Dietetics and Nutrition

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Marcia Magnus, Associate Professor
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Penelope S. Easton, Professor Emeritus, Founding Chair
Susan P. Himburg, Professor Emeritus and Associate Vice-President, Academic Planning and Accountability
Dian O. Weddle, Associate Professor Emeritus

The Program in Dietetics and Nutrition offers graduate studies leading to a Master of Science or a Doctor of Philosophy in Dietetics and Nutrition. The M.S. program is designed to meet the needs of professional practitioners as well as students with undergraduate degrees in related fields. The Ph.D. program prepares graduates to assume leadership roles in research, academia, government agencies, private industry and community-based organizations. Our doctoral program allows students to study and work side-by-side with nationally known educators, researchers, and practitioners who serve as mentors.

The Dietetic Internship (DI) Program has been granted Full Accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND®). The address, telephone number and website for ACEND® is 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000; Chicago, IL 60606-6995; (312) 899-0040; http://www.eatright.org/ACEND.

Students who meet the admissions’ criteria on the application and have completed a Didactic Program in Dietetics approved or accredited by ACEND® are eligible to apply to the DI. The Dietetic Internship Program does not grant credit for prior learning for any portion of the internship components. All interns must successfully complete the required courses, practica and number of supervised practice hours to receive a DI verification statement. For further information, please visit the website, https://stempel.fiu.edu/

Master of Science in Dietetics and Nutrition

Admission Requirements

Minimum entrance requirements under current University Graduate School must be met. For the M.S. this includes a ‘B’ (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) average in all upper division coursework. Prospective applicants must have completed the following courses with a grade of “C” or higher:

- CHM 1045 General Chemistry I 3
- CHM 1045L General Chemistry Lab I 1
- CHM 2210 Organic Chemistry I 4
- CHM 2210L Organic Chemistry Lab I 1
- CHM 2211 Organic Chemistry II 3
- CHM 2211L Organic Chemistry Lab II 1
- HSC 3549 Clinical Physiology for Health Professionals 3
- HUN 2201 Principles of Nutrition 3
- HUN 4240 Nutrition and Biochemistry 3
- OR
- PHC 6500 Foundation of Public Health Practice 3

Students who are candidates for the Master of Science degree in Dietetics and Nutrition must complete a minimum of 37 semester hours of graduate study including at least 30 hours at this University. All course work must be recent enough to be relevant to the contemporary field of nutrition.

Graduate students wishing to become a Registered Dietitian may use the Department website for information and discuss their options with the Graduate Program Director.

Each student’s program will be planned to support his/her career goals through consultation with an assigned faculty advisor. Retention and graduation in the Master’s program requires maintenance of a 3.0 GPA and student may not receive more than 2 grades of “C+”.

Course Requirements: (37 credits)

Nutrition Core: (9 credits)

Students must take at least three out of five courses. One course must be in macro-nutrients, one in micro-nutrients.

- HUN 5245 Nutrition and Biochemistry 3
- HUN 6307 Carbohydrates and Lipids 3
- HUN 6327 Proteins 3
- HUN 6335 Functions of Vitamins 3
- HUN 6355 Minerals in Human Nutrition 3

Public Health Core: (3 credits)

- PHC 6500 Foundation of Public Health Practice 3

Research Core:

There are 3 options to meet the requirements for research:
- Option 1: Research Courses
- Option 2: Master’s Project
- Option 3: Master’s Thesis

Research Courses (14 credits)

The research option provides the opportunity to develop an overview in the knowledge and skills of research primarily through secondary data analysis. Students who select this option state a research problem and relevant
research question which will be addressed through
the creation of a research proposal. Students will write a report and present their topic to the class.

