

# ***Jacksonville State University***

## ***Dietetics Program Student Handbook***

***2012-2013***

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***Greetings Students,***

***Thank you for your interest in the Dietetics Program at Jacksonville State University. The field of dietetics and nutrition is an admirable field in which to invest your time and energies and the diversity of the field ensures you a wide variety of job opportunities. The faculty and staff are pleased to be a part of your career path and are here to assist you in meeting your educational goals.***

***The Dietetics Program is didactic in nature and provides the undergraduate requirements necessary for entry into external supervised practice programs or dietetic internships. The typical completion timeframe for the program is four years or 128 semester hours. Upon successful completion of the Dietetics Program at Jacksonville State University, students are issued verification statements that validate their preparation to enter the experiential phase of their training.***

***The program is accredited by The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) and thus is required to maintain high educational standards. The academic benchmarks for acceptance into the Dietetics Program include an overall GPA of 3.0 out of 4.0 and the minimum grade of "C" on all science-based courses.***

***Please consider yourselves a part of the FCS family and enjoy your academic experiences with us. If I, or any of the faculty and staff, can assist you on your academic journey, please don't hesitate to ask!***

***Best wishes and congratulations on your career choice.***

***Sincerely,***

***Dr. Debra Goodwin  
Dietetics Program Director***

## **The Jacksonville State University Program in Dietetics (DP)**

### **History of the DP**

The Didactic Program in Nutrition and Dietetics (DP) at Jacksonville State University is located in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences, a unit of the College of Education and Professional Studies. In 1966, the dietetics program was initiated and approved by the American Dietetic Association. The program has a long history of preparing students for careers in the areas of dietetics and nutrition. The sponsoring institution, Jacksonville State University, is a state-supported, comprehensive, regional agency serving approximately 10,000 students in Northeast Alabama and surrounding areas. The dietetics program strives to emulate the University's educational philosophy by providing a quality learner-centered educational experience emphasizing global engagement, scholarship, and service.

### **DP Accreditation**

The Didactic Program in Nutrition and Dietetics was granted initial accreditation in 2003 by:

The Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education (CADE)  
The American Dietetic Association  
120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000  
Chicago, IL 60606-6995  
312-899-0040 ext 5400

The next accreditation review and site visit is scheduled for fall of 2012.

### **Steps to Becoming a Registered Dietitian**

The Registered Dietitian is considered a food and nutrition expert. To become a Registered Dietitian, individuals must take the following steps:

1. Successfully complete an academic degree program, such as the one at Jacksonville State University, in which the academic requirements for the Didactic Program in Dietetics are met;
2. Make application, be accepted, and successfully complete a supervised practice program or Dietetic Internship; and
3. Pass the Registration Exam for Dietitians.

To be admitted and retained in the Dietetics Program at Jacksonville State University and to subsequently be issued a verification statement, students must meet the academic requirements for admission including attaining and maintaining an overall GPA of 3.0 out of 4.0 and earning the grade of "C" or better in all science-based courses.

### **Verification Statements**

The Verification Statement is required for admission to Supervised Practice Programs (Dietetic Internships). The Program Director will issue a Verification Statement to all graduating DP students who have successfully met the requirements for completion of the Dietetics Program. This includes completion of all courses, maintenance of an overall GPA of 3.0 out of 4.0, and maintenance of the grade of "C" or better in science-based courses.

To be accepted into Supervised Practice Programs that are external to the Dietetics Program, students must maintain academic excellence throughout their undergraduate careers. Students will be assisted in completing the application process for external dietetic internships but ultimately, the student is responsible for identifying appropriate internships and completing the application documents.

## **DIETETICS PROGRAM: MISSION, GOALS & OUTCOME MEASURES**

### **Mission**

The mission of the Didactic Program in Dietetics at Jacksonville State University is to provide a high quality dietetics program that offers instruction, for the entry level dietitian, related to nutrition knowledge, critical thinking skills, problem-solving abilities, and ethical awareness. The program seeks to encourage diversity of the student population and to prepare competent graduates who are empowered to manage the challenges of a global complex society, by encouraging excellence in scholarly and service activities related dietetics and nutrition.

