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A Request to Prospective and Declared Students Who Use This Handbook
As you might imagine, staying abreast of the dynamic field of dietetics is difficult. Every effort was made to make this handbook current and complete; but the author realizes that sometimes an element that deserves attention is missed. If you find content that you question or believe warrants further consideration, feel free to e-mail, call, or write Dr. Janet Gloeckner at gloeckjw@jmu.edu, 540-568-7084, 2014 Health and Behavioral Studies Building, MSC 430l, 235 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Harrisonburg, VA 22807.

WELCOME
The purpose of this handbook is to provide answers to your questions about the major and the profession. Additionally, it informs you of program requirements and your responsibilities as a student in the program. It should assist you in planning your course schedule and in preparing for graduation and your post-graduation goals. Please keep this handbook and refer to it during your matriculation through JMU. You are responsible for all University and Program regulations specified in the JMU catalog for the year you entered the university and those guidelines that are reviewed in this handbook. Finally, this serves as an invitation to consult with any of the faculty in the dietetics program for advising or if you have questions related to reaching your professional goals.

Janet Gloeckner, PhD, RDN,
Director, Didactic Program in Dietetics
GLOSSARY

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (A.N.D.)
With more than 70,000 members, the Academy is the largest professional organization of food and nutrition professionals. It was founded in 1917 (as the American Dietetic Association) and serves the public by promoting optimal health, nutrition, and well-being. Academy members represent a diverse mix of professionals who work in settings ranging from health care facilities and universities to businesses and government or community agencies to private practice. Most dietetics professionals choose to belong to the Academy because of the variety and quality of membership benefits, including skill-building, networking, legislative involvement, and public relations.

Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND)
ACEND is the Academy’s accrediting agency for education programs that prepare students for careers as registered dietitians or dietetic technicians. The council 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. Programs meeting ACEND standards are accredited. The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics of The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education.

Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR)
CDR is the credentialing agency for the Academy. This commission is responsible for protecting the nutritional health and welfare of the public by establishing and enforcing minimum competency for entry-level practice, and standards and qualifications for dietetic registration. Registration is a voluntary credential. The components for dietetic registration include meeting examination eligibility requirements, earning a passing score on the registration examination, and participating in continuing professional education. Registration assists in insuring entry-level competency as well as continuing competency and development of dietetics professionals.

Didactic Program in Nutrition & Dietetics (DPD)
The DPD provides required dietetics coursework leading to a Bachelor’s or graduate degree. Graduates of DPD programs who are verified by the program director may apply for Dietetic Internships to establish eligibility to complete the CDR registration examination for dietitians.

Supervised Practice
To apply to a Supervised Practice program, individuals must complete at least a Bachelor’s degree and DPD requirements. An SP must provide at least 1200 hours of supervised practice and usually is completed in 10 to 24 months depending on the availability of a part-time schedule or requirement of graduate credit. Individuals completing a SP who are verified by the program director are eligible to complete the CDR registration examination for dietitians. Lists of all accredited Supervised Practice programs (Dietetic Internships and Coordinated Program in Dietetics) are found on the Academy’s website at eatright.org.
MISSION STATEMENTS

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY MISSION

We are a program dedicated to providing quality education preparing students for supervised practice leading to eligibility for the CDR credentialing examination to become a registered dietitian nutritionist, while inspiring students to become engaged nutrition professionals.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND BEHAVIORAL STUDIES MISSION

We engage students, faculty and communities in learning, scholarship and service in health and behavioral studies to inspire responsible contributions to our world.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SCIENCES MISSION

The purpose of the Department of Health Sciences is to contribute to the liberal arts education of all students and prepare students for professional careers in the health sciences and/or for entry into professional programs.

DIDACTIC PROGRAM IN DIETETICS MISSION

We are a program dedicated to providing quality education preparing students for supervised practice to become a registered dietitian nutritionist, while inspiring students to become engaged nutrition professionals.

BECOMING A REGISTERED DIETITIAN NUTRITIONIST

The Bachelor of Science in Dietetics is the first step toward registration as a dietitian. The Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RD or RDN) credential is a national credential that requires completion of a baccalaureate degree (can be in any field), course requirements for an accredited Didactic Program in Nutrition and Dietetics (DPD), a Supervised Practice experience (Dietetic Internship, Individualized Supervised Practice Pathway, or Coordinated Program), and successful completion of the national registration examination administered by the Commission on Dietetics Registration (CDR). The DPD at JMU is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics
120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000
Chicago, IL 60606-6995
(312) 899-4876
The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) reviews complaints that relate to a program's compliance with the accreditation/approval standards. Any individual, for example, student, faculty, nutrition and dietetics practitioner and/or member of the public may submit a complaint against any accredited program to ACEND. However, the ACEND board does not intervene on behalf of individuals or act as a court of appeal for individuals in matters of admissions, appointment, promotion or dismissal of faculty or students. It acts only upon signed allegation that the program may not be compliance with the accreditation standards or policies. The complaint must be signed by the complainant. Anonymous complaints are not considered.

Complaints should be sent to ACEND at the address above only after all other options to settle the complaint through the program or JMU grievance procedures have been exhausted. ACEND policies and procedures outline how complaints are handled once received.

**State Licensure for Dietitians**

The Registered Dietitian Nutritionist credential is a national certification of competence in dietetics. Virginia does not have state licensure for dietitians at the current time. Other states in which you might practice may require you obtain a state license as a dietitian/nutritionist before you are allowed to practice. Information on state licensure requirements are summarized by CDR on their state licensure page at [https://www.cdrnet.org/state-licensure](https://www.cdrnet.org/state-licensure).

**THE DIDACTIC PROGRAM IN DIETETICS AT JMU**

All dietetics students at JMU are prepared with the assumption they will pursue dietetic registration. Following graduation from the university, the student must complete an ACEND-accredited supervised practice program, usually a Dietetic Internship. A supervised practice program must have a minimum of 1200 hours and be directed by a Registered Dietitian. After this experience, you will be ready to take the CDR registration examination that, when successfully completed, will qualify you to use the RD/RDN credential after your name.