DIE 6568  Research I  3
DIE 6567  Research II  3
STA 6166  Statistical Methods in Research 3
OR
PHC 6052  Biostatistics I  3
DIE 6937  Graduate Seminar in Dietetics (two semesters, 1 credit each) 2
Recommended Elective  3

Masters Project Option (14 credits)

Master’s Project is a non-thesis option. It affords the opportunity to conduct original applied research, program planning, or program evaluation on a specific dietetics and nutrition problem, topic, or existing program. Students who select the Master’s Project must choose a major professor to direct their project. The advisor and the student may identify other resource persons to serve in an advisory capacity for the project. Before beginning the project, student must present a project concept proposal to the major professor. Student will write a project report and present the project in Seminar.

DIE 6568  Research I  3
DIE 6937  Graduate Seminar in Dietetics (two semesters, 1 credit each) 2
STA 6166  Statistical Methods in Research 3
OR
PHC 6052  Biostatistics I  3
DIE 6576  Project in Dietetics and Nutrition  6

Master Thesis Option (14 credits)

The thesis option provides the student the opportunity to conduct original research and to report this in a scholarly manuscript. This option is especially well suited to a student who plans on pursuing a PhD degree. Students who select this option must choose a major professor to act as the chair of their thesis committee and two additional committee members. Before beginning work on a thesis, a student must present a proposal to their committee for approval. The committee will direct and supervise the work carried out by the student. Student will write a report and present the research at an announced open forum.

DIE 6568  Research I  3
DIE 6937  Graduate Seminar in Dietetics (two semesters, 1 credit each) 2
DIE 6971  Thesis in Dietetics and Nutrition  6
STA 6166  Statistical Methods in Research  3
OR
PHC 6052  Biostatistics I  3

Recommended Electives1: (11 credits)

DIE 5247  Trends in Therapeutic Nutrition  3
ANT 6469  Graduate Medical Anthropology  3
DIE 6128  Dietetics Administration & Management 3
DIE 6259  Management of Nutrition Services 3
DIE 6285  Pregnancy and Lactation  3
DIE 6286  Pediatric Obesity  3
DIE 6287  Pediatric Dysfunctional Eating  3
DIE 6368  Advanced Techniques in Dietetic Practice  3
DIE 6368L  Advanced Techniques in Dietetic Practice Lab  1
DIE 6929  Specialized Short Course in Dietetics and Nutrition 1
DIE 6935  Special Topics in Dietetics 3
FOS 6236  Food Toxicology and Food Safety  3
HUN 5123  Ethnic Influences on Nutrition and Food Habits  3
HUN 5195  International Nutrition: Problems, Policies and Planning  3
HUN 5245  Nutritional Biochemistry  3
HUN 5611  Nutrition Education in the Community 3
HUN 5621  Food, Nutrition and Communication 3
HUN 6248  Sports Nutrition 3
HUN 6254  Drug and Nutrient Interaction 3
HUN 6255  Nutrition and Wellness 3
HUN 6257  Physio/Psychology of Food Intake  3
HUN 6266  Nutritional Assessment 3
HUN 6295  Contemporary Issues in Food and Nutrition 3
HUN 6415  Pediatric Nutrition 3
HUN 6416  Advanced Pediatric Nutrition 3
HUN 6417  Nutrition for the High-Risk Infant and Newborn in Intensive Care Unit 3
HUN 6435  Nutrition and Aging 3
HUN 6522  Public Health Nutrition 3

1Courses that are not listed as recommended electives may be taken as approved by advisor/Program Director.

Nutrition Science Accelerated Bachelor’s/Master’s Degree Pathway

The combined degree pathway provides an accelerated seamless course of study leading from the undergraduate freshman year to the conferral of the Master of Science in Dietetics & Nutrition. The accelerated BS/MS pathway will integrate undergraduate and graduate coursework. The BS in Dietetics & Nutrition (Nutrition Science Major) requires 120 credits. The MS in Dietetics & Nutrition is comprised of 37 credit hours. Ten graduate credits taken in the senior year of the baccalaureate program will count as elective credits toward the baccalaureate degree and toward course requirements for the master's degree in dietetics and nutrition. Completion of the remaining 27 graduate credits to earn the master's degree may occur in three semesters following undergraduate graduation.

