
Admission and Retention	4
Curriculum	5
Advancement and Major Maps	5
Policies and Procedures	6
Student Complaint Procedures.....	6
Internship/Career Advising.....	6
Graduation Requirements.....	6
Dietetic Program Completion	7
Registration Exam for Dietetic Technician, Registered	7
Verification and Declaration of Intent Forms.	7
Transfer Students	7
International Students.....	7
Expenses.....	8

This handbook is intended to provide information regarding the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) at Arizona State University (ASU). The handbook will provide you with guidelines for successful completion of a Bachelor of Science in Nutrition/Dietetics Concentration. This handbook is a supplement to the ASU General Catalog and the School of Nutrition and Health Promotion (SNHP) Undergraduate Student Handbook for Health Promotion Programs. Additional information regarding student academic status, graduation process, advisement, student grievances and professional behavior are available from these sources. Please contact an academic success specialist or the DPD Director for additional information.

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Mission Statement of the Didactic Program in Dietetics

The mission of the didactic program in dietetics at ASU is to provide students with a comprehensive, rigorous academic core of knowledge and professional skills to prepare students for supervised practice in the dietetics profession and/or post-baccalaureate educational programs. This mission is pursued in an environment that values the individual strengths and diversity of our students, and in which students are provided opportunities to serve and learn in the surrounding community.

Goals of the Didactic Program in Dietetics

The primary goals of the Didactic Program in Dietetics at Arizona State University are as follows:

Goal #1: Prepare graduates for entry into and successful completion of supervised practice in the dietetics profession and/or post-baccalaureate education.

Measured Outcomes

- Pass rate of first-time test takers on the registration examination: Over a five-year period, the pass rate for DPD graduates taking the registration examination for the first time will be at least 80% within one year following the first attempt.
- Supervised practice application rate: Over a five-year period, 60% of DPD graduates will apply to supervised practice programs the academic year they complete the program.
- Supervised practice acceptance rate: Over a five-year period, 80% of those applying to supervised practice programs the academic year they complete the program will be accepted.
- Of those graduates who did not apply or were not accepted into a supervised practice, 50% will have obtained employment related to their major and/or been accepted into an accredited continuing education program within 3 months of graduation.
- 80% of internship directors will rate the graduates on their overall professional preparation as competent or extremely competent.
- 80% of the graduates will rate their overall professional preparation as competent or extremely competent

Goal #2- The program will prepare graduates in a timely manner who are proficient in the foundation knowledge requirements for Didactic Programs in Dietetics as outlined by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics

Measured Outcomes

- Program Completion: 80% of students enrolled in the professional courses in the third year of the program will complete the program/degree requirements within 150% of the time planned for completion.
- Supervised Practice DI Director Satisfaction: 80% of DI directors will rate the graduates on their overall academic preparation as competent or extremely competent.
- Supervised Practice DI Director Satisfaction: 80% of DI Directors will rate the graduates on their overall professional preparation as competent or extremely competent.

Any outcome data is available upon request.

Accreditation Status

The Didactic Program in Dietetics is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND), 120 South Riverside Parkway, Suite 2190, Chicago, IL 60606-6995. 800-877-1600, ext 5400. [ACEND Website](#) Accreditation by ACEND/AND ensures that graduates can apply for Dietetic Internships which lead to eligibility to earn

Registered Dietitian (RD) status.

Admission and Retention

All students admitted to ASU can enroll in the DPD program and will be retained in the program as long as requirements for advancement are met.