The program in dietetics gives the student a wide view of dietetics careers including, but not limited to, clinical dietetics, administrative dietetics, community dietetics, food service, education, and research. The program is primarily didactic; however, it strives to provide a learning environment conducive to personal and professional growth. Each student will have a field experience in a dietetics setting under the supervision of a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist. The courses offered are designed to prepare students with knowledge necessary for successful completion of a dietetic internship or other supervised practice experience in dietetics.
DPD Goals and Measurable Objectives

Goal 1. The program will prepare graduates for supervised practice to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist in clinical, community, and foodservice areas.

Objectives:
  a. Eight-five percent of students admitted to the program in the junior year will complete the program within three years.
  b. The percentage of graduates who apply for supervised practice within twelve months of graduation will be 60% or greater and will remain constant or improve over time.
  c. Over 50% of graduates who apply for supervised practice placement will obtain a placement within 12 months of graduation and this will remain consistent or improve over time.
  d. Over a five-year period, 85% of alumni will pass the CDR credentialing examination for registered dietitian nutritionists within one year following the first attempt.
  e. Over a seven-year period, at least 50% of students who graduate with a BS in Dietetics and do not apply for supervised practice will apply for graduate or professional education.
  f. Over a seven-year period, supervised practice directors will rate 95% of program graduates satisfactory or higher for overall preparation for the supervised practice.

Goal 2. The program will promote professional values in graduates.

Objectives:
  a. Fifty percent of students will become members of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics within six months of enrolling in the program.
  b. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics membership will be maintained for five years by 50% of program graduates.

Goal 3. The program will produce graduates capable of graduate work and in interpreting and applying research to dietetics practice.

Objectives:
  a. Program graduates will rate their research competence as satisfactory (3 on a 5-point scale) or higher on alumni surveys.
  b. The mean rating of supervised practice directors for abilities of program graduates to conduct performance improvement or other research activities will be satisfactory (3 on a 5-point scale) or above.

Goal 4. The program will prepare graduates to work collaboratively and interprofessionally.

Objectives:
  a. Graduates will rate their abilities to function as team members as satisfactory (3 on a 5-point scale) or higher on surveys.
  b. Supervised practice directors will rate the abilities of 95% of program graduates to function effectively in interprofessional and other teams as satisfactory (3 on a 5-point scale) or above.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Student learning outcomes (SLO) are another measure of program effectiveness. These ACEND accreditation standards are implemented with the 2017-2018 class.
Domain 1: Scientific and Evidence Base of Practice: Integration of scientific information and research into practice.

Upon Completion of the program, graduates are able to:

KRDN 1.1 Demonstrate how to locate, interpret, evaluate and use professional literature to make ethical evidence-based practice decisions.

KRDN 1.2 Use current information technologies to locate and apply evidence-based guidelines and protocols.

KRDN 1.3 Apply critical thinking skills

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

Upon Completion of the program, graduates are able to:

KRDN 2.1 Demonstrate effective and professional oral and written communication and documentation.

KRDN 2.2 Describe the governance of nutrition and dietetics practice, such as the Scope of Nutrition and Dietetics Practice and the Code of Ethics for the Profession of Nutrition and Dietetics, and describe interprofessional relationships in various practice settings.

KRDN 2.3 Assess the impact of a public policy position on nutrition and dietetics practice.

KRDN 2.4 Discuss the impact of health care policy and different health care delivery systems on food and nutrition services.

KRDN 2.5 Identify and describe the work of interprofessional teams and the roles of other with whom the registered dietitian nutritionist collaborates in the delivery of food and nutrition services.

KRDN 2.6 Demonstrate an understanding of cultural competency/sensitivity.

KRDN 2.7 Demonstrate identification with the nutrition and dietetics profession through activities such as participation in professional organizations and defending a position on issues impacting the nutrition and dietetics profession.

KRDN 2.8 Demonstrate an understanding of the importance and expectation of a professional in mentoring and precepting others.
Domain 3: Clinical and Customer Services: Development and delivery of information, products and services to individuals, groups and populations.

Upon Completion of the program, graduates are able to:

KRDN 3.1 Use the Nutrition Care Process to make decisions, identify nutrition-related problems and determine and evaluate nutrition interventions.

KRDN 3.2 Develop an educational session or program/educational strategy for a target population.

KRDN 3.3 Demonstrate counseling and education methods to facilitate behavior change and enhance wellness for diverse individuals and groups.

KR 3.4 Explain the processes involved in delivering quality food and nutrition services.

KR 3.5 Describe basic concepts of nutritional genomics.

Domain 4: Practice Management and Use of Resources: Strategic application of principles of management and systems in the provision of services to individuals and organizations.

Upon Completion of the program, graduates are able to:

KRDN 4.1 Apply management theories to the development of programs or services.

KRDN 4.2 Evaluate a budget and interpret financial data.

KRDN 4.3 Describe the regulation system related to billing and coding, what services are reimbursable by third party payers, and how reimbursement may be obtained.

KRDN 4.4 Apply the principles of human resource management to different situations.

KRDN 4.5 Describe safety principles related to food, personnel and consumers.

KRDN 4.6 Analyze data for assessment and evaluate data to be used in decision-making for continuous quality improvement.
ADMISSION TO THE DIETETICS PROGRAM

Admission to JMU

First Year Student Admission

JMU’s admission process is competitive. We receive more qualified applications than we can accommodate. For the 2015 admissions process, approximately 60 percent of applicants were admitted with 88 percent of the applicants being competitive. There is not a prescribed formula for gaining admission. The admissions committee works to select the strongest candidates from a high quality pool. We consider the following factors in evaluating applicants: program of study, academic achievement, standardized test scores, Secondary School Report Form and recommendation, extracurricular activities, and an optional personal statement. Each applicant is rated in the following four areas, listed in order of importance:

Academic Program
Competitive applicants should minimally have the following:

- four years of math with at least one full year beyond algebra II (i.e. pre-calculus, trigonometry, discrete, statistics, analysis, etc.). Computer and consumer math do not count and will not be evaluated as a full year beyond algebra II.
- three years of laboratory science (preferably biology, chemistry and physics or an AP, IB or DE science; general science or earth science does not count as a lab science);
- three to four years of the same foreign language or two years of two different foreign languages;
- four years of English; and
- four years of social studies.

Students who challenge themselves with the upper-level courses offered in their high school (i.e. Honors-level courses, Advanced Placement classes, International Baccalaureate, dual enrollment) increase their competitiveness. Although schools provide different opportunities, applicants should pursue the most demanding college preparatory programs available. Because strong students come from different types of schools, we evaluate applicants within the context of their high schools.

