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Introduction

Congratulations on selecting the dietetics major within the Food Science and Human Nutrition department. Dietetics is a challenging profession that applies the science of food and nutrition to the health and well-being of individuals and groups. The Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) at the University of Florida (undergraduate program) is a science-based program that is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (A.N.D.), 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60606-6995, 312-899-0040 ext. 5400, education@eatright.org. The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) is the Academy's accreditating agency for education programs, preparing students for careers as Registered Dietitians (RDNs) or dietetic technicians, registered (DTRs).

ACEND exists to serve the public by establishing and enforcing eligibility requirements and accreditation standards that ensure the quality and continued improvement of nutrition and dietetics education programs (http://www.eatright.org/ACEND/content.aspx?id=74). Programs meeting those standards are accredited by ACEND.

ACEND is recognized by the United States Department of Education as a Title V gatekeeper. This affirms that ACEND meets national standards and is a reliable authority on the quality of nutrition and dietetics education programs. ACEND is also a member of the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA).

Successful DPD program completion enables you to compete for placement in accredited dietetic internship programs, a required step in becoming a Registered Dietitian (RD) or Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN).

**What Is a Registered Dietitian (RD) and Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN)?**

A Registered Dietitian (RD) or Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) is an individual who has completed the following requirements:

- Minimum of a bachelor’s degree from a US regionally accredited institution
- Academic requirements from an ACEND-accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics
- A Dietetic Internship program from an ACEND-accredited program
- Successfully passed the Registration Examination for Dietitians administered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration
- Maintained continuing professional education requirements

The Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) is an optional title that a dietitian can choose to emphasize his or her nutrition expertise.
What is a Licensed/Certified Dietitian?
Many states have a certification or license requirement in order to practice dietetics. Each state requirement is different, and information can be found on the state dietetic association website.

Florida has a licensure requirement, and information can be found at http://www.doh.state.fl.us/qa/dietetics/.

Where do RDs and RDNs work and what are their average salaries?
Registered Dietitians and Registered Dietitians Nutritionists are employed in hospitals and other health care facilities, government and public health agencies, food companies, sports teams, college athletics, schools and universities, private practice, and a variety of other professional options. Opportunities for Registered Dietitians to be employed in the field of wellness, sports nutrition, pharmaceutical sales, food service sales, and marketing, with business and industry having had significant growth. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the job market for dietitians will grow at the same rate as other health care professions through 2014 because of the increased emphasis on childhood obesity, disease prevention, the aging population and the public’s interest in nutrition.

Classroom to Career pathways for graduates include:
- Clinical Dietitian/Nutritionist (in a health care setting, including acute and long term care and facilities specializing in rehabilitation and eating disorders and disordered eating)*
- Public Health or Community Nutritionist*
- Consultant Dietitian in Private Practice*
- Child Nutrition (School Meals) Director or Nutritionist
- Sports Dietitian*
- Nutrition Educator or Teacher
- Nutrition Specialist (for food industries)
- Food Service Manager for Culinary Industry
- Supermarkets
- Food Service Director (in acute care hospitals, extended care facilities, educational institutions)
- Pharmaceutical/Medical Sales Representative
- Nutraceutical Industry
- Corporate Wellness
- Public Policy Development
- Non-profit Advocacy Groups/Organizations
- National and International Health Organizations
- Research
- Graduate School
- Nutrition Writer/Blogger
- Private Practice: weight management, eating disorders, health coach, sports nutrition, bariatric management, and others
*Requires RD/RDN and/or LD/N

Dietitian Salaries:
The median salary for Registered Dietitians and Registered Dietitians Nutritionists working four years or less is $57,910 per year according to the US.gov Labor Stats 2015. Salaries vary based on the type of position, geographic location, and supply of RDs. More information can be found at http://www.eatright.org/Students/content.aspx?id=8897&terms=salaries.
The Mission Statement
The mission of the DPD at the University of Florida is to provide a progressive and effective program to educate students using a science-based food and nutrition curriculum to produce graduates who are competitive for supervised practice experiences or a variety of science-based occupations.

DPD Program Goals, Objectives and Outcome Measures

Goal 1: Graduates of the Didactic Program in Dietetics are well prepared for dietetic internship, health or science related profession or graduate school.

1.1.10 Objective: Given the student graduates will return the graduate survey, graduates will agree they are prepared to apply to a dietetic internship on a 5-year average.

1.1.2 Outcome measure: 60% of DPD graduates will apply to a dietetic internship within 1 year on a 5-year average.

1.2.1 Objective: Given the student graduates will return the graduate survey, graduates will agree they are or will be enrolled in a dietetic internship within 1 year on a 5-year average.

1.2.2 Outcome measure: 60% of those applying to a dietetic internship will be accepted within 1 year of graduation on a 5-year average.

1.3.1 Objective: Given the student graduates will return the graduate survey, 80% of graduates will agree they were able to complete the DPD in 5 years or less.

3.2 Outcome measure: 80% of students with junior standing will complete the program/degree requirements within 3 years (150%) of the time planned for completion (5-year average).

1.4.1 Objective: Given the student graduates will return the graduate survey, 80% of graduates will have agreed at taking the RD exam and passing on the 1st time on a 5-year average.

1.4.2 Outcome measure: The 5-year average pass rate for 1st time test-takers of the Registration Examination for Dietitians will be a minimum of 80%.

1.5.1 Objective: Given the student graduates will return the graduate survey, 50% of graduates will agree they are eligible/attend graduate school or have obtained a job in health or science related profession on a 5-year average.

1.5.2 Outcome measure: Of the graduates who return to graduate survey and did not seek an dietetic internship, 50% will attend graduate school or obtain employment in a health or science related profession within 1 year of graduation on a 5-year average.

1.6.1 Objective: Given the student graduates will return the graduate survey, 80% of graduates will agree rate their preparation for internship, graduate school or employment as satisfactory or higher on a 5-year average.

1.6.2 Outcome measure: Of the graduates who return to graduate survey, 80% will rate their preparation for dietetic internships, graduate school, or employment as satisfactory or higher on a 5-year average.

1.7.1 Objective: Given the internship directors will return the director survey, 90% of internship directors will rate the student preparation as well prepared or higher on a 5-year average.

1.7.2 Outcome measure: Of the internship directors that return the director’s survey, 90% of internship directors will rate the graduates as being well-prepared for the dietetic internship on a 5-year average.

Goal 2: Provide learning experiences that foster development of communication, critical thinking and problem solving.
2.10 Objective: Given the student graduates will return the graduate survey, graduates will agree that 80% of them can demonstrate the use of satisfactory or higher communication, critical thinking, and problem solving skills on a 5-year average.

2.1.1 Of graduates who return the graduate survey, 80% of graduates will agree that they received opportunities to develop communication, critical thinking and problem solving skills as an undergraduate on a 5-year average.

2.20 Given the dietetic internship directors will return the director survey, 80% of directors will agree.

2.2.1 Outcome measures: Of the internship directors who return the internship survey, 80% of internship directors will agree that the graduates were prepared in communication, critical thinking and problem solving on a 5-year average.
Curriculum
The DPD Program at the University of Florida meets the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) Foundation Knowledge and Learning Outcomes. Students must successfully complete all courses on the DPD curriculum sheet as one step in eligibility to receive a verification statement. The curriculum is developed to be sequential so that students move from basic knowledge to applied knowledge and skills. It is important for students to follow the semester-by-semester sequencing, especially in the senior year sequence, because some courses are not offered every semester. You should check with your academic advisor if you have questions.

If you choose not to complete an internship, the strong biological and social science foundation of the program also provides you with the knowledge and skills for a variety of health-related professional programs or employment as a nutrition educator, food service manager, pharmaceutical sales representative, or a variety of other challenging positions.

