

Course Syllabus

DIE 4505, Dietetics Seminar

Fall, 2025

"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty professionalism and integrity."

Instructor: Assistant Professor of Instruction

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Office Hours:

Wednesdays: 1:30-2:30 pm

Course Location & Meeting Time

Place: Matherly Hall room 107 and the FSHN Dietetics Lab as assigned

Day and Time: Thursday, 1:55-2:45 pm

Course Description

This course is for dietetic majors and will focus on professional issues, including ethics, legislative issues, and advocating and marketing the profession. Personal professional development will be addressed through self-reflection, development of a resume, a letter of intent, and personal statement. Limited to dietetics majors. (1 credit hour)

Course Objectives

By the end of the semester, the *student will be able to*:

- Discuss trends affecting dietetics
- Describe the legislative process and simulate applying the process to an issue in the dietetics profession.
- Discuss nutrition policy that affects the practice of dietetics.
- Apply the ADA Code of Professional Ethics and Responsibility to issues in practice.
- Conduct a self-assessment, develop a personal and professional development plan.

- Prepare a resume and letter of intent/application
- Discuss the difference between dietetic registration and state licensure
- Discuss the organizational structure of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and identify the functions of each of its units

Foundation Knowledge and Learning Outcomes for Dietitians

The activities in this course are designed to assist students in achieving the following Student Learning Outcomes required in the Didactic Program in Dietetics

1. Demonstrate effective and professional oral and written communication and documentation
2. Apply professional guidelines to a practice scenario
3. Begin to explain the impact of a public policy position regarding dietetics practice
4. Begin to explain the impact of health care policy and different health care delivery systems on food and nutrition services. (KRDN 2.2)

Required Resources

Material as assigned

Web access and email

Grades and course materials are posted on E-Learning-Canvas. For more information on E-Learning go to <https://elearning.ufl.edu/>.

No assigned text and no fees. It will cost students to apply through DICAS and D & D digital and or directly to graduate school.

Requirement: A student membership to Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND) is highly recommended.

Technical assistance found here:

For resolving technical issues (e.g. [visit the helpdesk website](#) or call 352-392-4357).

Communication: this course will use UF individual email/Gator email **NOT** Canvas email. Canvas email is only used to return work to students after grading.

Recording class sessions

Note: Our class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students in the class to refer back and for enrolled students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who unmute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which

allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited. Please notify instructor if you aren't able to allow recording.

Student communication in class and online:

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner.](#) Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluer.com/ufl/. [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here.](#)

Assignments and Course Policies:

Assignments must be **turned in on the day they are due**. Any assignment that is late will be penalized 10% for each day late. All assignments are due by 11:59pm on the due date.

Professional Development Project: Each student will complete a self-assessment, a resume, a letter of intent and a personal statement for a dietetic internship, graduate school or job application.

Legislative Project: Students will evaluate a current political issue impacting dietetics practice. This semester's focus is on food assistance programs and the position of the Registered Dietitians. After researching the issue and writing a five page paper (with an additional page for reference/cited work page), each student will draft a letter to their Florida State Representative member of legislator or senator and talking points for an in-person meeting explaining the issue and their position on the issue. Each student will present in class on their position the last 2 class meetings of the semester.

Attendance: Attendance is required. Each student is allowed one absence before their attendance grade will be affected. After one absence each unexcused absence results in 10 points being deducted from your attendance grade. You must contact the instructor prior to class if you are ill or have reasons for which attendance must be excused and you must provide documentation of your illness or other activity. Students are also expected to arrive on time to the classroom or Zoom platform for class. Students who are more than 5 minutes late will lose 5 points from their attendance grade for each time they are late. It is a professional courtesy to be on time. The Zoom link will be open approximately 10 mins before the start of class and will allow students to adjust and mute microphones, headsets and screens.

Participation: Much of the course content is learned through class discussions. All students are required to contribute to discussions. There will be frequent discussions of legislative issues related to dietetics in public policy discussions facilitated by groups of students.

Grading:

Professional Development Project: (SWOT, Resume, Personal statement, letter of intent)	80
Legislative Project/Position Papers:	20
Presentation and peer review	10
Dietetic Internship articles for reading/reflection	15
Forms for DICAS/graduate school/job	5
Attendance:	20
Class activity/Participation/ Mentorship w/MS-DI's:	<u>20</u>
Total	180

Grades and Grade Points

For information on current UF policies for assigning grade points, see <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/> (Links to an external site.)

Absences and Make-Up Work

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments and other work are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx> (Links to an external site.).

Academic Honesty

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: *"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty*

and integrity.” You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community, and on all work submitted for credit 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.”

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/SCCR/honorcodes/honorcode.php> (Links to an external site.).

Software Use:

All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Campus Helping Resources

Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being are encouraged to utilize the university’s counseling resources. The Counseling & Wellness Center provides confidential counseling services at no cost for currently enrolled students. Resources are available on campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career or academic goals, which interfere with their academic performance. All of the following resources have information online for virtual appointments. Use these sources wisely.

Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

Counseling and Wellness Center: [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center website](#).

University Police Department: [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#)

E-learning technical support: Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

[Career Connections Center](#): Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

[Library Support](#): Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

[Teaching Center](#): Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

[Writing Studio](#): 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

Student Complaints On-Campus: [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information](#).

On-Line Students Complaints: [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#).

University Counseling & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Road, 352-392-1575, counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/ (Links to an external site.)

Career Connections Center, First Floor JWRU, 392-1601, <https://career.ufl.edu/>

At the end of the semester: Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner](#). Students will be notified when

the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluer.com/ufl/. [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here](#)

Services for Students with Disabilities

The Disability Resource Center coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues. Students requesting “classroom accommodation” must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

0001 Reid Hall, 352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/ (Links to an external site.)