Academic Achievement
To evaluate achievement in high school, we evaluate grades in the core subject areas: mathematics, English, foreign language, social studies and lab sciences. A competitive candidate is an “A/B” student in core courses. We look at performance throughout the entire high school career.

Standardized Tests
Performance on the SAT I or ACT helps discern past academic achievements and potential for future academic success. SAT IIs are not required for or considered in the admissions process.
Extracurricular Activities
We are looking for quality rather than quantity. For instance, we like to see what applicants have done in clubs, organizations and athletics beyond just being members. We also consider community service and part-time jobs. We look at the variety and depth of your involvement. Applicants must be academically competitive before extracurricular activities are reviewed.

Transfer Admission Requirements

To transfer to JMU, a student must:

- Have completed or be in the process of completing at least 24 credits at the college or university level, after graduating from high school or earning a GED, at the time of application.
- Successfully complete college course work in the following areas: English, math, lab science and social science in order to be competitive. The more college level course work a student completes, the less emphasis the admission committee places on the high school transcript.
- Be in good standing and eligible to continue or graduate from their previous institution(s). It is the student’s responsibility to provide the JMU Office of Admissions with official transcripts of work completed from all colleges attended. Concealment of previous attendance at a college or university is cause for cancellation of admission and registration. (Students with holds on their academic records will not be considered for admission until holds are released).
- The university recommends students have a “B” cumulative grade point average (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) to be competitive for admission.

Admission to the Dietetics Major

Any student admitted to JMU can declare dietetics as his/her major and will be permitted to enroll in NUTR 280 and NUTR 295. However, to make progress in the major beyond the first few courses, students need to apply and be admitted to the major.

Application and Admittance Process

Students wishing to be admitted to the dietetics major at JMU must apply in the spring semester during which requirements will be met, usually in the sophomore year. Prerequisites to apply for the major include: completion of all prerequisite courses with a 3.0 cumulative grade point average (GPA) or above and completion of most of the JMU General Education requirements.

Prerequisite courses that must be completed with a grade no lower than a "C" (2.0) prior to admission to the dietetics major include: CHEM 131, CHEM 131L, CHEM 132, CHEM 132L, BIO 270, GenEd Cluster 1 choice, POSC 225, PSYC 101 or PSYC 160, MATH 220, NUTR 280, and NUTR 295. Equivalent coursework taken at other schools and AP or IB credit will be accepted.

A student with a grade point average below 3.0 in prerequisite courses will be referred to Career and Academic Planning for assistance in selecting a major other than dietetics and will not be allowed to register for any junior-level nutrition courses. Students with grades of C-, D+, D, D-,
or F in the listed prerequisite courses will need to repeat those classes and receive a grade of C (2.0) or better before admission to the program. According to university regulations, a student may repeat a maximum of two courses on a repeat/forgive basis. The grade earned in retaking the class will be used in the calculation of their grade point average (GPA) for admission. However, the student should be aware that the original grade earned will still be printed on the transcript. Any other course may be retaken on a repeat/credit basis and all grades earned will be used in computing GPA for prerequisite courses.

Students who complete the application and meet the GPA requirement in the prerequisite courses will be invited to take a placement test and be interviewed by dietetic program representatives. Scores on the placement test and skills demonstrated during the interview will be considered in the application process. A score sheet outlining those criteria and their respective weights is shown below. Each member of the admission committee will rate the applicants independently during the interview process and complete a subjective evaluation based on performance in prior classes (if applicable) and personal contact. A compilation of those ratings will be used to make final admission decisions.

Current students at JMU who change their major to dietetics will follow the application procedure outlined. A change after the sophomore year may result in a delay of graduation beyond the traditional four years. Students transferring to JMU from other educational institutions with junior status or higher and the prerequisites completed will be allowed to apply to the major at orientation or just prior to their first semester of enrollment. Other transfer students will complete the application process as outlined.

Students who are not admitted to the major may reapply in subsequent years if they meet the admission criteria. If all courses are not yet completed, provisional admission may be offered contingent upon successfully meeting course requirements prior to start of the fall semester.

The application deadline is February 15th of each year. Applications may be obtained from the Department of Health Sciences, Health and Behavioral Studies Building (HBS) Room 2012 or on the program website.

Application packets must include the following:
- A completed dietetics major application form including word-processed answers to two questions on professional goals and reasons for selecting dietetics.
- Official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended other than James Madison University.
- Unofficial JMU transcript.

All materials must be together in one envelope and submitted to the address below or hand delivered to room 2012 Health and Behavioral Studies Bldg.
Director, Didactic Program in Dietetics
Department of Health Sciences, MSC 4301
235 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way
James Madison University
Harrisonburg, VA 22807
Progression in the Dietetics Major

Students admitted to the dietetics major can expect four semesters of full time classes and at least one summer class before graduation. To remain in the major, students must meet the following criteria.
1. The student will maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher in the major.
2. The student will earn a grade of C (2.0) or higher in all remaining major nutrition and health classes.
3. The student will earn a grade of C- (1.7) or higher in all remaining major science classes.

Students are expected to progress with their cohort and complete major requirements within two years of admittance to the program. They will have a maximum of four years to complete major and graduation requirements once they are admitted. Students who are not making adequate progress in the major will be advised to consult with the program director to develop a plan for completing the dietetics major. If an adequate plan is not developed, the student will be referred to Career and Academic Planning for counseling.

Progression of Courses

Classes in the Dietetics major must be completed in a prescribed order with all prerequisite courses completed as listed in the Undergraduate Catalog and this Dietetics Student Handbook. A student will be permitted to take courses only after all the requirements (all prerequisites with acceptable grades as listed above) have been met. Faculty members in the Dietetics Program will not issue overrides to allow a student to enroll in a course without completing the prerequisites. If a student has not successfully completed the prerequisite courses, he/she will not be permitted to enroll in nutrition classes until those prerequisites are completed, which will result in a delay in graduation beyond the traditional four years.

Students are encouraged to meet with their academic advisor at least annually to confirm that they are making appropriate progress in the major.

Probationary Status

The following are situations where an admitted Dietetics student would be placed on program probation or removed from Dietetics program.