A sample 4-year schedule is found on page 5 (actual schedules will vary):
### FSHN COURSES
- **HUN2201**  FUNDAMENTALS OF HUMAN NUTRITION (3) F/S/SS-B
- **HUN3403**  NUTRITION THROUGH THE LIFE CYCLE (2) F/S
- **HUN4221**  NUTRITION AND METABOLISM (3) F/S
- **HUN4445**  NUTRITION AND DISEASE I (2) F/S
- **HUN4446**  NUTRITION AND DISEASE II (3) F/
- **S DIE3310**  COMMUNITY NUTRITION (2) S
- **DIE4125**  FOOD SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT (3) F
- **DIE4125L**  FOOD SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT LAB (2) F
- **DIE4245**  MEDICAL NUTRITION THERAPY APPLICATIONS I (3) F
- **DIE4245L**  MEDICAL NUTRITION THERAPY APPLICATIONS LAB (2) F
- **DIE4436**  NUTRITIONAL COUNSELING/COMMUNICATION (2) S
- **S DIE4505**  DIETETICS SEMINAR (1) F

### MATH AND STATISTICS
- **STA2023**  INTRO TO STATISTICS (3) F/S/SS-A/B
- **MAC1147**  PRECALCULUS (4) F/S/SS-B/C

### ADVANCED COMMUNICATIONS
- **AEE3030C**  ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (3) F/S/SS-C
- **SPC2608**  INTRO TO PUBLIC SPEAKING (3) F/S/SS-A/B

### OTHER SCIENCE COURSES
- **APK2105C**  APPLIED HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY (4) F/S/SS-A

### ECONOMICS
- **AEB2014**  ECONOMIC ISSUES FOOD & YOU (3) F/S
- **ECO2013**  PRINCIPLES OF MACROECONOMICS (4) F/S/SS-A/B

### BUSINESS COURSES & SOCIAL SCIENCES
- **AEB3122**  FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR AGRIBUSINESS (3) F/S
- **MAN3025**  PRINCIPLES OF MANAGEMENT (4) F/S/SS-A
- **PSY2012**  GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY (3) F/S/SS-A/B

**Key to when courses are offered:**

- **F** = Fall, **S** = Spring, **SS-A** = Summer A, **SS-B** = Summer B, **SS-C** = Summer C, **SS-A/B** = Summer A and B

**These are subject to change; please see your advisor.**

^ **Must complete in two attempts with C or better including withdrawals.**

**Bolded courses are tracking course; students must have a 2.5 or higher to stay in the major.**
Dietetics Sample Course Schedule

FRESHMEN YEAR
FALL
AEB2014 Econ Issues (3) or
Micro or Macroeconomics (4)
HUMANITIES w/international Designation (3)
CHM2045L General Chemistry Lab (1)  MAC1147 Pre-calculus (4)
PSY 2012 General Psychology
COMPOSITION (GE-C) (WR) (3)
ELECTIVE (3)

CREDITS: 13-14

SPRING
CHM2045 General Chemistry (3)
COMPOSITION(GE-C) (WR) (3)
IUF 1000 What Is A Good Life

CREDITS: 13

SOPHOMORE YEAR
FALL
CHM2046 Chemistry II and Chem 2046 Lab (4)
BSC2010 Principles Biology I (3)
BSC2010L Principles Biology I Lab (1)
STA2023 Intro to Statistics (3)
  Humanities/Social behavioral /Diversity(3)

CREDITS: 16

SPRING
BSC2011 Principles Biology II (3)
BSC2011L Principles Biology II Lab (1)
MCB2000 Microbiology (3)
MCB2000L Microbiology Lab (1) HUN2201
Fundamentals of Human Nutrition (3)

CREDITS: 14

JUNIOR YEAR
FALL
CHM2210 Organic Chemistry (3) ^
FOS3042 Introduction to Food Science (3)
MAN3924 Principles of Management (3)
AEC3033C or ENC2210 Tech Writing (3)
ELECTIVE

CREDITS: 15

SPRING
APK2105C Applied Human Physiology (4)
HUN3403 Nutrition through the Life Cycle (2)
DIE3310 Community Nutrition (2)
CHM2211 Organic Chemistry II (3)
CHM2211L Organic Chemistry II Lab (2)
AEB3122 Financial Planning for Agribusiness (3)

CREDITS: 16

SENIOR YEAR
FALL
HUN4445 Nutrition & Disease I (2)
DIE4245C Medical Nutrition Therapy I (3)
DIE4125 Food Systems Management (3)
DIE4125L Food Systems Management Lab (2)
DIE4505 Dietetics Seminar (1)
BCH3025 or BCH4024 Biochemistry (4)

CREDITS: 15

SPRING
HUN4446 Nutrition & Disease II (3)
HUN4221 Nutrition & Metabolism (3)
DIE4246C Medical Nutrition Therapy II (3)
DIE4436 Nutrition Counseling/Communication (2)
FOS4311 Food Chemistry (3)
FOS4310L Experimental Foods Lab (1)

CREDITS: 15

^NOTE: MUST PASS ORGANIC CHEMISTRY I WITH A “C” OR BETTER IN TWO ATTEMPTS INCLUDING
WITHDRAWALS TO REMAIN IN GOOD STANDING IN THE MAJOR
Underlined- COURSE MAY ONLY BE OFFERED IN FALL or SPRING or SUMMER
Electives
The following courses are recommended as electives (although you are not restricted to this list):

**Business and Policy**
AEB 3300 (3) Agricultural and Food Marketing
LEI 3830 (3) Principles of Travel and Tourism
LEI 3360 (3) Hospitality Management
MAN 3240 (4) Organizations: Structure and Behavior
MAN 4301 (4) Human Resource Management
MAR 3023 (4) Principles of Marketing

**Communication**
AEB3114L (1) Introduction to Agricultural Computer Applications
ALS 3203 (3) PC Use in Agriculture
AEE 3073 (3) Intercultural Communication
AEE3313 (3) Development and Role of Extension Education
COM 4022 (3) Health Communication
EDF2085 (3) Teaching Diverse Populations
SDS 4410 (3) Interpersonal Communication Skills
SPC 2300 (3) Introduction to Interpersonal Communication
SPC 2351 (3) Listening (Spring Only)
SPC 4425 (3) Small Group Communication

**Health and Wellness**
FOS 4202 (2) Food Safety and Sanitation
FOS 4222 (3) Food Microbiology
FOS 4722C (3) Quality Control in Food Systems
FOS 4731 (2) Government Regulations and the Food Industry
HSC 3102 (3) Personal and Family Health
HSC 3143 (3) Drug Education
HSC 3201 (3) Community and Environmental Health
HSC3537 (3) Health and Medical Terminology
HSC 3574 (3) Nutrition Education for Special Populations
HSC 4624 (3) Trends in International Health
HUN4936 (2) Preventative Health Experience
APK 2100C (4) Applied Human Anatomy with Laboratory
SDS 3481 (2) Alcohol and Drug Abuse
SDS 3482 (3) Stress and Anxiety Management
MDU 4850 (3) The Diseases of Eating
WST 4930/6935 (3) Women’s Health and Well-being
FOS 2001 Man’s Food

**Psychology**
APK 3400 (3) Intro Sport Psychology DEP
3053 (3) Developmental Psychology DEP
4464 (3) Psychology of Aging
EDF 3110 (3) Human Growth and Development
EDF 3210 (3) Educational Psychology
PSB 3002 (3) Physiological Psychology

**Social and Historical Constructs**
ANT 4462 (3) Culture and Medicine
EEX 3093 (3) Exceptional People in School and Society
PHI 2630 (3) Contemporary Moral Issues
Are there any GPA requirements for the Dietetics Program?

