

*Nicholls State University Didactic Program in Dietetics
(DPD) Student Handbook*



DIDACTIC PROGRAM IN DIETETICS

DEPARTMENT OF ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES

COLLEGE OF SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

**NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY
P. O. Box 2090
Thibodaux, Louisiana 70310
985/493-2624**

2022-2023

Information in this document is subject to change and is supplemental to the information found in the *University Catalog* or provided by faculty advisors in the Didactic Program in Dietetics. Some information has been obtained from the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics website.

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The Field of Dietetics

The registered dietitian nutritionist is the recognized, credentialed food and nutrition expert qualified to provide to the public, information designed to improve diet and prevent diseases with dietary risk factors as well as to provide Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) to individuals with diseases/medical conditions having a dietary component as part of treatment. The Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics describe the variety of positions where dietitians are employed.

As clinical dietitians they are employed by hospitals and nursing care facilities both private and public. While this role is a traditional one, the expertise needed to interact in the challenging field of medicine requires that registered dietitians be lifelong learners continually honing their clinical skills.

Community dietitians work in public health clinics, home health agencies, and health maintenance organizations. An ability to speak before groups and interact one-on-one with clients contributes to success in this area.

Management dietitians are employed by corporations providing food service to schools, universities, hospitals, and correctional facilities. This is an especially challenging area of dietetics as it involves providing appealing, well-prepared food in a timely fashion to large numbers of customers. Expertise in management and marketing, knowledge of food preparation techniques, and the food ways of varied cultural groups are among the skills that enable registered dietitians to work effectively in this venue.

Many dietitians work for several years in clinical and or management and then become self-employed consultants working in a variety of settings such as long-term care facilities, wellness centers, and supermarkets. Increased opportunities have developed for registered dietitians in the food industry—research and development, manufacturing, food safety, advertising, marketing, consulting, and journalism. The pharmaceutical industry relies upon registered dietitians as sales representatives for a variety of products especially those providing specialized nutrition support.

Graduates of Didactic Programs in Dietetics with a bachelor's degree who choose not to pursue registration status or who are unsuccessful in obtaining a dietetic internship initially are qualified to take the registration examination for dietetic technicians and certified dietary managers. More information can be obtained from the DPD Director. They find employment as dietary managers and food service managers working in long term care facilities and hospitals. Others work in schools, as health educators in government agencies and private corporations, in the hospitality industry, and for food service contractors who supply food services at industrial, commercial, institutional, or governmental sites. Still others focus on food safety obtaining employment as health inspectors/sanitarians with state agencies such as Louisiana's Department of Health & Hospitals.

Registered Dietitians are food and nutrition experts who have met the following criteria to earn the RD/RDN credential:

- Completed a minimum of a bachelor's degree at a US regionally accredited university or college and course work accredited or approved by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.
- Completed an ACEND-accredited supervised practice program. They consist of 1200 hours of supervised practice and last six to 12 months.
- Pass a national examination administered by the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR).
- Beginning January 1, 2024 to be eligible for the CDR exam, a graduate degree will be required in addition to the above criteria.

The appeal of a career in dietetics with all its possibilities has yielded an increased number of DPD graduates in recent years. Unfortunately, the number of internship positions has remained relatively constant leaving growing numbers of qualified students who are unable to complete their education and become Registered Dietitians.

In their role as mentors the dietetics faculty includes career counseling in their interaction with students and advisees. Students are urged to maintain a high GPA and pursue activities which will make them good candidates for an internship program. The faculty regularly directs the students to positions in the field of dietetics that do not require registration status such as those cited earlier.

This DPD Student Handbook includes policies of the DPD program in addition to university policies.

Nicholls State University and the DPD Program

The Nicholls Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) is housed within the Department of Allied Health Sciences under the College of Sciences and Technology. Nicholls is the only institution in the southeastern Bayou region of Louisiana and the greater New Orleans area to offer a didactic program in dietetics. With a diverse student population of about 6,500 traditional and nontraditional students the university offers over 60 degree programs, has 85 student organizations, and 17 Division I athletic teams. Because of its uniqueness to this region of Louisiana, it is imperative that the undergraduate program continue to monitor emerging health issues of the region and the state, to prepare students to address those needs in the work force upon graduation.

Nicholls State University opened its doors in 1948 as Francis T. Nicholls Junior College of Louisiana State University. In 1956 the Louisiana Legislature separated Nicholls from LSU, designating it as Francis T. Nicholls State College. Its first baccalaureate degrees were awarded in 1958. The name of the institution was changed to Nicholls State University by Act 93 of the Louisiana Legislature in 1970.

Mission Statement

Nicholls State University delivers accredited degree programs and comprehensive learning experiences to prepare students for regional and global professions within a spirited campus environment immersed in Bayou Region culture.

Vision

To be the intellectual, economic, and cultural heart of the Bayou Region.

Values

Nicholls State University supports values that promote citizenship, concern for self and others, and the desire for a better world by embracing as its core values:

- Civic Responsibility: We use our time and talents to serve our community.
- Diversity: We embrace unique perspectives that all individuals bring to the learning environment.
- Excellence: We reach for the highest level of achievement in all activities.
- Integrity: We expect fairness and truthfulness in all instances.
- Leadership: As representatives of the university, we embrace our role as leaders.
- Respectfulness: We respect the rights of others and are responsive to the needs of others.
- Responsibility: We are accountable for our actions.

Diversity & Inclusion Statement

Nicholls State University is committed to fully embracing and celebrating the uniqueness of every individual and commonalities among all members of our campus community.

This commitment extends beyond a written document and is wholly integrated into our culture. We are driven by the following foundational philosophies: Awareness, Acceptance, Appreciation

With these as our guide this document and the goals, objectives, plans, and activities contained therein provide a multitude of opportunities for the Nicholls community to participate, grow, develop, and evolve with a common purpose.