Major class grades:
1. A student who receives a grade of C-, D+, D, D-, or F in a major professional class (all NUTR and HTH classes) while his/her major GPA remains above 3.0 will be placed on probation in the Dietetics major and will be allowed to continue in the program and repeat the class the next time it is offered. Students will be allowed to repeat the class only once.
2. A student who receives a grade of D+, D, D-, or F in a major science class (CHEM 241, CHEM 241L, CHEM 260, CHEM 260L, BIO 280, or BIO 290) while his/her major GPA remains above 3.0 will be placed on probation in the Dietetics major and will be allowed to continue in the program and repeat the class the next time it is offered. Students will be allowed to repeat the class only once.
3. If the course grade earned in the repeated class outlined in 2. or 3. above is below a C (NUTR and HTH classes) or C- (major science classes), the student will be dismissed from the Dietetics major and referred to Career and Academic Planning for counseling in selecting a new major. Students will be allowed only one repeat of an individual course and no more than two repeated courses in the dietetics professional program.

4. If a student decides to repeat a course at another institution for transfer credit, the student must have written permission from the JMU Registrar and the Dietetics Program Director for the transfer class prior to taking the class. Please remember that grades from another institution do not transfer and any JMU course grades will remain on your transcript and be included in your overall and major GPA. After completion of the repeated course, you must send your official transfer transcripts to the JMU Registrar AND the Dietetics Program Director. Failure to comply with these stipulations will result in denial of credit for classes completed at other institutions.

5. A student who receives an unacceptable, but passing, grade (see numbers 1 and 2 above in this section) during his/her last semester and chooses not to repeat the course at its next offering will be allowed to graduate, but will not be verified as eligible for admission to a post-graduate supervised practice program (the student will not receive a Verification Statement).

A student on probation as a result of class grades will be notified in writing by the program director and will be strongly encouraged to meet with the director to determine the feasibility of, and an appropriate plan for, repeating the class. The student must sign the probationary letter and return an original copy to the program director within 14 days of receipt of the letter.

**Grade Point Average:**

1. A student whose major grade point average falls below 3.0 will be placed on probation in the Dietetics major and allowed one semester to raise the GPA to the requisite 3.0 needed to continue. If this occurs at the end of fall semester, the student will be allowed to enroll for the spring semester; if it occurs at the end of spring semester, the student will be given the summer to achieve this.

2. A student who fails to achieve the requisite 3.0 by the end of the probationary term will be dismissed from the major, referred to Career and Academic Planning for assistance in selecting a major other than dietetics, and will be dropped from all dietetics courses for which the student had registered.

3. A student whose cumulative GPA falls below 3.0 during his/her final semester will be allowed to graduate, but will not be verified as eligible for admission to a post-graduate supervised practice program (the student will not receive a Verification Statement).

A student on program probation for a GPA violation will be notified in writing by the Program Director and will be strongly encouraged to meet with the director to determine the feasibility of, and an appropriate plan for, raising his or her major GPA. The student must sign the probationary letter and return an original copy to the program director within 14 days of receipt of the letter.

A student on probation is encouraged to seek assistance with material in courses that are being repeated. Help is available from faculty members during office hours, Peer-Assisted Study Sessions, and the Science and Math Learning Center. Lists of upper-division students who
have offered to serve as paid tutors is available in the departmental offices of Chemistry and Biology.

**Dismissal form Dietetics Program**

If a student is dismissed from the program for any of the reasons listed above or for violations involving ethical or honesty standards listed below, they will be notified in writing by the program director. A student dismissed from the program is not eligible for readmission.

**Appeal Process**

Any academic admission or disciplinary decision (i.e. probation, dismissal) may be appealed. This appeal will be viewed and voted on by the Dietetics Appeal Committee.

The appeal process for Dietetics is as follows:

- The student must make his/her appeal in the form of a formal letter to the Dietetics Appeals Committee through the Dietetics Program Director within two weeks of receipt of a decision letter (i.e. probation, dismissal, or denial). The student must include all materials that may substantiate the appeal.
- Once an appeal is received, a committee will be assembled. The committee will be formed on an as-needed basis and will be comprised of five members. Members will be Dietetics and/or Health Sciences/Health Professions faculty.
- The committee will hear the case within two weeks from the date of receiving the appeal and will notify the student of their decision in writing within one week of the meeting date.
- If the student disagrees with the committee’s decision and wishes to take further action, the student must appeal, in writing, to the Academic Unit Head. The academic unit head will follow departmental appeals procedures and those outlined in the university grievance policies.
- If the student disagrees with the Academic Unit Head’s decision and wishes to take further action, he/she would then pursue action through the University’s grievance process. See the University Catalog for details at [http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/16/academic-policies/academic-policy.shtml#GrievanceProcedureforStudents](http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/16/academic-policies/academic-policy.shtml#GrievanceProcedureforStudents).

**Ethical and Honesty Standards**

Students are expected to abide by all university policies and procedures including the JMU Honor Code. These are outlined in the Undergraduate Catalog and additional information is available in the JMU Student Handbook at [http://www.jmu.edu/judicial/handbook.shtml](http://www.jmu.edu/judicial/handbook.shtml). Infractions may result in removal of the student from the DPD program or the university. Students are also expected to abide by all policies and procedures outlined in this Didactic Program in Dietetics Student Handbook. Student members of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics are also bound by the Code of Ethics of the Academy.
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<th>Criteria</th>
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<td>poise</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subjective evaluation 0-10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active in professional organizations, social organizations, extracurricular activities, or employment 0-5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Score</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision</td>
<td>Admit</td>
<td>Deny</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT LEARNING

Students will be assessed in each course in the DPD in the manner specified on the course syllabus. Feedback will be provided to the student in a timely manner for all assessment activities.

JMU has a vigorous assessment process – students are assessed for general learning as entering students, at the mid-undergraduate point (45-70 hours completed), and as graduating seniors in their academic majors. Students admitted to the dietetics major will be assessed at various points in the program to verify attainment of the Knowledge Requirements for Dietitian Nutritionists (KRDN) as established by ACEND. Other components of assessment of student learning will be conducted annually as established by the program assessment plan developed through the JMU Center for Assessment and Research Studies.

Failure to complete university assessment tests will result in a hold on the student’s registration or their transcripts as set by university policy.