Curriculum

At Arizona State University (ASU), the Didactic Program consists of the completion of a bachelor's degree in nutrition with a concentration in dietetics. This concentration provides all of the specific courses to meet the didactic/knowledge guidelines set by AND. The Dietetic Concentration has been granted Accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND). A complete list of required courses and a recommended sequence for course completion is included in the major maps for the BS in Nutrition/Dietetic Concentration. If a student has completed a bachelor's degree in another area or another university, he/she must complete the following roster of DPD classes. Upon completion of this step you will receive a *Verification Statement* signed by the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) Director. Note that each educational institution defines the specific courses which constitute their "DPD Program." At ASU, these courses are:

Course	ASU Course Title	Type of Course
NTR 351	Nutrition and Health Communications	Prof. DPD
Varies	Statistics	Prof. DPD
PGS 101	Introduction to Psychology	Prof. DPD
CHM 101 or CHM 113	Introductory or General Chemistry with Lab (1 semester only)	Science DPD
CHM 231 & 235(lab)	Organic Chemistry and Lab	Science DPD
BCH 361 & 367(lab)	Biochemistry and Lab	Science DPD
MIC 205 & 206(lab)	Microbiology and Lab	Science DPD
BIO 201	Human Anatomy/Physiology I with Lab	Science DPD
BIO 202	Human Anatomy/Physiology II with Lab	Science DPD
NTR 142	Applied Food Principles	Prof. DPD
NTR 150	Intro to Profession of Nutrition & Dietetics	Prof. DPD
NTR 241	Human Nutrition	Prof. DPD
NTR 340	Evidence Based Nutrition	Prof. DPD
NTR 341	Introduction to Planning Therapeutic Diets	Prof. DPD
NTR 343	Food Service Purchasing	Prof. DPD
NTR 344	Nutrition Services Management	Prof. DPD
NTR 350	Nutrition Counseling	Prof. DPD
NTR 400	Preprofessional Prep in Dietetics	Prof. DPD
NTR 440	Advanced Human Nutrition I (Micronutrients)	Prof. DPD
NTR 441	Advanced Human Nutrition II (Macronutrients)	Prof. DPD
NTR 444	Medical Nutrition Therapy	Prof. DPD
NTR 445	Management of Food Service Systems	Prof. DPD
NTR 446	Human Nutrition Assessment Lecture/Lab	Prof. DPD
NTR 448	Community Nutrition	Prof. DPD
NTR 450	Nutrition in the Life Cycle	Prof. DPD

Advancement and Major Maps

The major map for the DPD program which contains the recommended course sequence and requirements for advancement and graduation from the program can be found at:

<http://catalog.asu.edu/files/majormap10/ECNTRDBS.pdf>

Advancement to the upper division dietetics program requires a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher and a grade of “C” or better in all critical courses.

Policies and Procedures

The ASU Nutrition/Dietetics Program complies with established University policies regarding protection of student civil rights and privacy, access to student support services, and the process for student grievances. Additional information regarding these policies and procedures can be found in the ASU General Catalog and the School of Nutrition and Health Promotion (SNHP) Undergraduate Student Handbook for Health Promotion Programs.

Student complaints: Students in the DPD program who have complaints regarding specific issues relating to the DPD program (not including grade disputes within a DPD class as those are procedures are outlined under the University policies referenced above) may first send the complaint to the DPD Director. If the student and DPD Director are unable to resolve the complaint, the complaint will then be forwarded to the Director of the Nutrition Program for resolution. More information on University policies for student grievances: <https://catalog.asu.edu/appeal>

The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND), formerly known as the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education (CADE) will review complaints that relate to a program’s compliance with the accreditation standards. ACEND is interested in the sustained quality and continued improvement of dietetics education programs but does not intervene on behalf of individuals or act as a court of appeal for individuals in matters of admission, appointment, promotion or dismissal of faculty, staff, or interns. A copy of the accreditation standards and/or ACEND’s policy and procedure for submission of complaints may be obtained by contacting the Education and Accreditation staff at the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics at 120 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000, Chicago, Illinois 60606 or by calling 1-800-877-1600 extension 4872. Written complaints should be mailed to the Chair, Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics at the above address.

