

Bachelor of Science in Health Nutrition and Dietetics

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Nutrition and Dietetics?

Nutrition majors will help people make smart food choices to keep them healthy, advise doctors and nurses regarding nutrition, teach large groups of people the importance of nutrition, manage food service businesses, and supervise people who prepare and serve food.

What can I do with Nutrition and Dietetics?

Within the field of nutrition and dietetics, you can choose to become either a registered dietitian (RD) or dietetic technician (DTR). Dietetics professionals work in healthcare, education and research, sales, marketing and public relations. They also work in government, restaurant management, fitness, food companies, law, and in private practice.

What is the goal of the undergraduate Nutrition and Dietetics program?

The goal of the undergraduate nutrition and dietetics program is to provide a high quality educational experience for individuals who seek professional preparation from an accredited program.

What can I expect in my Nutrition and Dietetics curriculum?

In your nutrition and dietetics coursework, you will learn about the clinical nutrition side of the profession, the food service management side, the community or public health side, and nutrition science and nutrition education.

How are the nutrition courses scheduled?

Many nutrition courses are offered only once a year. It is important to follow the sequence schedule of coursework. Failure to complete courses in the term they are offered could delay graduation.

In addition to the required courses, will I participate in any other activities with the program?

Yes, you will be able to join the university's Student Nutrition Club (SNC). SNC gives good ideas about volunteer work experiences, which are important to your future as you apply to dietetic internship, the second step toward becoming a Registered Dietitian. Students will also have opportunities to assist the Nursing and Athletic Training Programs through serving on committees or meeting with various groups or individuals. Other opportunities may arise through the Brooks College of Health or the University at-large, and students will be encouraged to

participate. Some courses also include a variety of community or service based activities.

Will I complete a student portfolio?

Yes, all students within the program are expected to develop a professional portfolio. You will begin to develop your portfolio at the beginning of the junior year. The portfolio will exemplify your best work while a student in the Nutrition and Dietetics Program.

Does the program have an internship?

No, the undergraduate program does not have an internship within the required coursework. However, you are eligible to apply for CADE accredited internships that begin after graduating with the Bachelor's degree. This is accomplished through a computer matching system that will prepare you for successful completion of the ADA Registration Exam and to ultimately become Registered Dietitians. Acceptance into the post-bachelors accredited internship programs is on a competitive basis, and the programs range from six months to two years in length. Those that are longer typically are coordinated with a Master's degree. Greater than 60% of dietitians have Master's degrees and the future of dietetics may even require this level of education to become a registered dietitian.

If I don't complete an internship, what job opportunities will be available to me in the field of Nutrition and Dietetics?

For competitive employment opportunities, you are encouraged to complete a CADE accredited internship after this program and sit to take the national registration exam. However, there are opportunities to work as a nutrition educator for county or city health departments or in food service management in hospitals, nursing homes, or retirement facilities.

Do I need a master's degree in Nutrition to be a registered dietitian?

No, but it is highly recommended.