Yes! Students in the Dietetics program must maintain a minimum 3.0 average GPA in the universal tracking courses (All Life Science, HUN, FOS, DIE, MAC) or they will be required to change majors. However, it should be noted that higher GPAs are essential for dietetic internship program admission. Due to the current competitive nature of the dietetic internships, students should have a 3.2 or higher overall GPA.

Transfer Students Course Requirements

All transfer students must have successfully completed all universal tracking courses before admission. Tracking courses for the Dietetics program are:

**General Chemistry Sequence**
*CHM2045 – General Chemistry I (3)  
*CHM2045L – General Chemistry I Lab (1)  
Qual Analysis Chemistry II (3)  
CHM2046L – Qual Analysis Chemistry II Lab (1)

*The following course sequence at a Florida college or other university is equivalent to CHM2045 & Lab: CHM2040/1040 & Lab + CHM2041/1041 & Lab

**General Biology Sequence**
BSC2010 – Principles of Biology I  
BSC2010L – Biology I Lab CHM2046  
BSC2011 – Principles of Biology II  
BSC2011L – Biology II Lab

**Mathematics Sequence**
MAC1147 Precalculus  
or  
MAC1140/1104/1105 – College Algebra + MAC1114 Trigonometry

Dietetic students must successfully earn C+ or higher in all FSHN courses to earn their verification statement; the courses are listed below. The verification statement is required to enter an ACEND-accredited dietetic internship. If a student fails to receive a C+ in their HUN, DIE or FOS classes in their senior year, they will still graduate but must retake the courses within 2 years of graduation to still be eligible for the DPD verification statement. If they retake a comparable course (after approval by the DPD Director), and receive a C+ or higher, then they will be eligible for verification statements.

- HUN2201 - Fundamentals of Human Nutrition (3)  
- HUN3403 - Nutrition through the Life Cycle (2)  
- HUN4221 - Nutrition and Metabolism (3) HUN4445 - Nutrition and Disease I (2)  
- HUN4446 - Nutrition and Disease II (3)  
- FOS3042 - Introduction to Food Science (3)  
- FOS4311 - Food Chemistry (3)  
- FOS4310L - Experimental Foods Lab (1)

- DIE3310 – Community Nutrition (2)  
- DIE4125 - Food Systems Management (3)  
- DIE4125L – Food Systems Management Lab (2)  
- DIE4245C - Medical Nutrition Therapy Applications I (3) DIE4246C - Medical Nutrition Therapy Applications II (3) DIE4436 – Nutritional Counseling/Communication (2)
What are the admission requirements to the DPD Program?
The admission process to the University of Florida as a freshman or transfer student is described on the UF website at http://www.admissions.ufl.edu/. The University of Florida provides equal opportunity to applicants as described in http://www.admissions.ufl.edu/start.html. Transfer admissions from a Community College and other universities require a GPA of 3.0 in science and math courses (tracking courses in boldface) and an overall GPA of 3.0. In addition, community college students must have their A.A. before being considered. Admission decisions are made in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences administrative offices.

Students who want to transfer from another major within UF must have a GPA of 3.0 in the tracking courses and permission from the DPD program director or dietetics faculty committee.

Can I get a second degree?
If a student already has a degree in another field and is interested in becoming a Registered Dietitian, the UF DPD program has a very limited number of spaces for students seeking a second degree. Number of spaces will vary depending on the current enrollment of the undergraduate students and space cannot be guaranteed. The UF post baccalaureate students must complete a second Bachelors degree and take a minimum of 30 credit hours to be eligible for a verification statement from the UF DPD program. For more detailed information and application procedure, contact Dr. Gankofskie at gankofskie@ufl.edu or go to http://www.admissions.ufl.edu/grad/postbacc.html.

What are the costs of the DPD Program?
Tuition, books, and other fees are listed on the FSHN website at http://fshn.ifas.ufl.edu/costs.shtml. Additional costs for the DPD program may include:

- Lab fees for specific courses (revised periodically by market cost)
  - Lab fees for specific courses apply ranging from $12.00-$80.00 as needed. Lab fees are assigned on the tuition and fees section of the student’s UF statement.

- DIF3310 Community Nutrition $10.00

- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Membership ($50.00) required by Fall of junior year or after 60 credits (you are encouraged to join at the beginning of the program)

- Transportation cost for required class assignments
  - Students are required to complete assignments in DIE 4125 and Lab, DIE 3310 and DIE424SC which take them off campus to Alachua County Schools or local hospitals. Travel costs range from $10-$20 for all travel.
  - Transportation costs for volunteer or shadowing experiences – Costs will vary depending on facility; many volunteer experiences are available by walking or bus; additional travel would range from $20-$30.
  - Application fees and mailing costs for dietetic internship or graduate programs (costs will vary depending on internship and graduate program and number of applications and mailing costs).
    - DICAS Application Fee (online internship application; $40.00 for first application, $20 for each additional application)
    - D&D Digital (Computer Matching): $50.00
    - ServSafe® exam (required in DIE4125L, Food Systems Management Lab) – ServSafe® Essentials with exam sheet, approximately $80.00

What are the policies and procedures of the DPD Program?
Withdrawal and refund of tuition and fees. The University of Florida has established deadline dates and procedures for withdrawal and refund of tuition and fees. See the UF website at [https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/fees.aspx#refundoffees](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/fees.aspx#refundoffees) for details.

Scheduling and program calendar. The DPD Program follows the University of Florida academic calendar which is available on the UF website at [https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/Pages/dates-and-deadlines.aspx](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/Pages/dates-and-deadlines.aspx)

Protection of privacy of information (confidentiality of student records). The University of Florida, in accordance with the State University System rules, state statutes, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (i.e. the Buckley Amendment) assures the confidentiality of student educational records. However, student educational records may be released without the student’s consent to school officials who have a legitimate educational interest to access the records, and the university may disclose information from a student’s educational records to either individuals or entities permitted under applicable federal and state law. Information on confidentiality of records is available in the UF Undergraduate Catalog at [https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/records.aspx](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/records.aspx).

Access to personal files. Students have the right to review their personal educational records for information and to determine accuracy. To review your student files, contact the Office of Student Services (located on the first floor of the Food Science and Human Nutrition Building) during their office hours. Students must show their student ID to review their files. Letters of recommendation or other materials to which the student has waived his/her rights will not be available for review by the student. Additional information can be found at [https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/records.aspx](https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/records.aspx) including procedures for challenging content of a student record.

Access to student support services, including health services, counseling and testing, and financial aid resources. Student support services are available through the Division of Student Affairs ([http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/](http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/)). Health services are provided through the Student Health Care Center which is located at 1 Fletcher Drive. Additional information about their services can be found at [http://www.shcc.ufl.edu](http://www.shcc.ufl.edu). Financial aid resources are available through the University of Florida’s Financial Aid office at [http://www.sfa.ufl.edu/](http://www.sfa.ufl.edu/).

Grievance procedures. The University of Florida defines a grievance as: “dissatisfaction occurring when a student believes that any decision, act, or condition affecting him or her is illegal, unjust, or creates unnecessary hardship. Such grievances may concern, but are not limited to, the following: academic problems (excluding grades, except when there is an allegation of illegal discrimination or where a grade penalty has been imposed without proper authority); mistreatment by any university employee; wrongful assessment of fees, records and registration errors; student employment and discrimination because of race, national origin, sex, marital status, religion, age, or disability.”

Student grievance procedures are outlined in on the UF website and administered through the Dean of Students Office. If you feel that a grievance has occurred, you are encouraged to follow the steps described at [http://regulations.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/4012.pdf](http://regulations.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/4012.pdf).