Nicholls State University Non-Discrimination Policy

Nicholls State University is committed to maintaining an environment free from any type of discrimination, harassment, and retaliation (including for whistleblowing). In furtherance of that commitment, Nicholls has adopted this policy forbidding discrimination, harassment, and retaliation of any kind against any applicant, employee, student, vendor, or visitor of Nicholls. This policy forbids discrimination, harassment, and retaliation of any kind by or against any applicant, employee, student, or any other individual on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, genetic information, age, and veteran or retirement status.

Nicholls State University's Policy Prohibiting Workplace Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation is available on the website/in the policy and procedure manual, upon request from the Office of Human Resources, or upon request from any member of management.

Identified program strengths of the Nicholls DPD Program include:

- 17 hours of science courses
- Four courses with a clinical focus; Diet 395 Nutrition Assessment, Diet 416 MNT I, Diet 418 MNT II, and 419 MNT II Lab.
- Four courses with a patient and community focus; Diet 201 Applied Nutrition Lab, Diet 300 Nutrition Education and Counseling, Diet 305 Lifecycle Nutrition, and 390 Community Nutrition.
- Two research courses; Diet 400 Research in Dietetics I and Diet 401 Research in Dietetics II.
- Five courses with a food service management focus; Diet 113 Food and Nutrition Lab, Diet 264 Food Science, Diet 301 Institutional Planning and Purchasing, Diet 316 Organization and Management, and Diet 404 Quantity Food Production.
- Diverse faculty with varied previous work experience in specialized areas of community nutrition, medical nutrition therapy, foodservice management, and research.

College of Sciences and Technology

Mission Statement

The College of Sciences and Technology provides university students with exceptional learning experiences that cultivate deep thinking, innovation, discovery, life-long learning, and preparation for professional life. Our faculty and students work together to increase knowledge in sciences and technology in support of progress in the Bayou Region and the continuous improvement of society and world.

Vision

A citizenry with understanding and appreciation of sciences and technology, continuously improving society and the world through evidence-based, critically conceived decisions.

Values

Quality. We provide outstanding teaching and advising with utmost fairness to and respect for our students.

A Will to Excel. We value our students and faculty, encourage their development, recognize their achievement, and reward their performance in the holistic effort to provide excellence in university education.

Integrity. We uphold the highest standards of integrity in professional relationships, collaborations, and the practices of science.

Applied learning: We provide our students with high impact learning experiences that complement theoretical concepts learned in the classroom.

Collaboration: We work together and across boundaries, establishing relationships across and beyond campus, for the enhancement of student learning, professionalization of their skills, and improvement of our communities.

Sustainability: We promote sustainability practices that protect and conserve bayou land and world environments as well as our future.

Discovery: We ask critical questions, challenge assumptions, conduct relevant and forward-thinking research, and help establish how research is utilized in evidence-based practices.

Respect: We work to provide an environment that supports inclusion, equity, and diversity in all relationships and university business.

Department of Allied Health Sciences

Mission Statement

The mission of the Department of Allied Health Sciences is to prepare students to contribute to a global society and a diverse workforce as productive, responsible, and engaged citizens, and as well-educated allied health professionals to meet the healthcare needs of the Bayou Region and beyond.

Vision:

To be recognized as an innovative leader in the educational preparation of allied health care professionals.

Didactic Program in Dietetics

Mission Statement

The mission of the Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) at Nicholls State University is to provide comprehensive learning experiences immersed in Bayou Region culture to prepare students for supervised practice, leading to eligibility for the CDR credentialing exam and become Registered Dietitians.

DPD Program Goals

Two broad goals guide the program. They are:

- 1) Program graduates will be prepared for acceptance into accredited supervised practice programs.
- 2) Program graduates will be competent for supervised practice and pass the CDR credentialing exam for registered dietitians.

Program Outcome Measures

1. At least 80% of students complete program requirements within 1.5 years (150% of planned program length).
2. At least 70 percent of program graduates apply for admission to a supervised practice program prior to or within 12 months of graduation.
3. Of program graduates who apply to a supervised practice program, at least 70 percent are admitted within 12 months of graduation.
4. The program's one-year pass rate (graduates who pass the registration exam within one year of first attempt) on the CDR credentialing exam for dietitian nutritionists is at least 80%.
5. DI Directors will rate 90% of Nicholls-DPD graduates as good, very good, or excellent for Overall Preparedness for Supervised Practice.

Program outcome data is available by request.

Educational Philosophy

The Nicholls State University Dietetics Program is founded on the truth that Registered Dietitian Nutritionists are critical to the provision of evidence-based nutrition in the areas of:

- Health promotion and wellness
- Clinical nutrition
- Public health
- Sustainability
- Management of nutrition services and food service systems
- Research

With an emphasis on continuous self-reflection and adherence to both personal and professional codes of ethics, our students are challenged through a high-impact curriculum, focused simulations, and laboratory projects which faculty commit to enhancing routinely. By enriching our courses with exceptional learning experiences rooted in the latest research evidence, we cultivate critical thinking, innovation,

discovery, and lifelong learning in our students. We believe that these skills build the foundation for professional practice as Registered Dietitian Nutritionists.

Accreditation

The Didactic Program in Dietetics at Nicholls is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190, Chicago, IL 60606-6995; (312) 899-5400; <https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend>

University Admission Requirements and University Policies

Nicholls State University is the only university in southeast Louisiana offering an accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics. The university's admission requirements and information regarding fees, tuition and other expenses can be found in the Nicholls State University Catalog on the university website (<https://www.nicholls.edu/admissions/>) or by contacting the Admissions Office (985-448-4507) or 1-877-NICHOLLS. The university academic calendar can be found at <https://www.nicholls.edu/academic-calendar/>

The following university policies can be found on the Nicholls website:

- Withdrawal and refund of tuition and fees: <http://www.nicholls.edu/fees/>
- University academic calendar: <http://www.nicholls.edu/calendar/>
- Protection of privacy of student information: <https://www.nicholls.edu/student-policy/ferpa-federal-education-rights-and-privacy-act/>
- Access to student support services, including health services, counseling and testing and financial aid resources: <https://www.nicholls.edu/current-students/>
- Disciplinary/termination procedures: <https://www.nicholls.edu/student-affairs/> and <https://www.nicholls.edu/student-policy/>
- Graduation and/or program completion requirements for all options including maximum amount of time allowed for completing program requirements in place at the time student enrolls: <https://www.nicholls.edu/catalog/>

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (from university catalog)

Students attending Nicholls State University are hereby informed of their right of access to their official records as described in the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act and of the confidential nature of those records.

