

**DIE 4436**  
**Nutrition Counseling and Communication: Spring 2024**  
**Class Number 12009**

**Instructor**

Dr. Laura Acosta, DCN, RDN, LD/N

Campus Office: Building 120, Room 104D

Campus Phone: 352-273-3472

**Email (preferred contact method):** [ljacosta@ufl.edu](mailto:ljacosta@ufl.edu)

**Please use my UFL email, NOT Canvas email!**

**Office Hours:**

- 3:00-4:30pm on Thursdays by appointment (email for appointment time).
  - Zoom link posted on Canvas.
- I may also be able to accommodate occasional appointments on other days. Please email if Thursdays do not work for you and we will arrange an alternate day.
- All office hours will be held on Zoom unless otherwise arranged.

**Teaching Assistant**

Presley Pettit

[presley.pettit@ufl.edu](mailto:presley.pettit@ufl.edu)

Office Hours TBA

**Course Location & Meeting Time**

This is an online course, and we will meet on Zoom

Fridays 8:30-10:25am (periods 2-3)

Zoom Classroom Link:

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/96505027907?pwd=VGdoZU1WN0NlTUtySTZwOFA2OHdkUT09>

Meeting ID: 965 0502 7907

Passcode: 537755

Note that 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. Students who un-mute 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. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

## Course Description

The application of principles of communication and counseling skills to dietetics practice. This course will provide hands-on experiences in counseling and oral and written communication. Prereq: HUN2201, HUN3403; DIE majors only. 2 Credits.

## Required Materials

- Computer with reliable internet access
- Webcam and microphone
- Access to mobile technology such as a smart phone or tablet.
- Access to basic video editing software, such as iMovie. (A free trial of Camtasia can fulfill this requirement.)
- Ability to access Word, PowerPoint, and PDF files.
- Access to e-Learning (Canvas). Refer to <https://elearning.ufl.edu>
- Access to Zoom: <https://ufl.zoom.us>
- Google Chrome browser with the HonorLock extension for quizzes and exams  
Chrome can be downloaded here: <https://www.google.com/chrome>  
The HonorLock Extension can be downloaded here:  
<https://static.honorlock.com/install/extension>

## Course Objectives

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Describe the theories and principles of group and individual counseling and apply them to nutrition and dietetics.
2. Apply communication and counseling skills to assist individuals to make behavioral changes.
2. Deliver effective nutrition-related oral presentations and facilitate group learning processes.
3. Prepare nutrition education material using a variety of media, taking into account target audience and literacy level.
4. Deliver appropriate nutrition education messages across cultures, and communicate effectively with a variety of cultural and socioeconomic groups.

## Foundation Knowledge and Learning Outcomes

Activities in this course are designed to contribute to students achieving the following learning outcomes defined by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics:

- KRDN 3.3: Demonstrate counseling and education methods to facilitate behavior change and enhance wellness for diverse individuals and groups.
- KRDN 4.3: Demonstrate an understanding of the regulation system related to billing and coding, what services are reimbursable by third party payers, and how reimbursement may be obtained.

## Student Evaluation

This course has 500 possible points. Evaluation is based on the following performance indicators:

Attendance (see Attendance Policy, below)	50
“Life Lab” Journal	50

Quizzes (6 @ 20 points each, lowest score dropped)	100
In-class activities	40
Coding and billing case scenarios	10
Mock counseling sessions (1 @ 50 points, 1 @ 100 points)	150
Nutrition education video	50
Final Exam OR Capstone Experience (service learning)	50
	500 points

**Attendance Policy:** Attendance is required for all dietetics (DIE) courses. “Attendance” is more than just being present on Zoom. It means being attentive and engaged, and not working on other tasks. Come to class in a quiet space without distractions. You should not be working at a job, traveling, “multitasking”, etc. You must have your camera on in order to be counted as “present”. If you have a situation arise where you must have your camera off, please discuss this with the course TA ahead of time.

Students who miss class due to illness, family emergency, or other extenuating circumstance must complete the Instructor Notification Process ([Contact My Instructor | CARE \(ufl.edu\)](#)) through the Dean of Students Office to be eligible for an excused absence. We understand that sometimes “life happens” and you may occasionally miss class due to circumstances that are not necessarily documentable emergencies. For this reason, we will allow **up to 2** absences for the semester with no documentation needed and no questions asked. Absences beyond the allowed 2 will require notification from the Dean of Students Office (DSO) per above. If no DSO notification is provided, absences beyond the allowed 2 will result in a deduction of **10 points** from the attendance grade, in addition to a **grade of 0** for any work that was missed. Tardiness is unacceptable in the workplace and therefore also inappropriate in the classroom. Tardiness beyond 5 minutes will result in a deduction of **5 points** from the attendance grade.