STUDENT RECORDS

The DPD at JMU will keep records of student progress in addition to the records that are maintained by the University. These records are considered confidential and will be maintained in a locked file in a locked university office. The program will abide by the stipulation of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act as listed on the Registrar’s Web Page https://www.jmu.edu/osarp/handbook/JMU-administration/FERPA.shtml and information provided to faculty member at the same location https://www.jmu.edu/registrar/FERPAforFaculty.shtml. Students can access those records under provisions of FERPA outlined by the Registrar here https://www.jmu.edu/registrar/FERPAforStudents.shtml.

STUDENT COMPLAINTS/GRIEVANCES

Students may have complaints/grievances about an area of the DPD not covered in the section on progression standards above. Students are encouraged to handle complaints at the lowest level possible. If your complaint is about a class or instructor, you are encouraged to talk with the instructor for a solution. If you are not satisfied with the outcome of that meeting, you may meet with the DPD Director. The director will attempt to mediate the situation; if that does not result in a satisfactory solution, the JMU grievance procedures will be followed.

All student complaints about the DPD will be logged in a file maintained by the program.
Grievance Procedures

JMU has policies addressing grade review, discrimination, harassment, and general grievance procedures for issues not addressed above listed in the Undergraduate Catalog. These policies are outlined at the following sites.
Grade review: [http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/16/academic-policies/academic-policy.shtml#GradeReviewProcedure](http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/16/academic-policies/academic-policy.shtml#GradeReviewProcedure)
Harassment: [http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/16/academic-policies/academic-policy.shtml#Harassment](http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/16/academic-policies/academic-policy.shtml#Harassment)
General grievance: [http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/16/academic-policies/academic-policy.shtml#GrievanceProcedureforStudents](http://www.jmu.edu/catalog/16/academic-policies/academic-policy.shtml#GrievanceProcedureforStudents)

For class and grade issues, students are encouraged to address their grievances first with the professor, but may contact the DPD director or academic unit head if resolution of the grievance cannot be achieved or the student is uncomfortable approaching the faculty member.

The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) has established a process for reviewing complaints against accredited programs in order to fulfill its public responsibility for assuring the quality and integrity of the educational programs that it accredits. Any individual, for example, student, faculty, dietetics practitioner and/or member of the public may submit a complaint against any accredited program to ACEND. However, the ACEND board does not intervene on behalf of individuals or act as a court of appeal for individuals in matters of admissions, appointment, promotion or dismissal of faculty or students. It acts only upon a signed allegation that the program may not be in compliance with the accreditation standards or policies. The complaint must be signed by the complainant. Anonymous complaints are not considered. Complaints about the DPD at JMU may be sent to ACEND at the address listed on page 5 of this handbook.

### COURSES REQUIRED FOR THE DPD AT JMU

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prerequisite Courses</th>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>When Completed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BIO 270</td>
<td>Human Physiology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CHEM 131, 131L, 132, 132L</td>
<td>General Chemistry &amp; Labs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SCOM 121,122, or 123</td>
<td>Fundamental Human Communication</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WRIT 103</td>
<td>Critical Reading and Writing</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>General Education Cluster 1 Critical Thinking</td>
<td>Any Course in the Cluster</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>POSC 225</td>
<td>United States Government</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PSYC 101 or 160</td>
<td>General Psychology or</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Code</td>
<td>Course Title</td>
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<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MATH 220</td>
<td>Elementary Statistics</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 280</td>
<td>Nutrition for Wellness</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 295</td>
<td>Foundations of Nutrition Practice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BIO 280</td>
<td>Allied Health Microbiology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BIO 290</td>
<td>Human Anatomy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CHEM 241, 241L</td>
<td>Concepts of Organic Chemistry &amp; Lab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 260, 260 L</td>
<td>Concepts of Biochemistry and Lab</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HTH 210</td>
<td>Medical Terminology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HTH 354</td>
<td>U.S. Health Care System</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 340</td>
<td>Science of Food Preparation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 360</td>
<td>Management in Dietetics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 362</td>
<td>Food Service Systems</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 363</td>
<td>Quantity Food Production</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 380</td>
<td>Global Nutrition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 384</td>
<td>Clinical Nutrition I</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 385</td>
<td>Nutrition Throughout the Lifecycle</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 395</td>
<td>Introduction to Patient Care in Dietetics</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 446</td>
<td>Experimental Foods</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 482</td>
<td>Nutrition &amp; Metabolism</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 484</td>
<td>Clinical Nutrition II</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 485</td>
<td>Community Nutrition</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 490</td>
<td>Field Experience</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUTR 495</td>
<td>Senior Seminar in Dietetics</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**CREDITS TRANSFERRED FROM OTHER SCHOOLS**

Credit will be awarded for those courses equivalent to courses offered at JMU in which the student has earned a grade of "C" or better.

After the student has been approved for admission to JMU, the Office of the Registrar will evaluate the transcript(s) of each transfer student to show the credits accepted by the university.

Transfer credit will not be accepted to meet dietetics major requirements for the following courses:

- NUTR 363  Quantity Food Production
- NUTR 446  Experimental Foods
NUTR 482  Nutrition and Metabolism
NUTR 484  Clinical Nutrition II
NUTR 490  Field Experience

With the exception of some degrees in General Studies, General Education requirements will be waived for those students who have completed either the Associate in Arts, Associate in Sciences, or the Associate in Arts and Sciences degree at a Virginia community college. Students who complete one of these associate degrees and are offered JMU admission will receive junior-level status. For more details, consult the JMU Virginia Community College Transfer Guide. Receiving junior-level status at JMU does not assure full admission to the dietetics program.

Courses in foods and/or nutrition for which an appropriate equivalent is not identified at JMU will be evaluated by the DPD Director for credit toward program requirements on a case-by-case basis. Students must provide each course syllabus to be used in making these determinations. In some instances, a combination of courses taken at another institution can be used to meet the requirements of a specific DPD requirement at JMU.

Experiential credit will not be awarded for DPD courses. Credit by examination is available for 100- and 200-level courses for those individuals who feel qualified in the course material based on prior experience. Students interested in the credit by examination option should consult with the DPD Director for permission to receive credit in this manner and to determine when the examination is to be scheduled.