If students have followed the procedures at the University level and still believe that there has not been proper handling of the matter, the student has the right to file a complaint with ACEND, the
accrediting agency of the DPD program. The procedures are listed on the ACEND website at http://www.eatright.org/ACEND/content.aspx?id=7975

**Assessment of prior learning.** Prior coursework must be submitted to the Office of Student Services and the DPD Director for review. A prospective student will be notified of courses that will transfer and be provided with a plan of coursework required to complete the UF DPD. The DPD program at the University of Florida does not accept prior work or volunteer experience in lieu of coursework.

**Formal assessment of student learning, performance, and progress.** Course syllabi for all dietetics courses include the evaluation method used in the specific course. Evaluation methods may include exams, case studies, presentations, individual and team projects, etc. Students receive a letter grade for the course as well as individual grades for assignments and exams. The DPD program has adopted the University +/- system for all DIE courses. The scale that will be used is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93.34-100</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90-93.33</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>86.68-89.9</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>83.34-86.67</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-83.33</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>76.68-79.9</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>73.34-76.67</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-73.33</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66.68-69.9</td>
<td>D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63.34-66.67</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-63.33</td>
<td>D-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 60</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Student progress can be measured by accessing the degree audit on ISIS and by meeting with FSHN Student Services to determine if the student is on track towards graduation.

**DPD retention and remediation procedures when student performance is not meeting the criteria for program progression.** Student progress in the program is determined in several ways. Students must complete the tracking courses (chemistry, biology, and math) with a 2.5 or higher in order to stay in the major. In addition, the students must achieve a C or better in CHM2210 (Organic Chemistry 1) in order to take CHM2211. If a student does not meet the tracking course requirement or the organic chemistry requirement, he or she has access to the FSHN Student Services Office, Career Resource Center, or the faculty advisor for advice regarding alternative majors.

Graduation requirements at UF are 2.0 GPA; the DPD does not have a separate requirement.

**Disciplinary/termination procedures.** Students are required to follow the University of Florida Student Code of Conduct described in the UF on the Dean of Students Office website at http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code.

All students must obey the Student Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action.
Graduation and/or DPD completion requirements. The DPD follows the same graduation requirements as the University. Students must complete the program with a 2.0 GPA to receive a diploma. Other requirements can be found at https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/graduation.aspx

Current Verification Statement Policy (Students prior to Fall 2011 admission)
In order to receive a verification statement from the UF DPD program, students must:
- Be a graduate of the University of Florida dietetics major in FSHN
- Complete graduation requirements with a 2.0 or higher
- Complete tracking requirements with a 2.5 or higher
- Fulfill all course requirements, including ServSafe certification

Verification statement policy (effective after fall 2011 for incoming freshmen, transfer students and post-baccalaureate). After completion of all courses, program requirements and graduation in good standing, the DPD graduate will be issued six originals of the Verification Statement signed by the DPD Program Director. A copy is also kept as a permanent record in the Office of Student Services if a student requires additional copies.

Verification statements will be issued if the graduate meets the following conditions:
- Graduation from University of Florida with a 2.0 GPA or higher (University requirement)
- Successful completion of all FSHN courses required in the DPD curriculum with a C+ or higher
- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Student Member in senior year
- ServSafe certified

Verification statement procedures. At the completion of the DPD program, all students should contact Mindy Edwards in Student Services (mindye@ufl.edu) with post-graduation plans and a permanent mailing address. After graduation and verification by the registrar, the student will be issued six copies of the verification statement. The verification statements should be kept in a safe place and are required for dietetic internships.

Email/listserv. All students must have a UF email and be on the dietetics listserv. If you are not receiving emails from the listserv, please contact Janna Underhill (janna@ufl.edu) to be added to the list. The listserv is used to provide information to you regarding courses, registration reminders, volunteer and work opportunities, and FSHN club meetings.

Dietetics classes attendance and tardiness. Attendance is required for all DIE courses. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Excused absences will only be granted for the following reasons:
- Death in the family as documented by a dated obituary
- Illness or hospitalization as documented by a physician’s note related to that illness (vague notes such as “was seen” are not acceptable)
- Religious holiday as documented by a written statement to the professor before the holiday
- Professional/graduate school interviews with documentation of interview letter and travel arrangements
- Accident as documented by a copy of the police report
Only students with excused absences will be allowed to make up the original work or suitable alternative if an exam or in-class assignment is missed. Absence from class will result in a penalty (as determined by faculty member) unless there is an unavoidable extenuating circumstance (subject to the faculty member’s discretion) that can be documented to the faculty member’s satisfaction.

Tardiness is unacceptable in the workplace and is also not appropriate in the classroom. It shows disrespect for the professor, other students in the class, and the course content. Students who are tardy (as defined by the professor of each class) will be penalized according to the policy established for that class.

**Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Membership.** Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics membership fosters commitment to the dietetics profession. As an Academy member, you are eligible for scholarships, have opportunities to network with other dietetic students and professionals, may access research in the Evidence Analysis Library, and learn about the profession. As an Academy member, you automatically become a member of the Florida Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (unless you select a different state affiliation on the membership application) and are eligible to join the Gainesville Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

In addition, DPD professional courses require use of resources that are limited to Academy members. All DPD majors must be members of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics by the Fall semester of their junior year or after 60 credits. Students must submit proof of membership (copy of Academy membership card) to Robyn Sheppard (rsheppard@ufl.edu) by September 15 each year. Membership information can be found at [http://www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org). Students can join as a student member for $50.00. Membership runs from June 1 – May 31.

**Post-baccalaureate student policies.** For students completing the DPD program as a post-baccalaureate student, the following policies must be followed in addition to the DPD policies:

- The post baccalaureate program requires a minimum of 30 credit hours and students receive a second Bachelor of Science degree (FSHN graduates with nutritional science specialization are exempt from 30 credit hour rule because they will not receive a second degree).
- All dietetics courses (DIE) must be taken at the University of Florida to receive a verification statement.

**What are the characteristics of a successful dietetics student?**

A successful dietetics student is a:

- Critical thinker
- Self-starter
- Team player

...who has:

- Good time management skills
- Organizational skills
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Effective stress management
Is it important to get work or volunteer experience in the dietetics field?
In order to learn about the field of dietetics and to strengthen your application for a dietetic internship, it is strongly recommended that you work or volunteer in dietetics-related areas. Most internships require additional experience beyond coursework. You can do this during the summer or the school year. You are encouraged to contact local dietitians and request a volunteer experience. Opportunities for volunteer experiences are also sent via the FSHN listserv once a week. You should keep a record of your hours and experiences for your internship application and resume.

Why should I join the Food Science and Human Nutrition (FSHN) Club?
The FSHN Club is a student-run organization for students majoring or interested in any of the three specializations (Dietetics, Nutritional Sciences, or Food Science) within the FSHN major. Meetings are held twice per month during the evenings of a selected weekday. The membership fee is $15.00 per year (subject to change) and includes membership in the Florida Section of the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT), for which this Club serves as the UF Chapter. (Although IFT is often erroneously considered an organization for Food Scientists, many RDs are members and there are numerous nutrition-related job opportunities in the food industry.) In addition, FSHN club members are eligible for IFT scholarships.

Many interesting topics related to nutrition and food science are discussed at meetings. Presentations given by local professionals introduce students to the varied career opportunities in dietetics and other food-related careers. Dietetics-related volunteer and work experiences also are announced at these meetings. The Club participates actively in various events each year including the American Heart Association Heart Walk, March of Dimes Walk America, Campus Kitchens, and National Nutrition Month (in March). Club members also conduct fundraising and volunteer many hours to local charities and community organizations. Past volunteer activities have included food preparation and service at local soup kitchens and the Ronald McDonald House, donation of food to shelters for the homeless and abused women and children, and educational presentations on nutrition to local school children.