The federal act further provides that directory information about the student may be released by the University unless the student completes a form in the Office of Records

and Registration within two weeks after the final day of registration for a semester, or within one week after the final day of registration for a summer session. This must be renewed each semester or summer session.

The following is considered directory information: the student's name, address, telephone listing, electronic mail address, date and place of birth, major field of study, classification, full-time or part-time status, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and honors/awards received, the most recent previous education agency or institution attended, and photographs (for public relations purposes only).

Further information may be obtained from the Office of Records and Registration.

DPD Program Admission Requirements and Verification Statement Policy

Students must apply to the Nicholls DPD Program during the spring semester of their sophomore year. The application with the minimum requirements can be found on pages 30-31 of this handbook. **All courses in the Dietetics curriculum must be passed with a “C” or better to graduate.** A successful score on an advanced Placement (AP) or CLEP exam or university credit exams is accepted as meeting the related DPD coursework. The program will accept up to 30 students each year. All applications will be scored and ranked according to completeness, content, personal statement, and GPA. Applicants ranked in the top 30 will be accepted. If an applicant is unsuccessful, they will be referred to their academic advisor for counseling.

Minimum requirements for application to the program are:

1. Students must be a declared Dietetics major or change their major to dietetics after acceptance into the program.
2. Students must have a minimum OVERALL GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.
3. The following courses (or their equivalent) must be completed with a minimum grade of “C.” However, DIET 200 or DIET 202 must be passed with a “B” or better.
While C’s are the minimum grade required, it is recommended that students earn A’s and B’s to improve their chances of being accepted into a dietetic internship.

Course Number	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIOL 114	Human Anatomy & Phys I	3
BIOL 115	Human Anatomy & Phys Lab I	1
BIOL 116	Human Anatomy & Phys II	3
BIOL 117	Human Anatomy & Phys Lab II	1
ENGL 101	English Composition I	3
ENGL 102	English Composition II	3
MATH 101	College Algebra	3
MATH 214	Statistics	3
DIET 111	Food and Nutrition	3

DIET 200 or DIET 202 (202 preferred)	Applied Nutrition or Introduction to Human Nutrition and Metabolism	3
CHEM 105	Introductory Chemistry I	3
PSYC Elective		3
Total Credit Hours		32 hours

Upon successful completion of the general university requirements for the baccalaureate degree and the dietetics curriculum, students earn a B.S. degree in Dietetics and a Verification Statement.

Verification Statements are issued upon completion of the DPD program and states that the student has completed and ACEND-accredited DPD and are eligible to apply for an ACEND-accredited supervised practice program (dietetic internship). The DPD Program Coordinator will issue students a DPD Verification Statement once all program and university requirements have been met and the Office of the Registrar posts degrees earned and or final grades on the student's official transcript. The Verification Statements will be mailed to the address the student provides to the DPD Coordinator typically 2-3 weeks of program completion. Students are expected to keep their Verification Statements in a safe place for easy access. Official copies of the DPD Verification Statement will be kept on file permanently by the DPD Coordinator at Nicholls State University.

Nicholls' Didactic Program in Dietetics is designed to develop critical thinking and responsibility for self-education. It emphasizes professional involvement, the importance of ethics, and the standards of dietetics education. Acceptance into a supervised practice program is very competitive. Students should strive to maintain a 3.0+ grade point average and to gain work and/or volunteer experience in a dietetics-related area if possible.

Declaration of the Major

Students are strongly encouraged to seek advice from the DPD faculty regarding advising as well as from their assigned Academic Advising Center advisor during their freshman year. Once you have successfully completed University 101 requirements and/or 15 hours of college credits and registered for DIET 120 you should have completed the necessary paperwork to "declare" Dietetics as your major. At that time, you will be assigned to a faculty advisor in the department. See "Advising".

You are responsible for setting up a meeting with your advisor to plan the remaining coursework needed according to the current curriculum. It is expected that the student will keep the advisor apprised of changes and/or difficulties with obtaining courses as planned. Courses are sequenced and many have prerequisites, so it is imperative that ongoing advising takes place. Students are responsible for contacting advisors prior to registering for courses or as instructed by the advisor.

Advising and Progression Policy

Each student is assigned an advisor for mentoring and academic advising. Each semester during the University's regularly scheduled advising period, the faculty advisor and student review the student's personal academic plan to assess the student's progress through the program. A schedule for the upcoming semester is determined and approved by the advisor. Incoming freshmen receive academic advising through Academic Advising Center but are still required by the Didactic Program in Dietetics to contact the program (985.493.2624) to arrange a meeting with a dietetics advisor. This ensures that dietetics majors are progressing through the dietetics curriculum appropriately and receive career mentoring. The academic plan is designed to allow the student to progress through the curriculum in a timely manner. It is critical that the student complete the prerequisites in an orderly fashion to ensure that foundation knowledge and skills are developed enabling the student to succeed in subsequent courses. Prerequisites and GPA will be monitored each semester during the advising session. Students will receive advice on other career options if they are not successful in meeting the DPD program requirements.

Once students are accepted into the Dietetics program, they must pass each course with a minimum grade of "C". Students will be allowed to repeat a course that has a grade lower than a "C" once. Repeating a course may prevent progression of the student in some courses. If the student cannot pass the course successfully the second time they will be counseled and advised as to alternative majors.