### **Program Goals**

Goal 1: The program will prepare graduates to be competent for entry into supervised practice or other post-graduate programs through high-quality educational offerings.

**Goal 2:** The program will attract and retain well-qualified candidates with an appreciation for community service.

**Goal 3:** The program will promote research among its graduates.

### **Program Objectives**

**Goal 1:** The program will prepare graduates to be competent for entry into supervised practice or other post-graduate programs through high-quality educational offerings.

Outcome Objectives to achieve Goal # 1

1) Over a five year period,  $\geq 50\%$  of graduates will apply to Dietetic Internships or other post-graduate programs.

2) Over a five-year period,  $\geq 60\%$  of graduates who apply to Dietetic Internships or other post-graduate programs will be accepted.

3) Over a five-year period, 80% of graduates, taking the RD exam for the first time, will receive a passing score.

4) At least 80% of dietetic graduates will rate the quality of instruction offered by the DPD as satisfactory.

5) At least 80% of dietetic interns will receive a "satisfactory" or above performance rating from dietetic internship directors.

**Goal 2:** The program will attract and retain qualified candidates with an appreciation for community service.

Outcome objectives to achieve Goal # 2:

1) At least 75% of students in the DP will graduate with a degree within 3 years or 150% of the time planned.

2) At least 60% of students in the DP will participate in community service.

**Goal 3:** The program will promote scholarly endeavors among its students.

Outcome objective to achieve Goal # 3:

- 1) At least 30% of the DP student population will be involved in research or other scholarly activity related to dietetics and nutrition.

### **Dietetics Student Advisement and Program of Study**

New Dietetics students should contact the DP Director to set up an appointment for an initial counseling and information session. The director compiles an academic file on each DP student to include current student transcripts, checklists, and signed counseling reports. This student file will be used to advise students each semester and updated accordingly so that the student and the advisor will be aware of academic status.

Students will be assessed at the initial counseling session for their probability of success in the program and the dietetics profession. Students who have not attained the required academic benchmarks (Overall GPA of 3.0 or greater out of 4.0 and the grade of "C" on all science-based courses) will be advised by the DI Director to: improve GPA and/or retake science-based courses; continue in the Dietetics Program (with no expectation of receipt of a verification statement) and explore related career options that do not require dietetic registration; or choose another field or concentration.

Student performance is continuously monitored. All DP students must contact their advisors each semester for academic counseling before they can be cleared for registration. If academic difficulties are observed, DP students will be provided with information regarding grade replacement and/or tutoring options.

Additional information regarding institutional policies and procedures relating to academic regulations may be found in the online JSU Catalogue (page 25) at <http://www.jsu.educatalogue/>.

The following Dietetics Concentration Checklist is provided for student review and is updated annually.

# FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

## Dietetics

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Humanities – 18 Hours

		Credits	Completed	Grade	Quality Pts
EH 101	English Composition	3			
EH 102	English Composition	3			
EH 141	Oral Communication	3			
*EH	Literature	6			
ELECTIVE	Fine Arts Elective	3			

### Social Science – 12 Hours

		Credits	Completed	Grade	Quality Pts
EC 222	Principles of Macroeconomics	3			
*HY	History	6			
PSY 201 or SY 221	Principles of Psychology or Intro to Sociology	3			

### Science & Math – 30 Hours

		Credits	Completed	Grade	Quality Pts
MS 112	Pre-Calculus Algebra	3			
MS 204	Statistics	3			
BY 101/103	Intro to Biology I and Lab	4			
BY 263	Human Anatomy & Physiology	4			
BY 264	Human Anatomy & Physiology	4			
BY 283	Health Microbiology	4			
CY 115	Introductory Chemistry I & Lab	4			
CY 116	Introductory Chemistry II & Lab	4			