Many good things come from being a FSHN Club member. Information about the field of nutrition is provided, and you also get a chance to make new friends and meet the faculty. Being an officer or committee chair is an excellent leadership opportunity. We encourage all dietetics students to run for an elected position, serve on Club committees, and/or participate in other Club activities. For more information about the Club or its meetings, activities, and programs, go to the Student Services Office in (located on the first floor of the FSHN Building) or on Gator Connect, [http://ufl.collegiatelink.net/organization/fshncub/](http://ufl.collegiatelink.net/organization/fshncub/) and Facebook ([https://www.facebook.com/groups/205875446123633/?ref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/groups/205875446123633/?ref=ts))
What scholarships are available to dietetics students?
There are scholarship opportunities available for you as a student in the Food Science and Human Nutrition Department, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, and the University of Florida. Information about scholarships and financial aid can be found on the FSHN website (http://fshn.ifas.ufl.edu/resources_scholarships.shtml).

Scholarships are available through the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (A.N.D.) and the Florida Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (FAND) for student members of these organizations. For information about A.N.D and FAND scholarships and eligibility, please see the Academy website (www.eatright.org) and the FAND website (www.eatrightflorida.org).

Where do I go for advising?
For academic advising, you should schedule an appointment with Herschel Johnson or Jenna Grogan, the dietetics undergraduate advisors. They will provide assistance in planning a schedule of required courses. For career advising, you should schedule an appointment with your faculty advisor (the name of your faculty advisor will be listed at the bottom of your Degree Audit on “my ufl”). Your faculty advisor will provide information about professional organizations, work and volunteer opportunities, and planning for the future. You should plan to schedule at least one advising appointment with an advisor each semester, and get to know your faculty advisor as soon as possible, but no later than your junior year. To schedule any advising appointment, call Mindy Edwards at 352-392-1991 ext. 220, e-mail her at mindy@ufl.edu, or stop by Student Services in FSHN.

Should I maintain a portfolio through my undergraduate program?
The DPD Faculty highly recommends that you maintain a portfolio of your accomplishments through your junior and senior year. A portfolio is a reflection of your knowledge, skills and accomplishments in the professional phase of the program. It is very useful when you are applying for dietetic internships, graduate programs and jobs. You can create a paper version in a three ring notebook, an online version or a PDF document. Some basic information that should be included is:

- Resume
- Statement of career goals/interests
- Professional and student organization memberships, including leadership roles and examples of involvement (e.g., committee chair, Heart Walk participant, health fair organizer, newsletter articles written)
- Certifications (e.g ServSafe®, personal training certification)
- Scholarships, awards
- Volunteer and work experience (can be dietetics or non-dietetics related)
  - Log of hours worked
  - Examples of activities, level of responsibility and any materials created
- Professional memberships (Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Florida Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Gainesville Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, Academy Practice groups); Today’s Dietitian
- Leadership roles in professional organizations (e.g., Gainesville Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics committee member, etc.)
- Conferences attended (e.g., IFT, FAND Annual Symposium, other)
- Research
  - Thesis research project
Paid or volunteer research assistant

- Samples of applicable class work (e.g., brochures developed, special events, nutrition education programs, power point presentations, worksheets)

If you choose to do a three-ring notebook, you should use dividers, and everything should be typed and have a professional appearance. Do not make it look like a scrapbook; remember that the portfolio should serve as an example of your professionalism.

There are many software programs that are available if you choose to do an electronic version. UF offers free web space and hosting through your Gatorlink account; it is available until one term after graduation. An example from one of our graduates can be found at: [http://plaza.ufl.edu/cassieg/index.html](http://plaza.ufl.edu/cassieg/index.html). She used a website design software package called “CoffeeCup” ([http://www.coffeecup.com/](http://www.coffeecup.com/)); Microsoft FrontPage, Adobe Dreamweaver and Google ([https://sites.google.com/site/eportfolios/How-To-Create-ePortfolios-with-GoogleApps](https://sites.google.com/site/eportfolios/How-To-Create-ePortfolios-with-GoogleApps)) are other examples. Another option is to develop your portfolio and then create a PDF version that you can take anywhere.

**After receiving my BS degree in dietetics from UF will I be a Registered Dietitian?**

**No!** Completion of a Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD, like the UF program) is only the first step required to become a Registered Dietitian or Registered Dietitian Nutritionist.

The second step is the completion of an ACEND-accredited dietetic internship program. Eligibility for the dietetic internship includes the completion of the Didactic Program, and a minimum of a Bachelor’s degree. Receiving an appointment to a dietetic internship is very competitive, and completion of the UF DPD does not guarantee a dietetic internship. In April of 2011-2017, only 53% of students participating in the computer match nationally were placed into a dietetic internship. It has become more critical for dietetic students to plan early for the application process and to use the resources provided by the program such as spring and fall workshops.

The third and final step to becoming an RD is successful completion of the National Registration Examination for Dietitians. It is very important to complete this step as soon as possible after finishing your dietetic internship. There are many study guides and programs available to help you prepare for success in this final step. Beginning in 2024, the Commission on Dietetic Registration which
administrers the Registration Exam will require a Masters degree to be eligible to take the examination. The Masters degree may be in any discipline at this time.

**How do I prove that I’ve completed my BS degree if I’m applying to a Dietetic Internship Program before I graduate?**

When you apply to dietetic internship programs, the UF DPD Director will provide you with a “Declaration of Intent to Complete” form. You will complete this form, submit to FSHN Student Services. The information is verified by Student Services, and then submitted on the DICAS website. It serves as temporary “proof” that you’re on your way to completing the undergraduate program. Once you have actually graduated, the Director will provide you with six original signed copies of the “Verification Statement.” This form is your final proof that you did indeed complete the DPD, and it will only be issued to you after your graduation is certified by UF.

**Where can I obtain more information about dietetic internship programs?**

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics website ([www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org)) provides the most up-to-date information about internship programs. You can access ([http://www.eatright.org/ACEND/](http://www.eatright.org/ACEND/)) for a listing of each program and information on cost, length of internship, internship director, and area of specialization. The Academy website also has a direct link to the individual programs’ websites which provide detailed information about the programs.

Another resource is the [Applicant Guide to Supervised Practice Experience (aka Dietetic Internship)], a valuable tool that describes many of the dietetic internship programs that are available. The Guide provides detailed information such as the usual number of applications received by individual programs and answers to frequently asked questions. This Guide is available in CD-ROM format; a copy is available on the computer in the student services office.

**Do Dietetic Internships offer graduate courses?**

Some, but not all, dietetic internships offer graduate courses. Internships vary from no graduate credits to a combined Masters/Dietetic Internship. Students who are interested in graduate programs should research available options. Typically graduate programs require the GRE for admission so plan to take this exam by summer or early fall of your senior year. The University of Florida offers a combined Master of Science - Dietetic Internship (MS-DI) Program with a minor in Family Youth and Community Sciences. The program’s website ([http://fshn.ifas.ufl.edu/dietetics/graduate/home.shtml](http://fshn.ifas.ufl.edu/dietetics/graduate/home.shtml)) provides prospective students with detailed information on the UF MS-DI Program. If you have further questions, contact Dr. Gail Kauwell, UF’s MS-DI Program Director (352-392-1991 ext. 227 or gkauwell@ufl.edu).