VERIFICATION STATEMENTS

Verification Statements required by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) will be issued to all students who complete DPD requirements, including awarding of the Bachelor’s degree, with the exceptions listed above for course grades or program GPA not meeting program standards in the final semester (student choice). Award of the degree Bachelor of Science in Dietetics requires completion of the following items

1. A minimum of 120 credit hours, including 60 credit hours at a four-year institution, and a minimum of 30 hours at James Madison University.
2. Completion of all General Education requirements as outlined on the General Education web page here http://www.jmu.edu/gened/.
3. Completion of all courses in the dietetics major listed in this handbook and page 205 the University Catalog at https://www.jmu.edu/catalog/ug-catalog-2017.pdf with appropriate grades as listed in the admission and progression standards.
4. Completion of the requirements for a Bachelor of Science degree shown here https://www.jmu.edu/registrar/BA_and_BS_Degree_Courses.shtml.
Verification Statement Forms will be processed as soon as the JMU Registrar has posted the degree to the student’s record, normally within one month following graduation. Five signed copies of the Verification Statement will be sent to the home address listed in the student’s official record.

Verification Statements showing completion of DPD requirements at JMU will be issued only to students who complete the professional program after full admission to the dietetics program at JMU.

The JMU DPD does not evaluate transcripts for DPD completion of students who are not attending JMU. The university does not admit students to undergraduate programs if they possess a Baccalaureate degree. Therefore, the DPD at JMU cannot admit these students to the program nor issue Verification Statements to them.

RESOURCES FOR SUCCESS AT JMU

Learning resources are available to all JMU students through the Learning Centers in Rooms 1100-1167 of the Student Success Centers. Programs are staffed by full-time faculty within the disciplines and provide additional instructional support for a variety of academic assignments and activities.

Communication Center - The Communication Center helps students develop skills in public speaking, library research, small group communication, and advocacy through workshops, individual and small group tutoring, and online resources. The Center also offers consulting and course-embedded tutoring to help faculty integrate communication instruction in their courses.

Digital Communication Consulting - Digital Communication Consulting (DigiComm) helps students with online communication, focusing on websites, online portfolios, and digital storytelling. DigiComm also helps faculty implement digital assignments by offering consulting and course-embedded tutoring.

English Language Learner Services - English Language Learner Services (ELLS) offers tutoring and workshops to help multilingual students improve their proficiency using academic English. ELLS also assists faculty and staff with inclusive practices to support linguistic diversity.

Peer-Assisted Study Sessions - Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS, or Supplemental Instruction) provides student-facilitated academic support for difficult courses across campus, especially in science and math. Evening study sessions reinforce course content and help students develop study skills.

Science & Math Learning Center - The Science and Math Learning Center offers walk-in tutoring and online resources to help students understand course content, homework assignments and lab reports in first and second year physics, chemistry, math, and statistics courses.

University Writing Center - The University Writing Center offers tutoring, workshops, and online resources to support all types of writing, including class assignments, scholarly articles, fiction and personal narratives, and professional writing. The Center also offers
consulting and course-embedded tutoring to help faculty integrate writing instruction in their courses.

The University Health Center is here to help students maintain good health at JMU. We are your partners for expert medical care, innovative health education programs, and valuable resources for self-care - all provided in a state-of-the-art facility by talented and dedicated health professionals. Good health is an important ingredient in student success, thus our team of board certified physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, dietitian, pharmacist, professional health educators, substance abuse prevention specialists, and others is here to serve each of you in a confidential, professional and student-focused manner. More information is available on the University Health Center website at https://www.jmu.edu/healthcenter/index.shtml.

The primary focus of the Counseling Center mission is to provide the highest quality individual and group counseling to students struggling with problems common to a college population, and we serve as an assessment and referral source for students with more serious and chronic psychological difficulties. More information may be found on the Counseling Center website at https://www.jmu.edu/counselingctr/.

Other resources for individual development are also available at JMU. Student organizations recognized by JMU are listed at https://beinvolved.jmu.edu/Organizations. Of special interest is the James Madison University Dietetic Association (JMUDA). All dietetics majors are encouraged to join the student dietetic association on campus. Membership is limited to students majoring in dietetics and the association is run by students. Many opportunities for service in the community and volunteer experiences are available through JMUDA.

TUITION AND OTHER COSTS OF THE DPD

The Dietetics major is designed to be completed in eight regular semesters and one summer 3-credit course. Tuition and fee charges for the academic sessions are available on the University Business Office website http://www.jmu.edu/ubo/. The tuition and fees listed contribute to general maintenance and operation, instruction, and other university service costs, including recreational and health-service facility costs. The fees also support student activities such as the Student Government Association, University Program Board, and student publications. The university reserves the right to adjust tuition and fee charges because of rising costs or other conditions upon approval of the JMU Board of Visitors.

No tuition or fees are required of the students in the DPD other than those assessed by JMU. Refunds of any tuition and fees paid to the James Madison University are covered by university policy and handled by the University Business Office. Deadlines and amounts refundable are outlined on the University Business

Financial aid is available to qualified students attending JMU. Nearly all financial aid is handled by the Financial Aid office of the university. Information about qualifications and application procedures for financial aid can be found on the Financial Aid website at [http://www.jmu.edu/financialaid/index.shtml](http://www.jmu.edu/financialaid/index.shtml).

The costs listed below are program expenses, which are in addition to tuition and fees charged by the university. Textbooks for your classes are available from the JMU Bookstore or other sources. It is very difficult to estimate cost of textbooks and other course materials as the amount can vary greatly. An estimate is $300 - $400 per semester, depending on the number and selection of courses you are taking. Other expenses associated with the DPD professional program might include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Textbooks (estimated at $300-$400/semester)</td>
<td>$1200-1600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lab coats (2)</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-slip shoes</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory Fees</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate membership in the Academy ($50.00 per year)</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses associated with NUTR 490 Field Experience</td>
<td>$1527-3655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(see separate section on NUTR 490 below)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Special Consideration for NUTR 490 Field Experience in Dietetics

Nutrition 490 Field Experience in Dietetics is the only course in the curriculum that MUST be completed during a Summer Semester (between the junior and senior years of the professional program). Tuition must be paid for this course and summer tuition is not covered by financial aid on a routine basis. Students should budget in advance to pay for this course.

Students will be responsible for locating their own shadowing site under the direction of the course instructor. Preceptors must be Registered Dietitian Nutritionists, licensed in their state of practice, if required. Additional information about appropriate preceptors and sites are available in the Field Experience in Dietetics Handbook and will be shared during a meeting held in the Fall Semester of the junior year. Contracts with experiential sites will be processed by the course instructor.