Internship/Career Advising

Internship information is provided in the courses: NTR 150: Introduction to the Profession of Nutrition and Dietetics and NTR 400: Pre-professional Practice in Dietetics. In addition, internship information sessions are held each semester. Individual advising and assistance with the application process is provided at the internship/career advising interview and other scheduled meetings with the DPD Director. Six months to one year prior to graduation, students will schedule an internship/career advising interview with the DPD Director. During this interview, students will receive information regarding career and internship options based on the student’s specific career goals.

Student Assessment Methods

The ASU DPD curriculum provides learning activities to attain all the knowledge and learning outcomes as defined by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics. The curriculum has been designed to build on concepts introduced in lower division courses and to increase competence of students as they progress through the curriculum. Students are prepared for competence in the nutrition care process through progressive coursework; utilizing an array of learning methods. Faculty assess student learning through assignments, projects, case studies and exams. Group projects are also used to develop the teamwork and collaboration skills.

Graduation Requirements

To apply for graduation, you will need to register for your final semester, complete the degree audit and apply online at MyASU. There is no time limit for completion of the undergraduate degree in dietetics. Check your application status to ensure all appropriate steps have been completed and

processed. For assistance with this process, contact an Academic Success Specialist. Diplomas are mailed approximately 10-12 weeks after the degree conferral date. They are mailed to the home address on file with the University Registrar's Office.

Dietetic Program Completion

Dietetic Internship Applications

After completion of the DPD program, students must complete a Dietetic Internship to be eligible to take the Registration Examination to become a Registered Dietitian. Students may apply to the internship(s) of their choice during their final semester or following graduation from the program. **Admission to internships is very competitive. A strong academic record and relevant work experience will increase the likelihood that a student will be admitted to an internship.** Internship programs generally consider the student's overall GPA, Science GPA and DPD GPA when making appointment decisions.

Registration Exam for Dietetic Technician, Registered

Students who complete both a baccalaureate and a DPD are eligible to take the Registration Examination to become a Dietetic Technician, Registered (DTR). The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics is the credentialing organization for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. Information about becoming a DTR can be found at:

<http://www.eatright.org/BecomeanRDorDTR/content.aspx?id=8144>

Verification and Declaration of Intent Forms

Following completion of all DPD requirements and a baccalaureate degree, 5 originals of a Verification of Completion Form are issued to you. This form is required before beginning a Dietetic Internship or taking the Registration Examination for Dietetic Technician, Registered. If you apply to an internship before completing all DPD requirements, you will need to submit a Declaration of Intent Form. Contact the DPD Director to obtain a completed form.

Contact the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) Director if you need additional copies of the Verification Statement. These will be re-issued with the actual date of program completion. The Verification Statement is proof of completion of ACEND academic requirements.

Transfer Students

Transfer students will need a transcript evaluation completed by an Academic Success Specialist or the DPD Director. Following the transcript evaluation, the student will be advised regarding the additional coursework necessary to meet the academic requirements for the Verification Statement. Work experience is not used to determine coursework requirements. Students coming to ASU from other programs must complete a minimum of 15 credits of upper division NTR courses at ASU including nine (9) credits from the following: NTR 440, 441, 444, 446.

International Students

Students desiring a Verification Statement from Arizona State University after completing a degree or coursework outside of the United States will need an equivalency report from one of the evaluation agencies approved by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

<http://www.eatright.org/students/getstarted/international/agencies.aspx>

The DPD Director will evaluate this document plus copies of all transcripts. Following this evaluation, the student will be advised regarding the additional coursework necessary to meet the academic requirements for the Verification Statement. Verification Statements signed by the DPD Program Director will be issued after completion of all academic requirements.

Expenses

Information regarding University tuition and fees are available at: <https://students.asu.edu/tuition>

<http://students.asu.edu/tuitionandbilling>

In addition, some courses include course fees to cover the cost of materials. These courses are:

NTR 142-Applied Food Principles	\$50.00
NTR 341-Introduction to Therapeutic Diets	\$25.00
NTR 445-Management of Food Service Systems	\$50.00
NTR 446-Human Nutrition Assessment	\$100.00

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