

Degree Type – Bachelor of Science (BS)
Degree Title – Dietetics

The Coordinated Program in Dietetics prepares students to successfully complete the national registration examination and be qualified for entry-level positions in administrative, clinical or community dietetics. Graduates will possess additional knowledge and skills that will enable them to work with the specific and unique needs of the local community, which is largely Mexican-American, as well as other areas of the country with large Hispanic populations.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. **Demonstrate competence in the knowledge appropriate to the entry level dietitian.**
2. **Demonstrate the skill competencies expected of an entry level dietitian.**
3. **Demonstrate competency which will enable them to readily find employment or pursue related professional or graduate education.**
4. **Demonstrate the ability to use current technologies for information and communication activities.**

A – GENERAL EDUCATION CORE – 42 HOURS

Students must fulfill the General Education Core requirements. The courses listed below satisfy both degree requirements and General Education Core requirements.

Required**Mathematics – 3 hours**

Choose one:

- MATH 1342 Elementary Statistical Methods (or MATH 1387 Honors)
- MATH 1343 Introduction to Biostatistics (or MATH 1388 Honors)

Life and Physical Sciences – 6 hours

- BIOL 2401 Anatomy and Physiology I three-hour lecture
- BIOL 2402 Anatomy and Physiology II three-hour lecture

Social and Behavioral Sciences – 3 hours

- PSYC 2301 General Psychology

Integrative and Experiential Learning – 2 hours

- BIOL 2401 Anatomy and Physiology I one-hour lab
- BIOL 2402 Anatomy and Physiology II one-hour lab

B – MAJOR REQUIREMENTS – 58 HOURS (52 advanced)**1 – Dietetics Foundation – 22 hours (16 advanced)**

- DIET 2351 Introduction to Clinical Nutrition
- DIET 2352 Food Preparation
- DIET 3252 Quantity Foods Production
- DIET 3253 Quantity Foods Practicum
- DIET 3353 Advanced Nutrition
- DIET 3354 Food Systems Management
- DIET 3655 Food Systems Management Practicum

2 – Practicum – 11 hours (11 advanced)

- DIET 3257 Junior Seminar in Dietetics
- DIET 3356 Experimental Foods

DIET 3357 Medical Nutrition Therapy I
DIET 3358 Medical Nutrition Therapy II

3 – Advanced Dietetics Core – 25 hours (25 advanced)

Courses are designed to be completed senior year:

DIET 4252 Integrative Seminar in Dietetics
DIET 4257 Research Methods in Dietetics
DIET 4258 Communication Skills in Dietetics
DIET 4259 Seminar in Dietetics
DIET 4359 Community and Life Cycle Nutrition
DIET 4455 Community Nutrition Practicum
DIET 4752 Clinical Nutrition Practicum

Culminating practicum:

DIET 4356 General Dietetics Practicum

C – SUPPORT COURSES – 24 HOURS (3 advanced)

CHEM 1311 General Chemistry I
CHEM 1111 General Chemistry Lab I
CHEM 1312 General Chemistry II
CHEM 1112 General Chemistry Lab II
CHEM 2323 Organic Chemistry I
CLSC 2429 Clinical Microbiology in Healthcare
ECON 1301 Introduction to Economics
HRPT 2303 Medical Terminology
MGMT 3361 Principles of Management

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS FOR GRADUATION – 124 HOURS

TOTAL ADVANCED HOURS – 55 HOURS

ADMISSION, PROGRESSION, AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS, if applicable:

Admission requirements

Application Process

1. Completed application for admission to the Coordinated Program in Dietetics. Call (956) 665-5264 for information.
2. Official transcript showing completion of at least 72 hours with a minimum of 2.7 grade point average to include ENGL 1301, ENGL 1302, and MATH 1342. Science Support Courses: BIOL 2401, BIOL 2402, CLSC 2429, CHEM 1311, CHEM 1111, CHEM 1312, and CHEM 2323
Dietetic Core: HRP 2303, DIET 2351 and DIET 2352 (NOTE: A minimum GPA of 2.7 with a minimum grade of 'C' in each course is required in the science support courses and dietetic core courses.).
3. Three letters of recommendation.
4. A letter from the applicant stating reason for interest in the dietetics program.
5. Completion of a minimum of 80 hours of work-related experience, either volunteer or paid, in the area of dietetics or food service prior to entrance into the dietetics program. This must be documented and verified by the applicant's employer.

Selection Process

Selection by the admissions committee is based upon the following:

1. Completion and submission of the required material by Monday after final exam week of Spring semester.
2. Grade point average overall based on degree plan (X4) and in science courses (X6).
3. Evaluation of selected references and criteria.
4. Admission interview.

Readmission

Readmission is not automatic. Students desiring re-admission must notify the dietetics program in writing at least one semester (or two summer sessions) in advance. Complete information regarding readmission can be obtained in the current Coordinated Program in Dietetics Student Guidebook available from the department.

Progression requirements

Students are required to maintain a grade of 'C' or better (75% or higher) in all Dietetic courses and supervised practices. If a student earns a grade lower than 'C', he/she must repeat the course at the next regularly scheduled time that it is offered. If a student fails to earn a 'C' or better in any two or more courses, or earn a grade lower than a 'C' in any dietetic course twice, he/she will not be permitted to continue in the program.

Graduation requirements

1. Complete all courses and supervised practices with a grade of 'C' or better (75% or higher).
2. Complete all five supervised practices totaling at least 1,200 hours.
3. Complete a Junior Comprehensive Exam at the end of junior year and a RD Readiness Exam at the end of senior year before graduation with a minimum of 75 percent of possible points.
4. Receive Verification Statement for the RD exam.
5. In addition to the graduation requirements listed in the UTRGV 2015-2017 Undergraduate Catalog, demonstration of proficiency in a language other than English is required at the undergraduate level equivalent to a minimum of six credit hours. Proficiency can be demonstrated by a college credit exam, a placement test approved through the UTRGV Department of Writing and Language Studies, and/or up to six credit hours of college-level language coursework.