Course requirements will be available to the student on a secure classroom management platform, Canvas. All worksheets and evaluation materials will be submitted to the course instructor using that platform. Canvas at JMU requires use of the student eID and password for access, preventing others from using the system.

Estimated expenses that may be incurred as part of this class are listed below. Many of these fees result from requirements set by the practice sites and it is possible...
that a particular site may have additional requirements. Individual costs may vary from those listed.

- Summer tuition for 3-credit class - $1122 (in-state) - $2805 (out of state)
- Automobile expenses during NUTR 490 Field Experience - $300 - $600
- Criminal History Record Name Search for NUTR 490 - $35 - $150
- Laboratory tests for controlled substances for NUTR 490 - $70 - $100

APPLYING FOR A DIETETIC INTERNSHIP

After students have received a Bachelor of Science degree and completed DPD program requirements, and received a Verification Statement from the DPD Director, they must complete a dietetic internship (DI) that has been accredited by ACEND or another approved supervised practice pathway. Once the academic and experiential components have been completed, CDR grants individuals permission to complete the CDR registration examination for dietitians. Those who complete the registration examination and pass are regarded as dietetics experts and are entitled to use the credential Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RD or RDN).

Students are encouraged to begin thinking about supervised practice programs early in their academic program and attend informational sessions well before the year that their applications are due. They should begin examining goals, considering preferred type of program (e.g., general, clinical, foodservice, community) and location, and contemplating distance versus on-site program and full- versus part-time status. Students may benefit from spending time reviewing websites, and visiting and attending program open houses.

The listing of accredited dietetic programs lists all the DIs and CPs currently approved or accredited by the ACEND. Each listing provides the name and address of the Program Director and they can be contacted for more information. This information can be accessed from the Academy page by visiting their website http://www.eatright.org. The direct link to dietetic internship programs is http://www.eatrightacend.org/ACEND/content.aspx?id=6442485424.

The following credentials help make students more competitive during application:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credential</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grades</td>
<td>A 3.0 or better GPA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work Experience</td>
<td>Paid and/or volunteer. A hospital dietetics department experience is considered the best but other dietary-related experiences such as college foodservice, camp foodservice, long term care foodservice, catering operations, and community nutrition programs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
are considered very good. Many other work experiences can be very valuable. Most DIs are looking for individuals whose work or volunteer experience contributes to personal growth, is people oriented, and/or involves responsibility and decision making.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Extra-Curricular Activities</th>
<th>College/University clubs (e.g., Student Dietetic Association), sports, community service projects, etc.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Letters of Recommendation</td>
<td>Required from several professors and possibly a work supervisor.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tuition for DI programs varies widely, from $1,500 to over $20,000 with the most likely cost being about $6,000. Other living expenses also need to be considered. Students should check with each program about expenses. Accredited internships associated with regionally accredited university graduate programs may qualify for government-sponsored loan programs. Students should check the program website or contact the Program Director to see if financial aid is available at a specific program. Some internships offer a stipend during the year but those will have more applicants from which to choose and may require an additional time commitment working for the institution after completion of the experience. Students applying to those programs should be very competitive, having a high GPA and substantial work experience.

Students may apply to as many supervised practice programs as they like; most students apply to 4-6 programs. The Academy has contracted with Liaison International to provide and support a Dietetic Internship Centralized Application System (DICAS) which is used by most DI programs to accept applications.

The Academy has contracted with D&D Digital to facilitate matching applicants to DIs through a computerized process. At the time of application, the student also completes a rank-ordered listing of DI programs to which they have applied and submits the rankings to D&D Digital. Each DI screens its own applications and submits a priority listing of acceptable applicants to D&D Digital, along with the number of positions to be filled.

D&D Digital provides personal notification of placement or lack of placement to each applicant via their website at https://www.dnddigital.com/ada/index.php. It also provides each DI program director with a list of applicants matched to its program. Applicants who receive a match are required to notify the program by appointment day to accept or reject the appointment.

Dietetics faculty members will assist students in applying for supervised practice programs. NUTR 295 Foundations of Nutrition Practice and NUTR 495 Senior Seminar address the DI application process and routes to dietetic registration. Standardized DI application documents will be completed in draft form during NUTR 495 Senior Seminar. Students are encouraged to communicate directly with program directors to
discuss application procedures specific to their program and with the DPD Director for assistance in completing application materials.

The *general* application deadlines for a DI experience are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>Spring Match</strong></th>
<th><strong>Fall Match</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DI application submitted</td>
<td>February 15</td>
<td>September 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D&amp;D Digital deadline</td>
<td>February 15</td>
<td>September 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DI selections announced</td>
<td>First Sunday in April</td>
<td>First Sunday in November</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DI start dates</td>
<td>July – September</td>
<td>January – February</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A student has no guarantee of receiving a DI or other supervised practice. When students submit an application to a dietetic internship, they need to realize that the selection process is no reflection on them personally. One is competing for an appointment, but does not know against whom they are competing. Generally, DIs will not choose more than two students from the same undergraduate program. After the appointment day, students may check with the DPD Director or on the D&D Digital webpage to see if any DI slots still are available. A student may be able to reapply at that time.

Some students may have to apply for a DI placement more than once before receiving an appointment. If a student does not receive an appointment, the student should begin to re-evaluate her/his credentials. She or he should identify personal strengths and liabilities, which we all have, and begin to think about ways to better highlight strengths and to improve on areas that are liabilities.

Dietetics faculty members are interested in and concerned about students and can be very helpful in providing support throughout the entire application process, but especially to students not accepted into a DI program. Also, the Dietetics Program Director can suggest alternatives and help the student think through the situation. Matters that can be discussed at this time include how to improve professional qualifications, applying to other DIs in the after-match, reapplying at a later date, looking into Coordinated Programs in Dietetics or Individualized Supervised Practice Pathways, and obtaining a job in a dietetics-related area to gain more experience and improve qualifications for admission to a DI.

**OTHER POLICIES OF THE JMU DPD**

The Didactic Program in Dietetics follows James Madison University policy in ALL areas for which policy exists. Selected JMU polices followed by the DPD are listed below.