### Business and Computer Science – 6 Hours

		Credits	Completed	Grade	Quality Pts
CS 201	Intro to Information Tech	3			
MGT 301	Principles of Management	3			

### Family and Consumer Sciences – 20 Hours

		Credits	Completed	Grade	Quality Pts
FCS 200	Seminar in Family and Consumer Sciences	2			
FCS 322	Normal Nutrition	3			
FCS 332	Social Cultural Aspect of Apparel	3			
FCS 352 and FCS 353 or FCS 350	Child Growth & Development and Child Growth & Development Lab or Lifespan Human Development (Dietetics, Merchandising, Hospitality & Culinary Mgt only)	3			
FCS 355	Family Life Education	3			
FCS 371	Management of Family Resources	3			
FCS 471	Family Housing & Interiors	3			

### Nutrition/Dietetics and Foodservice – 42 Hours

		Credits	Completed	Grade	Quality Pts
FCS 122	Fundamentals of Food Prep	3			
FCS 301	Career Paths in Dietetics (Dietetics only)	1			
FCS 323	Experimental Foods	3			
FCS 325	Quantity Food Production	3			
FCS 327	Nutrition in the Life Cycle	3			
FCS 337	Methods of Nutrition Assessment	3			
FCS 338	Community Nutrition	3			
FCS 339	Professional Communications in FCS	2			
FCS 420	Medical Nutrition Therapy I	3			
FCS 421	Medical Nutrition Therapy II	3			
FCS 422	Foodservice Management	3			
FCS 429	Advanced Nutritional Metabolism	3			
FCS 448 or 326	Alternative Medicine or Food Safety & Sanitation	3			
FCS 458	Research/Statistical Methods in FCS	3			
PE 400	Exercise Physiology	3			
Total Semester Hours (128 Semester Hours required for degree program)		128		Total Quality Points	



## **Professional Behavior and Academic Integrity**

The following policies of the Dietetics Program at Jacksonville State University, work in accord with the policies outlined in the Jacksonville State University Student Handbook which can be accessed at <http://www.jsu/studentaffairs/handbook>.

The DP Program at Jacksonville State encourages students to conduct themselves in a manner that is congruent with the two major fundamental principles of the Code of Ethics for the profession of Dietetics, 1) The dietetic practitioner conducts himself/herself with honesty, integrity, and fairness and 2) The dietetic practitioner supports and promotes high standards of professional practices.

If a student's behavior is found to be unethical by a consensus vote of the DP faculty, the following progressive steps will be applied:

- 1) a verbal warning and counseling
- 2) a written warning and notification of the college dispositions committee
- 3) dismissal from the program

For academic dishonesty the following progressive steps will be applied:

Cheating and/or Plagiarism: 1<sup>st</sup> Offense

A student who cheats or participates in the act of cheating and/or plagiarism on an examination or other graded work will receive a "0" for the exam and/or assignment in question.

Cheating and/or Plagiarism: 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense

A student who cheats or participates in the act of cheating and/or plagiarism on an examination or other graded work will receive the grade of "F" for the course in which the offense occurred.

Cheating and/or Plagiarism: 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense

A student who cheats or participates in the act of cheating and/or plagiarism on an examination or other graded work will be dismissed from the DP program.

## **Student Complaints**

Students with concerns about the program should first discuss their concerns with their advisor or the DP Director. If the concern and/or issue cannot be resolved at the program-level, the student may contact the Department Head. The Department Head will determine if the student's concern warrants forwarding to the Dean of the College. If this action is taken, the Dean of the College will determine if the issue should be sent to the college appeals committee for review.

For unresolved complaints related to professional accreditation standards or other professional issues, students may contact:

The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics  
120 South Riverside Plaza  
Suite 2000  
Chicago, IL 60606

For other policies and procedures related to Jacksonville State Universities please visit <http://www.jsu.edu>.