**Grades are non-negotiable and will be assigned according to the following scale.**

465-500	93-100%	A	335-349	67-69.9%	D+
450-464	90-92.9%	A-	315-334	63-66.9%	D
435-449	87-89.9%	B+	300-314	60-62.9%	D-
415-434	83-86.9%	B	<300	<60%	E
400-414	80-82.9%	B-			
385-399	77-79.9%	C+			
365-384	73-76.9%	C			

**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/>

**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/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>

**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 by abiding by the Student Honor Code.”* 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: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>.

### 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 wellbeing 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.

Service	Phone	Web site	Services provided
University Counseling and Wellness Center	352-392-1575	<a href="https://counseling.ufl.edu/">https://counseling.ufl.edu/</a>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Counseling Services</li> <li>• Groups and Workshops</li> <li>• Outreach and Consultation</li> <li>• Self-Help Library</li> <li>• Wellness Coaching</li> </ul>
U Matter We Care	<a href="mailto:umatter@ufl.edu">umatter@ufl.edu</a> 352-392-1575	<a href="http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/">http://www.umatter.ufl.edu/</a>	Support for students in distress
Career Connections Center	352-392-1601	<a href="https://career.ufl.edu/">https://career.ufl.edu/</a>	Career development assistance and counseling

### Services for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center (DRC). The DRC coordinates

needed accommodations, including accommodations within the classroom, adaptive computer equipment, interpretation services, and mediation for faculty-student disability related issues. Here is the link to get started with the DRC: <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructors and discuss their access needs as early as possible in the semester.

### **Online Course Evaluation Process**

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.bluera.com/ufl/](http://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/). [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here](#).

### **Reading and Writing Center**

The Reading and Writing Center is committed to helping University of Florida students become better writers and readers. Individual assistance is provided and students of all levels and disciplines are welcome. <http://at.ufl.edu/rwcenter>. The Center is located in Broward Hall.

**Other Information**

Lecture material and information are the property of the University of Florida and the course instructor and may not be used for any commercial purpose. Students found in violation may be subject to disciplinary action under the University's Student Conduct Code. Only students formally registered for the course are permitted to attend lectures and take quizzes/tests.

**Email**

Students are required to check their email account(s) daily (at least Monday through Friday) and respond to course/program related requests, inquiries, etc. in a timely manner.

### Spring 2024 Class Schedule

Date	Topic	Assignments/Quizzes
Friday January 12	What is Learning? Interpersonal Communication	
Friday January 19	The Health Belief Model and Stages of Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 1 (What is Learning, Interpersonal Communication)</li> </ul>
Friday January 26	Introduction to Motivational Interviewing Reflective Listening Open-Ended Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 2 (Health Belief Model and Stages of Change)</li> <li>• Life Lab Journal</li> </ul>
Friday February 2	Affirmations Elicit-Provide-Elicit Looking Back Introduction to Nutrition Education Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 3 (Motivational Interviewing, Reflective Listening, Open-Ended Questions)</li> <li>• Life Lab Journal</li> </ul>
Friday February 9	Looking Forward Summaries Introduction to Mock Counseling Session #1 Sign up for time slot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 4 (Affirmations, Elicit-Provide-Elicit, Looking Back)</li> <li>• Life Lab Journal</li> <li>• Nutrition Education Format Due</li> </ul>

Friday February 16	<b>Practice</b> for Mock Counseling Session #1 (come prepared!)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 5 (Looking Forward, Summaries)</li> <li>• Life Lab Journal</li> <li>• Come prepared for mock counseling practice session</li> <li>• Nutrition Education Topic Due</li> </ul>
Friday February 23	NO CLASS MEETING TODAY Instead... Mock Counseling Session #1 will take place throughout the week (February 19 - 23)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mock Counseling Session #1 (set up individually with Dr. Acosta during the week)</li> <li>• Work on Nutrition Education Project</li> </ul>
Friday March 1	Coding and Billing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nutrition Education Planning Worksheet or Draft</li> <li>• Coding and Billing Case Scenarios (to be completed in class)</li> </ul>
Friday March 8	Nutrition Education Project Follow Up Introduction to Mock Counseling Session #2 Sign up for time slot	
Friday March 15	SPRING BREAK	



Friday March 22	Best Year of Your Life 7 Levels Deep What Would Happen If Readiness Scale Decisional Balance Goal Setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nutrition Education Project Due</li> </ul>
Friday March 29	Group Facilitation and Problem Solving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quiz 6 (BYOYL, 7 Levels Deep, WWHI, Readiness Scale, Decisional Balance, Goal Setting)</li> <li>• Life Lab Journal</li> </ul>
Friday April 5	Practice for Mock Counseling Session #2 (come prepared!)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Come prepared for mock counseling practice session</li> </ul>
Friday April 12	NO CLASS MEETING TODAY Instead... Mock Counseling Session #2 will take place throughout the week (April 8-12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mock Counseling Session #2 (set up individually with Dr. Acosta during the week)</li> <li>• Group Facilitation Topic Due (for those doing the capstone service learning experience)</li> </ul>
Friday April 19	Course Evaluations Group Facilitation Practice	

FINAL EXAM OR CAPSTONE	Group Facilitation– Capstone Service Learning Experience <b>OR</b> Written Final Exam	
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