Admission into the integrated BS/MS degree pathway in Dietetics & Nutrition requires the following:

- Enrollment in the nutrition science major of the undergraduate dietetics & nutrition degree program.
- Completion of 75 credits in the dietetics & nutrition bachelor’s degree program and 15 credits in the major.
- Minimum overall GPA of 3.5
- Two Evaluation forms (preferably filled out by FIU Faculty)
- Statement of purpose (1 page double spaced) discussing interests in and benefits of the accelerated BS/MS program pathway. Concepts to include but not limited to, why are you choosing the BS/MS degree pathway, what interests you about the pathway, and how will this pathway advance your career goals.
• Meet admission requirements for FIU graduate school and master's program in the Department of Dietetics & Nutrition. Retention in the pathway necessitates meeting the requirements of the bachelor's and master's courses and programs. In addition to the program requirements of the undergraduate nutrition science major, students will be expected to complete the following 10 credits of graduate courses during their senior year.

1. Statistics Requirement (3 credits): STA 6166 Statistical Methods in Research OR PHC 6052 Biostatistics I OR STA 6176 Biostatistics
2. Public Health Requirement (3 credits): PHC 6500 Foundations of Public Health Practice
4. Seminar in Dietetics (1 credit): DIE 6937 Graduate Seminar in Dietetics & Nutrition

To earn a BS and MS in Dietetics and Nutrition, students must meet the graduation requirements of both degree programs.

**Doctor of Philosophy in Dietetics and Nutrition**

Ph.D. students must complete a minimum of 55 hours after M.S. degree or a minimum of 75 hours beyond the B.S. degree. The stated minimum does not include remedial coursework. Students who did not complete PHC 6500 Foundations of Public Health prior to admission to the PhD program must complete PHC 6500 as part of the program of studies. Coursework will be planned with the advisor and the dissertation committee to support the student's research interests and career goals and to ensure the program of student meets the 75-credit hour requirement. A 3.0 GPA must be maintained, and all courses needed for graduation must be completed with a grade of "C+" or higher.

**Required Courses**

**Required Research & Methods Core: (15 credits)**
(Prerequisites: PHC 6706 or equivalent; PHC 6709 or equivalent; PHC 6500 or equivalent)

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<th>Course</th>
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<tr>
<td>PHC 6091 Biostatistics II</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHC 6602 Theoretical Foundation of Health Promotion</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHC 6703 Epidemiology Methods: Experimental Design</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>or Approved Experimental or Clinical Research Methods Course</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>HUN 6266 Nutritional Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHC 7981 Research Concepts and Proposal Development (^1)</td>
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<td>DIE 7566 Research Concepts and Proposal Development (^2)</td>
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**Required Dietetics: (minimum 13 credits)**

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<th>Course</th>
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<tr>
<td>HUN 7408 Nutrition Across the Lifespan</td>
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<td>HUN 7523 Community Nutrition</td>
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<td>HUN 7524 Nutrition Science and Implications for Community Health</td>
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\(^1\)Designed for Public Health Students.
\(^2\)Designed for Dietetics Students

**Required Nutrition Sciences: (0-9 credits)**

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<tr>
<td>HUN 6285 Nutrition &amp; Metabolism I (CHO&amp;Lipids)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>HUN 6286 Nutrition &amp; Metabolism II (Proteins)</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>HUN 6287 Nutrition &amp; Metabolism III (Vit &amp; Min)</td>
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**Required Seminar: (minimum 3 credits)**

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<th>Course</th>
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<tr>
<td>DIE 6937 Graduate Seminar in Dietetics &amp; Nutrition</td>
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(course may be repeated 3 times, minimum)

**Required Electives: (minimum 0-9 credits)**

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**Required Dissertation: (minimum 15 credits)**

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<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>DIE 7980 Dissertation</td>
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For additional and updated information about degrees offered, entrance requirements, and services, please visit our website: [https://stempel.fiu.edu/](https://stempel.fiu.edu/)