In the DIET 120 Orientation to the Dietetics Profession course, students will develop an academic plan and present it to their academic advisor for approval. Students who enter the program at other times will confer with their academic advisor for assistance until they enroll in DIET 120. An academic portfolio to track progress will also be initiated in this course. After the academic plan is prepared, students are expected to make an appointment with the academic advisor during the time set aside for advising each semester. Students are to come prepared to have the advisor review the courses the student plans to schedule for the upcoming semester. Students should not expect the advisor to prepare the class schedule but instead to offer career counseling and guidance regarding the college experience. Advisor assignment is made alphabetically according to the system below.

NAME

ADVISOR

A-F

Sherry Foret, EdD, RD, LDN

G-L

Allison Gaubert, MS, RD, LDN

M-Z, Student Athletes, Veterans
and DPD Verification Only

Elizabeth Sloan, MS, RD, LDN

Facilities

Gouaux Hall houses the Department of Allied Health Sciences office. The department's student computer lab, and the dietetics classrooms are in Ayo Hall. Gouaux Hall contains the foods laboratory, office of the Director of the Didactic Program in Dietetics and four dietetics faculty offices. Hospitals, health care facilities, community agencies, and food service operations in the surrounding area serve as sites for field experiences to enhance classroom learning.

Allied Health Sciences, Office	Gouaux 107	985-493-2624
Brigett Scott, PhD, RD, LDN	Gouaux 111	985-449-7124
Elizabeth Sloan, MS, RD, LDN	Gouaux 412	985-493-2613
Allison Gaubert, MS, RD, LDN	Gouaux 413	985-493-2667
Sherry Foret, EdD, RD, LDN	Gouaux 107	985-448-4732
Stephanie Authement, MS, RD, LDN	Gouaux 411	985-493-2620

Faculty

Brigett Scott, PhD, RD, LDN is an associate professor and Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences, and Director of the University Honors Program. Dr. Scott has experience in clinical dietetics specializing in telemetry and cardiac care. She also analyzes menus for a local correctional facility. The Bayou District Dietetic Association (BDDA) has benefited from her leadership abilities as she has served as President for 2 years and has served as the President of the Louisiana Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (LAND). She has received the Outstanding Dietetic Educator for Internship Programs, Emerging Leader Award and Outstanding Young Dietitian Award from LAND. She has presented abstracts and been a speaker at state meetings. Dr. Scott currently serves as the Web Developer for the Louisiana Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

Elizabeth Sloan, MS, RD, LDN is an Assistant Professor and Coordinator of the Didactic Program in Dietetics. Ms. Sloan has over 25 years' experience in both clinical dietetics and public health nutrition. She has varied teaching experience as a diabetes educator and case manager, an adjunct instructor at Delgado Community College and as a preceptor for dietetic interns, DPD students, and Master of Public Health students. Ms. Sloan is an active member of the Louisiana Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (LAND) and past recipient of the Outstanding Young Dietitian of the Year award and Outstanding Dietetic Educator award. Ms. Sloan was awarded an Academic Award for Teaching Excellence by the University in the fall of 2019. She is very interested in public policy and legislative issues impacting the dietetics profession and the populations we

serve. She has served as the LAND's State Regulatory Specialist, By-Laws Chair and President.

Sherry Foret, EdD, RD, LDN is an Assistant Professor who has over sixteen years of clinical and management experience in dietetics. She served as Nutritional Services Director, Outpatient Dietitian, and Clinical Dietitian for the intensive care unit at Leonard Chabert Medical Center. She has served on the Board of the Bayou District Dietetic Association as Secretary and President and has served on the Board of the Louisiana Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (LAND) Scholarship Chair, Secretary and President. She has also been the recipient of the Louisiana Dietetic Association's Outstanding Dietetic Educator Award and Louisiana Academy of Nutrition and Dietetic's Outstanding Dietitian of the Year.

Allison Gaubert, MS, RDN, LDN is an Instructor of Dietetics. She brings her experiences working as a diet technician, clinical dietitian and outpatient oncology dietitian. Gaubert also has experience working alongside chefs through initiatives that promote nutrition and well-being in some of your favorite restaurants. She is a recipient of the Graduate Study Award from the Louisiana Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and is currently working towards her Doctorate of Clinical Nutrition at the University of North Florida. Gaubert enjoys creating recipes that provide a depth of nutrients and flavor. She also takes interest in nutrition during pregnancy, lactation, and infancy and enjoys utilizing online and social media platforms to educate the public on these topics.

Stephanie Authement, MS, RD, LDN, CPT is an Instructor of Dietetics. She is also a graduate of the DPD Program at Nicholls. She has worked previously as a Dietary Manager of a Nursing Home and at Pennington Biomedical Research Center as a Health Coach educating participants in weight loss research studies.

Program Communication on Moodle

The program maintains a site on Moodle for communication purposes. All majors should be listed in this site. If you are not receiving program announcements/emails, please inform your advisor. On this site you will find listings for job/volunteer opportunities, Student Dietetic Association announcements, program forms and announcements.

Academics

Curriculum

The curriculum is designed to prepare the student for a dynamic career in a rapidly changing world. Among the required courses are nutrition, food science, human anatomy and physiology, chemistry, biochemistry, microbiology, sociology, and technical writing. Students who are majoring in Dietetics may choose to minor in

Business Administration, Psychology, Culinary Arts or any other minor offered by the university. Review the current online university catalog for requirements.