**How do I apply for a dietetic internship program?**

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics has developed an online application process for dietetic internships. The system, Dietetic Internship Centralized Application System (DICAS) allows applicants to submit all of their application materials online and internships will access the information for DICAS. There is a $40.00 fee for the first application and $20.00 for each additional application. DICAS can be accessed at [https://portal.dicas.org/](https://portal.dicas.org/).
How much does a dietetic internship program cost?
Costs vary widely, so you should check with each program about required expenses. Most accredited dietetic internships associated with regionally accredited university graduate programs qualify for government-sponsored loan programs. You should check the individual internship’s website to see if financial aid is available at a specific dietetic internship.

Additionally, numerous scholarship and loan opportunities are available to help pay the costs of the supervised practice experience.

What are the characteristics of a successful applicant for dietetic internships?
Being a successful applicant to a dietetic internship starts long before you fill out the application forms. Although programs may have varying selection criteria, applicants who receive appointments to supervised practice programs tend to have the following characteristics:

- A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher (although a 3.2 or higher is recommended)
- A 3.0 GPA or higher in professional courses
- A 3.0 GPA or higher in biological and physical science courses
- Significant paid or volunteer work experience
- Strong letters of recommendation
- Leadership in organizations
- Willingness to relocate
- Clean criminal history (programs require criminal background check)

How can I improve my chances of being admitted to a dietetic internship program?
A student has no guarantee of receiving a DI appointment. In April of 2010-13, 50% of the students who participated in the national computer match received a match (UF’s match rate ranged from 63-91% during that time.) Presently the UF DPD match average rate is 96%. Internships continue to become more competitive. In order to increase your chances for an appointment, you should:

- Investigate programs early to identify their admission criteria.
- Maintain a grade point average over 3.0 (although 3.2 or higher is more realistic).
- Get dietetics related work or volunteer experience (hospital experience is considered valuable; college foodservice, camp foodservice, nursing home foodservice, and community nutrition programs are also very good; many other types of work experiences can also be valuable). Start early and consider ways to get experience in more than one area of practice.
- Seek opportunities to conduct/assist with nutrition/dietetics research.
- Participate in activities that demonstrate leadership (college/university clubs, sports, community service projects, organizations).
- Get to know dietetics faculty members through faculty office hours, FSHN club, or independent study. You will need letters of recommendations from them.
- Apply to three plus dietetic internships program. (Successful applicants apply to an
average of 3-4 programs).

Be flexible and willing to relocate. Explore programs outside of Florida!

What is the timeline for applying to Dietetic Internships?

`= Freshman/Sophomore Year`

☑ Maintain good grades
☑ Become active in organizations or community activities
☑ Join the Food Science and Human Nutrition (FSHN) Club
☑ Join the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (only students who are Academy members are eligible for scholarships and awards)
☑ Obtain dietetics-related work or volunteer experience

☑ Join the Gainesville Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (GAND)

`= Junior Year`

☑ Begin reviewing the A.N.D. website and the Applicant Guide to Supervised Practice Experience
☑ Attend the junior orientation for Dietetic Internship Planning in Spring semester
☑ Attend the “Let’s Get Registered” workshop in the Fall semester
☑ Get to know your faculty advisor and other faculty members. It is important for faculty to get to know you if you intend to ask them to write a letter of recommendation for you. Get to know FSHN faculty. (Remember, you need three letters of recommendation for your application.)
☑ Get dietetics-related volunteer or paid work experience
☑ Get involved in activities in the FSHN Club – run for office or chair a committee
☑ Continue membership in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (required in junior year or after 60 credits)
☑ Continue membership in the Gainesville Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (GAND)
☑ Maintain good grades

`= Senior Year`

☑ Call, email, or write internships for additional information and application
☑ Maintain good grades
☑ Get even more involved in the FSHN Club
☑ Continue membership in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
☑ Continue involvement with the Gainesville Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (GAND)
☑ Take the Graduate Record Examination (GRE)
☑ Attend the “DI Match” workshop. Dates will be posted.
☑ Select 3-6 internships that match your interests and qualifications
☑ Check deadlines and apply on time – usually mid-February (but can be earlier so be sure to check the deadlines)
☑ Appointment match date – April
☑ If you match in April – Congratulations!!!
☑ If not, then:
   □ See a faculty advisor for alternatives
   □ Keep trying to match in the post-match period from April to August (not all programs fill their classes during the match)
   □ Continue to get experience if necessary
   □ Apply for internships again for the Fall match (deadline in September) for November appointment date (DI usually begins in January)

How can I get help with the dietetic internship application process?
In the Spring Semester, the Food Science and Human Nutrition Department presents an Orientation program for junior dietetics students about dietetic internship planning.

The FSHN Department also offers a workshop and advising during the Fall semester each year for all students who plan to apply for a DI appointment. Attendance is strongly encouraged at the sophomore and/or junior level, but required at the senior level. Attendance of seniors is taken, and dietetics faculty will not write a letter of recommendation for you if you have not attended. A handbook has been prepared for this workshop that describes the application process and provides examples of documents that will be required.

In addition, a Letter of Intent, Resume writing, Professional Communication writing is taught as part of the Dietetics Seminar course (DIE4505) to provide guidance in writing letters of intent for the application packet. Class attendance is required.

What’s this“computer matching” thing all about?
Most dietetic internship programs participate in computer matching with D&D Digital. The process includes rank ordering the internships to which you are applying, and then the internship programs rank order their applicants. In April, students learn if they receive a dietetic internship match to one of their programs. As mentioned earlier, the national computer matching result for the past four years has been 50%, which means that half of the students applying for internships received a match and the other half did not. University of Florida DPD match rates are higher, but there are students graduating from our program who did not receive a match. See website http://dnddigital.com/. There is a $50.00 fee for computer matching to D&D Digital.
What do I do if I don’t receive a dietetic internship appointment?

When students submit an application to a Dietetic Internship program, they need to realize that the selection process is very competitive, and a strong application packet does not guarantee a match to an internship program. The applicant pool is national, and you are in competition with many other students from across the country. If you do not receive an appointment in the match, you should see the Program Director about available internship programs that might have openings. You should also allow your name to be published on the list of applicants who did not match – it can increase your chances of matching even after the computer match is over! It is still possible to obtain an internship in the post-match period, although it does require an additional application process.

If you are still not successful, you should begin to re-evaluate your credentials, identify your strengths and weaknesses (which we all have), and think about ways to better highlight those strengths and improve those weaknesses.

* Evaluate how you can improve your qualifications
* Look at additional Dietetic Internship Programs
* Obtain a job related to nutrition/dietetics
* Reapply

Students who didn’t match should contact the Program Director immediately to discuss the situation and plan for future matches. The dietetics advisors in the FSHN Department are interested in and concerned about students and can be very helpful in providing support. Don’t give up, there are alternatives! Persistent, qualified applicants nearly always find placement.

After completing a dietetic internship program, what do I do next?

You must apply to take the Registration Examination for Dietitians. Candidates for the RD exam take their exam on the computer at one of more than 200 Thomson Prometric (formerly Sylvan) testing centers around the country. The exam can be scheduled following completion of the registration eligibility application procedure, which is discussed in the dietetic internship program. The exam is approximately three hours long and includes questions in food and nutrition, nutrition services (community and clinical), education and research, foodservice systems, and management. Upon passing the exam, and notification by the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR), you will be a Registered Dietitian (RD) or Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN).
What is a Licensed Dietitian/Nutritionist (LD/N)?

Some states require that dietitians be licensed by a State Licensing Board to be able to practice dietetics. In many states the requirements for licensure are similar to those for dietetic registration. Florida requires a license for most areas of practice (please see website for more information: [http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/dietetics/](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/dietetics/)). If you are planning on practicing in another state, you should contact the state dietetic association to see if there are licensure/certification requirements.