*Insurance*
The DPD does not require students to maintain insurance coverage and accepts no responsibility for health or mental care of the student above that provided to all students by the University Health Center and the Counseling Center as listed above in the resources for student success section. The university does not provide health insurance policies, and encourages students to seek coverage under the policy of their parents, in the Marketplace, or through a company of their choice as outlined here http://www.jmu.edu/healthcenter/StudentCare/insurance.shtml.

Courses in the program require no direct patient or client care; therefore, liability insurance is not required by the program. If liability coverage is required by one of the experience sites used for NUTR 490 Field Experience in Dietetics, the university liability policy is extended to activities at that site. The Certificate of Coverage is described by the Risk Management Office on their web site at https://www.jmu.edu/riskmgmt/certcov.shtml.

Travel

Students in the DPD are responsible for arranging their own travel as necessary to meet program requirements. The DPD assumes no liability for safety of students in travel to and from the university and any other instructional site, such as field trips. The program assumes no liability for travel necessary between a student’s home and a site used for experiential learning in NUTR 490, nor for travel between the student’s home and the university.

The Department of Risk Management provides suggestions for safety during fieldwork and has prepared a manual accessible here http://www.jmu.edu/riskmgmt/wm_library/Fieldworks_Guide_110216.pdf.
DIETETICS FACULTY

Mailing address for all faculty members is:
Health Sciences Department, MSC 4301
James Madison University
235 Martin Luther King Jr Way
Harrisonburg, VA  22807

Departmental FAX number:  540-568-3336

Jeremy Akers, PhD, RD
Associate Professor
Phone: 540-569-8974
Email: akersjd@jmu.edu

PhD, Virginia Tech, Nutrition in Sports and Chronic Disease
MS, James Madison University, Nutrition and Physical Activity
BS, Radford University, Clinical Dietetics

Jeremy Akers is the graduate director for the MS in Health Sciences. His areas of interest are behavioral therapies for long-term weight loss maintenance (WTLM) and chronic disease prevention, and nutrition and physical activity. Jeremy served as the Obesity Prevention Dietitian for the Virginia Department of Health, Division of WIC and Community Nutrition Services for almost four years. His job involved developing community obesity prevention programs, managing health department grants, obesity data collection and developing the Virginia Healthy Weight State Plan. He has taught courses in nutrition for 12 years along with conducting numerous studies involving nutrition and physical activity.

Janet W. Gloeckner, PhD, RD
Professor
Director, Didactic Program in Dietetics
Phone: 540-568-7084
E-mail: gloeckjw@jmu.edu

PhD Foods and Nutrition, University of Illinois
MS Geriatric Nutrition, Colorado State University
BS Medical Dietetics, Ohio State University

Janet Gloeckner is director of dietetics programs including the DPD and the graduate program. She has been a university faculty member for more than 25 years teaching about nutrient needs in both health and disease. Her degrees in Medical Dietetics and Geriatric Nutrition and previous work as a Clinical Dietitian in both acute care and long term care enhance her ability to work with the dietary needs of various clients. She has counseled individuals with diabetes mellitus, cancer, renal disease, and heart disease, as well as those requiring specialized nutrition support. Courses typically taught in the
Dietetics Program include NUTR 280 Nutrition for Wellness, NUTR 295 Foundations of Nutrition Practice, NUTR 395 Introduction to Patient Care in Dietetics, NUTR 484 Clinical Nutrition II, and NUTR 495 Senior Seminar.

**Michelle Hesse, PhD, RD**  
Assistant Professor  
Phone (540) 568-6570

Dietetic Internship, Iowa State University Distance Program, 2010-2011  
PhD, The Ohio State University Nutrition (OSUN) Program, 2006-2010  
BS in Foods and Nutrition and Chemistry, College of St. Elizabeth, 2002-2006

Dr. Michelle Hesse currently teaches a number of courses including Science of Food Preparation (NUTR 340), Clinical Nutrition (NUTR 384), Nutrition and Exercise (NUTR 545) and Experimental Foods (NUTR 446), among others. Her more recent scholarly interests include the application of nutrient density scoring systems, nutritional quality of foods in food banking systems, and entrepreneurial ventures in food. Dr. Hesse’s previous doctoral work focused on community based childhood obesity prevention programs. Before coming to James Madison University, Dr. Hesse (Battista) served as a project manager for The Ohio State University College of Education and Human Ecology, consultant to the Food Innovation Center, and Wellness Director of Campus Dining at The Ohio State University.

**Danielle M. Torisky, PhD, RD**  
Associate Professor  
Phone: (540) 568-6579  
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PhD Community / Public Health Nutrition, Virginia Tech  
MS Community / Public Health Nutrition, Virginia Tech  
BS Home Economics with a minor in Nutrition and Fine Arts, Seton Hill College

Danielle Torisky’s current research and presentations focus on food in the Civil War period. Dr. Torisky worked as a public health nutritionist in the Virginia Department of Health prior to coming to JMU in 1991. She teaches at both undergraduate and graduate levels; courses currently include NUTR 280 Nutrition for Wellness, NUTR 362 Food Service Systems, NUTR 363 Quantity Food Production, NUTR 385 Lifecycle Nutrition, and NUTR 650 Nutrition Education & Counseling.
Jennifer Walsh, PhD, RD  
Assistant Professor  
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PhD Food and Nutrition Science, University of Maine  
MS Food and Nutrition Science, University of Maine  
BS Food Science and Human Nutrition, University of Maine

Jennifer Walsh is a faculty member teaching Nutrition for Wellness (NUTR 280) and Community Nutrition (NUTR 485). She has conducted nutrition education and eating behavior research for over ten years primarily among audiences with limited resources. She previously was the Nutrition Education Coordinator at the University of Florida for the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education (SNAP-Ed) and oversaw the state team and provided guidance to county faculty and staff. She is a registered dietitian and a member of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior.
DECLARATION OF AGREEMENT PAGE

My signature below indicates that I have a copy of the Dietetics Program Student Handbook, have read it completely, and will abide by the policies in this manual through all phases of the program.

This form will be maintained in my student file in the program office. I understand that I will not be allowed to complete senior-level classes (those numbered 400 and above) unless this form is on file.

________________________________________________________________________________________

Signature of DPD Student

________________________________________________________________________________________

Date

________________________________________________________________________________________

Signature of DPD Director

________________________________________________________________________________________

Date Received from Student