When planning your schedule for an upcoming semester remember that some courses are taught only in Fall or Spring; this can make the scheduling of prerequisites rather tricky at times. Never fear, your advisor can be a great help with this. Remember, you will feel more comfortable and confident if you take the courses in the recommended sequence. A sample of a traditional 4-year curriculum is provided at the end of this handbook

Student Learning Assessment

The ACEND Accreditation Standards requires DPD programs to design its curriculum to “ensure the breadth and depth of requisite knowledge needed for entry into supervised practice to become a registered dietitian nutritionist”. The following core knowledge requirements are evaluated in dietetics courses through various learning activities. Each dietetic course syllabus will have the KRDN listed next to the learning activity for that course. The KRDNs are used to evaluate the program via the Core Knowledge Assessment Table and reported to the university Office Institutional Research, Effectiveness & Planning for SACSCOC data collection.

Domain 1. Scientific and Evidence Base of Practice: Integration of scientific information and translation of research into practice.

- KRDN 1.1 Demonstrate how to locate, interpret, evaluate and use professional literature to make ethical, evidence-based practice decisions.
- KRDN 1.2 Select and use appropriate 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 nutrition and dietetics practitioner level of practice.

- 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 Practice for the Registered Dietitian Nutritionist and the Code of Ethics for the Profession of Nutrition and Dietetics.
- 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 others with whom the registered dietitian nutritionist collaborates.

- KRDN 2.6 Demonstrate cultural humility, awareness of personal biases and an understanding of cultural differences as they contribute to diversity, equity and inclusion.
- KRDN 2.7 Describe contributing factors to health inequity in nutrition and dietetics including structural bias, social inequities, health disparities and discrimination.
- KRDN 2.8 Participate in a nutrition and dietetics professional organization and explain the significant role of the organization.
- KRDN 2.9 Defend a position on issues impacting the nutrition and dietetics profession.

Domain 3. Clinical and Client Services: Development and delivery of information, products and services to individuals, groups and populations.

- KRDN 3.1 Use the Nutrition Care Process and clinical workflow elements to assess nutritional parameters, diagnose nutrition related problems, determine appropriate nutrition interventions and develop plans to monitor the effectiveness of these 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.
- KRDN 3.4 Practice routine health screening assessments, including measuring blood pressure and conducting waived point-of-care laboratory testing (such as blood glucose or cholesterol).
- KRDN 3.5 Describe concepts of nutritional genomics and how they relate to medical nutrition therapy, health and disease.
- KRDN 3.6 Develop nutritionally sound meals, menus and meal plans that promote health and disease management and meet client's/patient's needs.

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.

- KRDN 4.1 Apply management theories to the development of programs or services.
- KRDN 4.2 Evaluate a budget/financial management plan and interpret financial data.
- KRDN 4.3 Demonstrate an understanding of the regulation system related to billing and coding, what services are reimbursable by third party payers, and how reimbursement may be obtained.
- KRDN 4.4 Apply the principles of human resource management to different situations.
- KRDN 4.5 Apply safety and sanitation principles related to food, personnel and consumers.
- KRDN 4.6 Explain the processes involved in delivering quality food and nutrition services.

- KRDN 4.7 Evaluate data to be used in decision-making for continuous quality improvement.

Domain 5. Leadership and Career Management: Skills, strengths, knowledge and experience relevant to leadership potential and professional growth for the nutrition and dietetics practitioner.

- KRDN 5.1 Perform self-assessment that includes awareness in terms of learning and leadership styles and cultural orientation and develop goals for self-improvement.
- KRDN 5.2 Identify and articulate one's skills, strengths, knowledge and experiences relevant to the position desired and career goals.
- KRDN 5.3 Practice how to self-advocate for opportunities in a variety of settings (such as asking for needed support, presenting an elevator pitch).
- KRDN 5.4 Practice resolving differences or dealing with conflict.
- KRDN 5.5 Promote team involvement and recognize the skills of each member.
- KRDN 5.6 Demonstrate an understanding of the importance and expectations of a professional in mentoring and precepting others.

Formal Assessment Policy

All Dietetics courses must assess students with a final examination or assessment. The university requires midterm and final grades to be posted in Banner for student access. All faculty are required to post grades for all class assignments during the semester in the learning management system Moodle. Students have access to Moodle 24/7 and can monitor their course progress. Students are encouraged to talk with their course instructors and/or academic advisors if they have concerns regarding their grades.

Academic Success Policy

Each semester, the dietetic student is expected to meet high standards for successful completion on all DIET coursework requirements. The following policy is enacted and enforced by the DPD program.

Didactic Competency:

With any DIET course, the Course Instructor will be required to have a documented meeting with a DPD student who earns below a 70% on an examination or major project and/or does not meet the KRDN assessed. A remediation action plan must be developed and documented. The Course Instructor will determine the extent of the remediation and maintain documentation throughout the semester. The course instructor will send the DPD Coordinator the documentation at the end of each semester for data collection and reporting. It is the student's responsibility with the course instructor's guidance, to execute the remediation action plan.

Upon a student's second required remediation plan in a course, the course instructor will discuss the student's academic success status with the program coordinator and other DIET faculty members in an effort to develop a more effective remediation action plan for academic success of the student.

Students achieving a final course grade of below 70% will have to repeat the course. This may negatively impact degree progression.

Transfers and Course Currency Policy

Frequently students at Nicholls or other universities will contact the Coordinator of the Didactic Program in Dietetics inquiring about transferring and/or changing their major to dietetics. At other times graduates of Dietetic Technician programs want to continue their education and become registered dietitians.

In each of these scenarios the coordinator, reviews the transcripts of all college course work from each college and/or university attended to determine which, if any, of the completed courses meet the undergraduate knowledge requirements needed to earn the Verification Statement necessary to apply to an ACEND-approved supervised practice experience, i.e., dietetic internship. If the individual already possesses a bachelor's degree, it is not mandatory that a second degree in dietetics be earned, but completion of specific courses with a grade of "C" or better is required to earn a verification statement. A successful pass score on an Advanced Placement (AP) or CLEP exam or university credit exam is accepted as meeting the related DPD coursework. Each student's transcript is reviewed in terms of earning a second bachelor's degree if the student desires a degree in Dietetics. The Nicholls Office of Admissions will complete an official course transfer upon application to the University which will be forwarded to the DPD Coordinator.