What should I know about professional associations?

**The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (A.N.D.)**  
[http://www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org)

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics is the nation’s largest professional organization for dietitians. Students enrolled in an accredited dietetics program have the opportunity to become a student member of the organization. Benefits of membership include:

- [The Journal of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (JAND)](http://www.eatright.org)
- Academy’s Members–only website, which includes access to the Evidence Analysis Library
- Student Center with information about career planning, student news, and a listserv
- Continuing education programs and materials
- Professional publications
- Member discounts on publications and merchandise
- Annual meeting discounts
- Membership opportunities in dietetics practice groups (DPG)
- Membership in state dietetic association
- Job announcements
- Scholarship opportunities

The most important advantages to Academy student members are the eligibility for A.N.D.-sponsored scholarships, the Journal, networking, and the chance to improve your marketability. You get all of this for a very small annual fee – the membership fee is $60.00 for recent years. The dietetics faculty strongly encourages you to join as a freshman or sophomore, but membership is required as a junior and senior. To be a student member of the Academy, you must complete a membership application and submit the dues payment. Information and applications are available on the Academy website at [http://www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org). Scholarships are available for qualified students through the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

**The Florida Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (FAND)**  
[http://www.eatrightflorida.org](http://www.eatrightflorida.org)

The Florida Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics is Florida’s professional organization for dietitians. Students who are A.N.D. student members are automatically members of the FAND (unless a different state affiliation is selected on the membership application). Some advantages of FAND membership
include:

- Newsletters and publications
- Annual meeting discounts
- Scholarship opportunities
- Networking and more

The Florida Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics hosts an annual symposium every summer, usually in July. This three day symposium includes national speakers, an extensive exhibit hall, and many opportunities to network with dietetics professionals and other students. You are highly encouraged to attend. FAND offers student stipends for students who are willing to assist during the meeting.

**The Gainesville Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (GAND)**  

The Gainesville Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics is Gainesville’s professional organization for dietitians. You are encouraged to join to get to know local dietitians. This provides great opportunities for networking and mentoring. The membership fee is $10.00 per year. Some of the advantages of membership include:

- Bi-monthly newsletter
- Educational programs
- Networking
- Leadership opportunities (National Nutrition Month)
- Involvement in community
- Committee membership

**What are my options if I’m not interested in becoming an RD/RDN?**

A degree in Food Science and Human Nutrition with a specialization in dietetics provides a strong knowledge base in the sciences, including nutrition, as well as in communication, problem solving, and teamwork skills. Graduates can pursue careers in nutrition education (through WIC), sales (including pharmaceutical, food and equipment sales), product development, foodservice management, and public policy or health fields.

Graduate school is another option to consider after graduation. There are many Master’s degree programs in nutrition, health science education, business, exercise and sports science, and communication. You should take the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) if you are interested in graduate school.

DPD Graduates are also eligible to take the national examination to become a DTR (dietetic technician, registered) without completing the supervised practice experience. Information can be found at [www.cdrnet.org](http://www.cdrnet.org).

**Dietetics Majors Listserv**

The FSHN Department maintains a listserv for dietetics majors. Information is regularly sent out
regarding current professional information, volunteer or paid work experience opportunities, and
reminders about meetings, deadlines, etc. All students in the dietetics curriculum should be subscribed to
the listserv. Email Janna Underhill (janna@ufl.edu) to be added to the listserv.

**Post-Baccalaureate Admissions information for the Didactic Program in Dietetics**

(Only for students with a bachelor’s degree from an accredited U.S. college/university)

**THIS IS NOT AN ONLINE PROGRAM! PHYSICAL RESIDENCE WILL BE REQUIRED FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION.**

Thank you for your interest in the UF Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD). As a potential student who has a Bachelor’s Degree, there is a separate admission process and requirements for admission. Space is limited and may not be available. The application deadline is October 1 for admission to the spring semester and June 1 for the fall semester. The post-baccalaureate program requires a minimum of 30 semester hours earned at UF in Dietetics and you receive a Second Bachelor’s degree. All Dietetic courses (with a prefix DIE) must be taken at the University of Florida to receive the required academic Verification Statement. There are two additional costs associated specifically with this program: student membership in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics ($50/yr.), ServSafe® Exam ($80). There is also potential travel cost to facilities for class projects. After completing the post baccalaureate program, receiving a B.S. degree and your verification statement, you must also be accepted into and complete an accredited dietetic internship and pass the R.D. exam to become a Registered Dietitian.

To apply to the DPD Post-baccalaureate program, you must have: • Overall GPA of 3.2 or higher from your undergraduate degree. • Tracking course GPA of 3.0 or higher. Tracking courses: BSC 2010 and lab, BSC2011 and lab, CHM2045 and lab, CHM2046 and lab, MAC1147 or a combination of Pre-Calculus and Trigonometry with C+ grade or higher. • Preferred but not required: two semester sequence in Organic Chemistry (grade of C or better in Organic Chemistry I, C+ or better in Organic Chemistry II), Introduction to Nutrition course, Statistics course. • All tracking courses must have been completed within ten years of when the applicant is seeking to start the program or need to be retaken. • All professional courses must have been completed within five years of when the applicant is seeking to start the program.

**Contact Information**: Dr. Beth Gankofskie, MS, R.D/N. Director, Didactic Program in Dietetics, University of Florida, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition PO Box 110370 Gainesville, FL 32611 Email: gankofskie@ufl.edu or phone: 352-273-3471

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**Dietetics Post-Baccalaureate Admissions Checklist**

**THIS IS NOT AN ONLINE PROGRAM. PHYSICAL RESIDENCE IS REQUIRED FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION.**

Note: the DPD program will have an online option to start in Fall 2019.

**Step 1.** Visit Dietetics Webpage to review DPD Handbook: http://fshn.ifas.ufl.edu/main-menutab/undergraduate-program/undergraduate-majors/dietetics-major/

**Step 2.** Contact Dr. Beth Gankofskie at gankofskie@ufl.edu to inquire and submit a letter of intent to apply.

**Step 3.** Mail all admissions packet documents in one envelope to Dr. Gankofskie at: Dr. Beth Gankofskie FSHN Department PO BOX 110370 Gainesville, FL 32611-0200

Note: applications will not be reviewed without all the documents included

Admissions Packet Checklist  Personal letter of intent  Two letters of recommendation (sealed envelopes from authors - one faculty, one professional)  Resume (highlight work and volunteer experience in healthcare/foodservice or related field)  Official transcripts in sealed envelope, completed Post Baccalaureate application (select College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, Food Science and Human
Nutrition Department and check the “DPD post-baccalaureate” option: http://www.admissions.ufl.edu/pdf/postbacapp.pdf

Step 4. Go online and complete the Post Baccalaureate application and pay UF application fee. There is electronic payment system. If using a check or money order make sure to send the payment using the EXACT SAME NAME as you used on your UF Post-Baccalaureate application.

Send payment to: University of Florida Office of Admissions PO Box 2946 Gainesville, FL 32627-2946

The FSHN Department will not forward your application for review until all required transcripts have been received. Any Post-Baccalaureate applications that are still incomplete by the posted admissions deadlines will be discarded.

If you have any questions regarding this process, or requirements for admission, please contact Dr. Beth Gankofskie by email at gankofskie@ufl.edu or UF FSHN Student Services for preliminary transcript review by Mr. Herschel Johnson or Mrs. Jenna Grogan or Mrs. Jane Dolder jdolder@ufl.edu, CALS admissions representative.

The DPD/MS Program (new in 2018-19)

The DPD/MS is a five-semester program. The completed DPD courses are those required for eligibility to apply to a Dietetic Internship (DI), if successfully completed, will lead to eligibility to take the national Registration Exam and earning the title of “Registered Dietitian”. All DPD prerequisite science and math tracking courses, all upper level required science courses (see sample schedule on page 5), food and nutrition courses must be completed with a minimum grade of C+. All the last 30 credits of required courses must be completed at UF. An overall GPA of 3.2 is required for both acceptance and to apply to a dietetic internship.

After satisfactorily completing all DPD courses you will receive a DPD verification statement. This document is necessary to advance to the second step, a DI. Dietetic Internships are offered at 200 institutions around the country. There are approximately 20+ institutions that offer the DI as a distance program for students needing flexibility with their program and where they are located. A few DI’s are part-time which may accommodate the needs of caregivers and others.

The MS program will prepare you to critically evaluate and implement the results of current research, solve problems and communicate effectively. You’ll study with faculty involved in research, education, administration, professional practice, communication and consulting. The MS degree requires a minimum of 33 graduate credits, completed with a minimum cumulative graduate GPA of 3.0. There is a choice of UF Master’s degree that will meet the new 2024 standard of practice. As of 2024 entry level minimum education to be eligible for the RD’s registration exam will me a master’s degree.

In the sample schedule section, courses are classified as required to complete the DPD. There is no specific master’s degree that is required by ACEND, the national credentialing agency. The student should contact appropriate sources in the department where there is interest in a master’s degree. Please note the student must have:

All prerequisite courses to apply and be accepted to both the DPD post baccalaureate program and the graduate school requirements of the master’s degree of the student’s choice.

Some of the suggested UF master’s degrees that may be of interest in dietetics are:

Master’s in…Nutritional Science, Psychology, Spanish, Mass Communication, Health Administration, Health Science, Public Health, Family Youth and Community Science, Farming Systems, Food Science, Health Service Resources, Health and Human Performance, Genetics, Natural Resources Policy and Administration, Agriculture and Communication Science, Anthropology and others.
After satisfactory completion of the approximate five-semesters (or more) of taking the 30 credits in DPD required courses and the MS program of your choice (depends on the MS requirements for graduation-check with the department), you will receive a DPD verification statement and be awarded an Master’s degree.
FSHN Department

Important Contacts

Dr. Sue Percival, Department Chair 352-1991 ext. 202  percival@ufl.edu
Dr. Beth Gankofskie, DPD Director 352-273-3471  gankofskie@ufl.edu

Resources

American Academy of Nutritional Sciences ................................................................. www.nutrition.org
American Diabetes Association ................................................................. www.diabetes.org
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics ................................................................. www.eatright.org
American Heart Association ................................................................. www.americanheart.org
American Public Health Association .......................................................... www.apha.org
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition ........................................... www.fda.gov/food/default.htm
Florida Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics ........................................ www.eatrightflorida.org
Food and Nutrition Information Center ......................................................... www.nal.usda.gov/fnic
FSHN Club ................................................................. http://www.uffshnclub.webs.com/
Fruit and Veggies Matter ................................................................. http://www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov/
Gainesville Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics ........................................ http://www.eatrightgainesville.org/
Graduate Record Examination .......................................................... www.gre.org
International Food Information Council .................................................. www.ific.org
Society for Nutrition Education .......................................................... www.sne.org
U.S. Department of Agriculture .......................................................... www.usda.gov
UF Food Science and Human Nutrition Department ........................................... http://fshn.ifas.ufl.edu
UF DPD Program ................................................................. http://fshn.ifas.ufl.edu/dietetics/undergraduate/home.shtml
UF MS/DI Program ................................................................. http://fshn.ifas.ufl.edu/dietetics/graduate/home.shtml
Appendix - Foundation Knowledge and Learning Outcomes for DPDs

1. Scientific and Evidence Base of Practice: integration of scientific information and research into practice

Knowledge

KRD 1.1 The curriculum must reflect the scientific basis of the dietetics profession and must include research methodology, interpretation of research literature and integration of research principles into evidence-based practice.

At the end of the program, the DPD student will be able to:
- Locate, interpret, evaluate, and use professional literature.
- Use current information technologies to locate and apply evidence-based guidelines and protocols.

2. Professional Practice Expectations: beliefs, values, attitudes and behaviors for the professional dietitian level of practice.

Knowledge

KRD 2.1 The curriculum must include opportunities to develop a variety of communication skills sufficient for entry into pre-professional practice.

KRD 2.2 The curriculum must provide principles and techniques of effective counseling methods.

KRD 2.3 The curriculum must include opportunities to understand governance of dietetics practice, such as the Scope of Dietetics Practice and the Code of Ethics for the Profession of Dietetics; and interdisciplinary relationships in various practice settings.

At the end of the program, the DPD student will be able to:
- Demonstrate effective oral and professional written communication and documentation
- Demonstrate counseling techniques to facilitate behavior change.
- Apply professional guidelines to a professional practice scenario.
- Identify and describe roles of others with whom the RD collaborates in food and nutrition service delivery

3. Clinical and Customer Services: development and delivery of information, products and services to individuals, groups and populations

Knowledge

KRD 3.1 The curriculum must reflect the principles of Medical Nutrition Therapy and the practice of the nutrition care process, including principles and methods of assessment, diagnosis, identification and implementation of interventions and strategies for monitoring and evaluation.

KRD 3.2 The curriculum must include the role of environment, food, nutrition and lifestyle choices in health promotion and disease prevention.

KRD 3.3 The curriculum must include education and behavior change theories and techniques.

At the end of the program, the DPD student will be able to:
- Use the nutrition care process to make decisions, identify nutrition-related problems and determine and evaluate nutrition interventions.
- Develop interventions to affect change and enhance wellness in diverse individuals and groups.
- Develop an education session or program/educational strategy for a target population.
4. **Practice Management and Use of Resources: strategic application of principles of management and systems in the provision of services to individuals and organizations.**

   KRD 4.1  The curriculum must include management and business theories required to deliver programs and services.

   KRD 4.2  The curriculum must include content related to quality management of food and nutrition services.

   KRD 4.3  The curriculum must include the fundamentals of public policy, including the legislative and regulatory basis of dietetics practice.

   KRD 4.4  The curriculum must include content related to health care systems.

   KRD 4.5  The curriculum must include content related to coding and billing of dietetics/nutrition systems to obtain reimbursement for services from public or private insurers.

At the end of the program, the DPD student will be able to:

- Apply management theories and principles to the development of programs or services.
- Evaluate a budget and interpret financial data.
- Apply the principles of human resource management to different situations.
- Apply safety principles related to food, personnel and consumers.
- Analyze data for assessment and evaluate data to use in decision making.
- Explain the impact of a public policy position on dietetics practice.
- Explain the impact of health care policy and different health care delivery systems on food and nutrition services.

5. **Support Knowledge: knowledge underlying the requirements specified above.**

   **Knowledge**

   SK 5.1  The food and food systems foundation of the dietetics profession must be evident in the curriculum. Course content must include the principles of food science and food systems, techniques of food preparation and application to the development, modification and evaluation of recipes, menus and food products acceptable to diverse groups.

   SK 5.2  The physical and biological science foundation of the dietetics profession must be evident in the curriculum. Course content must include organic chemistry, biochemistry, physiology, genetics, microbiology, pharmacology, statistics, nutrient metabolism, and nutrition across the lifespan.

   SK 5.3  The behavioral and social science foundation of the dietetics profession must be evident in the curriculum. Course content must include concepts of human behavior and diversity, such as psychology, sociology or anthropology.

*ACEND Accreditation Standards for Didactic Programs in Nutrition and Dietetics Leading to Supervised Practice, July 2017*