The currency of applicable courses is also vital. In a field as dynamic as dietetics where knowledge is continually evolving it is necessary that students have been instructed and evaluated on up-to-date course content. The DPD program has established the following course time limits.

Courses with no time limit: English, Math, Psychology, Art/Music, Sociology, Chemistry, History/Humanities, Biology, Speech, and Diet 111 Introductory Foods.

Courses with a 10 year time limit: Marketing 300, Computer Literacy, and the following Diet courses;

Diet 200 Applied Nutrition	Diet 201 Applied Nutrition Lab
Diet 264 Food Science	Diet 113 Introductory Food Lab
Diet 305 Lifecycle Nutrition	Diet 301 Institutional Planning
Diet 316 Organization/Management	Diet 330 Health Beliefs
Diet 404 Quantity Foods	Diet 300 Nutrition Education
Diet 390 Community Nutrition	Diet 411/412 Advanced Nutrition I/II

Courses that must be taken at Nicholls: (16 credit hours)

Diet 395 Nutrition Assessment	Diet 416 Medical Nutrition Therapy I
Diet 418 Medical Nutrition Therapy II	Diet 419 Medical Nutrition Therapy Lab
Diet 400 Research in Dietetics I	Diet 401 Research in Dietetics II
Diet 459 Senior Seminar in Dietetics	Diet 450 Special Topics

Students with degrees or coursework completed at a college or university outside of the United States or its territories must have their degree validated by an agency approved by The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. See International Student Information. <https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend/students-and-advancing-education/international-students>

Additionally, the student must meet all application/acceptance criteria required by Nicholls State University.

Official Copy of the transcripts should be sent to

Elizabeth Sloan, MS, RD, LDN

Director, Didactic Program in Dietetics

Dept. of Allied Health Sciences

Thibodaux, LA 70310

OR faxed to Ms. Sloan's attention at 985.493.2614

University information regarding admission, registration, campus information, etc. can be found at www.nicholls.edu/transfer and <http://www.nicholls.edu/testing/>.

Remember, your transcript must be reviewed by the DPD Coordinator and you must be advised by Dietetics faculty. The DPD Coordinator may ask for course syllabi from transfer courses to determine course content for equivalency.

Academic Integrity Policy

Students enrolled at Nicholls State University are expected to follow the Student Policy and Procedure Manual. <https://www.nicholls.edu/student-policy/>

Students enrolled in online classes will be required to use the Respondus system.

How Respondus LockDown Browser Works

- Assessments are displayed full-screen and cannot be minimized
- Browser menu and toolbar options are removed, except for Back, Forward, Refresh and Stop
- Prevents access to other applications including messaging, screen-sharing, virtual machines, and remote desktops
- Printing and screen capture functions are disabled
- Copying and pasting anything to or from an assessment is prevented
- Right-click menu options, function keys, keyboard shortcuts, and task switching are disabled
- An assessment cannot be exited until the student submits it for grading
- Assessments that are set up for use with LockDown Browser cannot be accessed with other browsers

Respondus Monitor

Builds upon the power of LockDown Browser using a webcam and video analytics.

- Uses webcam to record and analyze student exam session
- AI monitor for automated proctoring
- Review Priority is a comprehensive measure that conveys whether a student's exam session warrants a closer look by the instructor.
- No scheduling required
- Auto launch
- #1 for automated proctoring
- Live chat for students

Student Academic Grievances Policy

The proper procedure for filing grade appeals or grievances related to academic matters is listed in the *Student Policy and Procedure Manual* and at the following link:

<https://www.nicholls.edu/student-policy/academic-integrity/student-academic-grievances/>

Expenses/Travel

Current Nicholls State University tuition and fee information can be found on the website www.nicholls.edu/fees.

Each semester you can expect to have at least the following expenses:

- Tuition and related university and laboratory fees
- Room and board/rent and groceries
- Textbooks and course supplies

Dietetics courses will also require: (costs are approximate-see next page)

- Dietetics uniform shirt.
- Non-slip shoes and cutting glove for Quantity Foods Production (DIET 404)
- Travel expenses to field experiences - varies
- Immunizations required by the university - varies

Travel

It is the policy of the DPD program that students are responsible for all liability when traveling to and from assigned areas. These assigned areas include on-campus and off-campus such as volunteer sites and field experience sites. These assignments are considered an extension of the classroom environment. Students must also incur any costs associated with travel such as mileage and/or fuel.

<i>DIET Required Courses</i>	<u>Semester Offered Program Restrictions</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Texts</u>	<u>Supplies , etc.</u>	<u>Course Fees</u>
DIET 111 Introductory Foods	Fall/Spring/Summer All Dietetic Majors	3-3-0	\$249.65		
DIET 120 Orientation to Dietetics Profession	Fall and Spring All Dietetic Majors	1-1-0	\$60.00		
DIET 202 Introduction to Human Nutrition and Metabolism	Fall/Spring/Summer All Dietetic Majors	3-3-0	\$199.55		
DIET 201 Applied Nutrition Laboratory	Fall only All Dietetic Majors	1-0-3			\$40.00
DIET 113 Introductory Foods Lab	Fall only All Dietetic Majors	3-1-6	\$50.00		\$100.00
Dietetic Student Uniform Shirt					\$30.00
DIET 264 Food Science	Spring only All Dietetic Majors	3-2-3	\$74.95		\$70.00
DIET 300 Nutrition Education and Counseling	Fall only Program acceptance only	3-3-0	\$55.00	\$50.00 (AND Student membersh ip)	
DIET 305 Nutrition Through the Life Cycle	Fall only All Dietetic Majors	3-3-0	\$237.35		
DIET 390 Community Nutrition	Fall only Program acceptance only	3-3-0	\$238.65		travel
DIET 395 Nutrition Assessment	Spring only Program acceptance only	3-3-0	\$235.00		
DIET 301 Institutional Planning & Purchasing	Spring only All Dietetic Majors	3-3-0	Same text 316		
DIET 316 Organization and Management	Spring only All Dietetic Majors	3-3-0	\$105.00		
DIET 410 Advanced Nutrition	Spring only Program acceptance only	3-3-0	\$153.95		
DIET 404 Quantity Food Production	Fall only Program acceptance only	3-1-6		Non-slip shoes \$25.00 Glove \$10.00	\$60.00
DIET 416 Medical Nutrition Therapy I	Fall only Program acceptance only	3-3-0		\$50.00 (AND Student membership)	
DIET 450 Special Topics	Fall and Summer Program acceptance only	1-1-0			
DIET 459 Senior Seminar	Fall only Program acceptance only	2-2-0			
DIET 330 Health Beliefs & Practices in a Diverse Society	Spring only All Dietetic Majors	3-3-0	\$80.80		
DIET 418 Medical Nutrition Therapy II	Spring only Program acceptance only	3-3-0			
DIET 419 Medical Nutrition Therapy II Laboratory	Spring only Program acceptance only	1-0-3			\$70.00
DIET 400 Research in Dietetics I and DIET 401 Research in Dietetics II	Fall and Spring Program acceptance only	2-2-0 1-1-0			

Professional Membership

It is recommended that students become active members of professional organizations. Networking with dietetics professionals in these organizations often leads to paid employment or volunteer experience throughout the college years. Students also form bonds with the classmates who will be their professional peers in just a few years.

Dietetic students are required to become student members of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics during the fall semester of their junior year and maintain membership until graduation.

This enables the student to have full access to the AND website including the Evidence Analysis Library utilized in classes. The approximate membership fees for professional organizations are:

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics-- \$58 per year (June 1 through May 31)

Nicholls' Student Dietetic Association – Free membership

Students are encouraged to attend the Louisiana Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics annual Conference and Training (members of the Academy (AND) are automatically members of LAND but students are not required to be members of the Academy to attend LAND's annual meeting.) The estimated cost for registration is \$75. Several meals are typically included in this fee, but additional expenses will be incurred if students plan to stay overnight at the conference or travel daily from Thibodaux for the 2-day meeting.

Field trips are planned in some courses and the Student Dietetic Association arranges various activities that may require some expenditure on the part of students. It is estimated that these activities may cost the student \$15-20 each.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

Students are encouraged to apply for local, state, and national scholarships offered by professional organizations. The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the Louisiana Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics each offer opportunities for scholarship application. There are also websites specializing in "matching" students to scholarships based on past participation in clubs, hobbies, religious affiliations, parental employers, or study interests. Other scholarships may be identified through Nicholls' Financial Aid Office at <http://www.nicholls.edu/financial-aid/>.

The DPD Program established a scholarship in 2019 in honor of the late Colette Leistner, PhD, RD who served many years as the DPD Program coordinator and professor of dietetics. The scholarship will be awarded each fall to a senior DPD student. The program will send out notifications of application each fall.

Tutoring

As mentioned earlier, acceptance into a post-baccalaureate dietetic internship is very competitive. The higher the overall and DPD-related course GPA the better chance a student will have getting into a program. Students must also realize that they **cannot** graduate with a "D" in **any** course in the dietetics curriculum. For these reasons students are encouraged to take advantage of the services provided by Nicholls' Tutorial and Academic Enhancement Center <https://www.nicholls.edu/academic-services-center/tutorial-and-academic-enhancement-center/>

According to their website the Center provides small group sessions, individual consultations, and walk-in services. Students should stop by the center to determine tutorial offerings available each semester. If tutoring isn't available for a course you want help with, ask at the Tutoring Center about whether the course could be added. Ask the course's professor about an upper-level student who might be able to help. Don't hesitate to talk to your instructors, professors, and advisor. They want you to succeed and will be able to offer guidance.

Disability Policy – Student Access Center

The Student Access Center provides assistance to students with disabilities in their adjustment to college and serves as a liaison with faculty to accommodate students with disabilities. Students with disabilities must first self-identify with the center and provide current documentation of their disability from an approved licensed professional regarding the nature and extent of the disability and the recommended accommodations. Before any accommodations will be made documentation must be provided. The Office is in **137 Peltier**. Call **985.448.4430**; for information and appointments and on the website at: <https://www.nicholls.edu/student-access-center/>

Ellender Memorial Library

For assistance with many class assignments in dietetics courses as well as others in the curriculum a visit to Ellender Memorial Library either in person or via the website www.nicholls.edu/library/ will be required.

Familiarize yourself with this website and find the information related to dietetics. Check "Subject Guides" on the library's homepage and it will lead you to pertinent databases, websites, reference books, and enable you to search the catalog for related materials. The library can offer assistance with research. On the library homepage, click Library Divisions and then Research. The library staff is eager to assist you in person, by phone, or via the web. Do not hesitate to take advantage of their expertise.

Computer Lab

In addition to the computer labs available campus-wide students in the Department of Allied Health Sciences have a computer lab available for their use in Ayo 119.

Letters of Recommendation

It is to be expected that students will need letters of recommendation from faculty and or advisors to accompany applications for scholarships, internships, graduate school and/ or employment while at Nicholls and following graduation. To assist in obtaining these in a timely manner and to ensure that all pertinent information is included in the letters, the

following information must accompany the request. Please give faculty 2 - 4 weeks to complete letters.

- Name, title, and address to whom the letter is to be addressed.
- Name of the scholarship, award, or position to which you are applying.
- *Current* resume or listing of work and volunteer experience and the personal attributes that make you qualified. (Co-Curricular *Form available from <https://www.nicholls.edu/student-affairs/>* may be helpful.)

Dietetics students are fortunate because the dietetics program is relatively small and course design is such that faculty have considerable interaction with students during their career at Nicholls. Letters of recommendation therefore can be more meaningful if the student has in fact met course and program expectations.

Procedures for Complaints Against DPD Programs

The Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) has established a process for reviewing complaints against accredited programs 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 or approved 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. Where a complainant has threatened or filed legal action against the institution involved, ACEND will hold complaints in abeyance pending resolution of the legal issues and the complainant is so advised.

- 1.ACEND staff forwards all written complaints to the ACEND chair within three weeks of receipt of the complaint.
- 2.If the ACEND chair determines that the complaint does not relate to the accreditation standards or policies, the complainant is notified in writing within two weeks of the Chair's review that no further action will be taken.
- 3.If the ACEND chair determines that the complaint may relate to the accreditation standards or policies, the complaint is acknowledged in writing within two weeks of the chair's review and the complainant is provided a copy of the process for handling the complaint.

4. At the same time as the complainant is notified, the complaint is forwarded to the program by express mail second day delivery for tracking purposes. The administrative officers of the institution or organization sponsoring the program, currently on file with ACEND, receive copies of the correspondence by first class mail. At the request of the complainant, the name of the complainant is "blocked out" within the body of the written complaint that is sent to the program.

5. The ACEND chair requests the program to conduct a preliminary investigation and submit a report addressing the relevant accreditation standards or policies postmarked no more than 30 calendar days from receipt of the notification, as documented by the record of second day delivery.

6. The ACEND chair may also request further information or materials relating to the complaint from the complainant, the institution or other sources.

7. The ACEND chair appoints a review committee to consider the complaint, along with all relevant information. The review committee recommends appropriate action to the ACEND board at its next scheduled meeting.

8. In determining the appropriate action, the ACEND board considers the complaint, materials relating to the complaint, the review committee's recommendation, if any, and additional evidence provided by the program, if any.

9. The ACEND board or the ACEND chair may determine that legal counsel is needed to address the complaint. Staff works with the ACEND board and legal counsel to identify a plan to address the complaint.

10. If the complaint is determined to be unsubstantiated or not related to the accreditation standards or policies, no action is taken.

11. If the complaint is substantiated and indicates that the program may not be in compliance with the accreditation standards or policies, appropriate action is taken, which may include, but is not limited to, scheduling an on-site visit of the program. If the complaint is substantiated and the ACEND board determines that the program is not in compliance with the accreditation standards or policies, the ACEND board may place the program on probation or withdraw accreditation or approval.

12. The program director and administration of the sponsoring institution are notified of the ACEND board's decision and action in writing within two weeks of the decision. The complainant is notified of the final decision and action when the reconsideration and appeals process expire.

13. The program has the right to request the ACEND board to reconsider a decision to place the program on probation or to withdraw accreditation or approval.

Professional Expectations

You will become familiar with professional behavior and expectations as you refer to the syllabi and information provided for field trips or hosting guest speakers. These guidelines are intended to ease your transition from an academic setting to the professional world. Try to envision how these expectations would be viewed in a work setting. Review criteria for scholarships and see if you can relate these expectations to demonstration of potential success in your chosen field. Below are a few that you will regularly find in your course syllabi and are expectations of the program.

- **Attendance-** As stated in the *University Catalog* (www.nicholls.edu/catalog) “Class attendance is regarded as an obligation as well as a privilege, and all students are expected to be punctual and to attend all classes in which they are enrolled. Failure to do so may jeopardize a student’s scholastic standing and may lead to suspension from the university.” Students are responsible for adhering to the attendance policy in each of their classes and for knowing the consequences that may result from excessive absences. Absences shall begin to accrue on the first official class day. For students who enroll in the class after the first official day, absences shall begin to accrue on the first class day following enrollment.

Tardiness is treated as an absence unless satisfactory explanation is made to the instructor at the end of the class period.

It is the responsibility of each student to make up necessary course work missed.

- **Punctuality—**“all students are expected to be punctual . . . (“Academic Procedures” section of the *University Catalog*; <http://www.nicholls.edu/catalog>. In dietetics courses, assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late work may be subject to deducted points or not accepted in dietetics courses.

- **Communication Policy—**Each student must have a computer account to access Moodle. Course communication in dietetics courses is conducted via Moodle. It is the student’s responsibility to check Moodle frequently (twice per week minimum) for course announcements from the instructor. The instructor will also utilize the student’s Nicholls email account for communication. The student should check this email address at least twice a week. Moodle will be used to post grades. They cannot be given out in class, by phone, or by email. Grades are not final until they appear in BANNER at the end of a semester.

- **Activities—**Participating in the activities of the Nicholls Student Dietetic Association as well as organizations in the community and university provide opportunities for networking with dietetics professionals, developing soft skills such as time and organizational management, teamwork, and leadership.

- **Professionalism—** At this stage in your career you are expected to be prepared for class by having completed assigned readings **before class**. Projects are expected when they are due. You are expected to be prepared to participate in class discussions.

Professionals are respectful of individuals. Students can contribute to an atmosphere of mutual respect in the classroom if these guidelines are followed:

- 1) Do not hold conversations with a classmate when the professor or another classmate is speaking.
- 2) If, through necessity, you arrive after class has begun, enter the classroom and take the first unoccupied seat.
- 3) If you leave the classroom for any reason during lecture, please be quiet.
- 4) Turn off all electronic devices **BEFORE** class begins. If your cell phone rings during class, you are expected to leave quietly.
- 5) Classrooms and/or labs are to be left in the condition in which they were found.

Professionals work on teams. This can be challenging but it is an expectation in the world today. To help students hone skills needed to work successfully on teams, team projects are frequently assigned in courses. You can demonstrate respect for classmates by listening to the opinions and ideas of team members, and by completing assigned tasks according to the schedule the team has planned.

Professionals represent their chosen profession. Dietetics students should remember that they represent their university, department, program, and profession whether in non-dietetics courses, on field trips, at professional meetings, or at work.

Constructive Use of Social Media for Students

The College of Sciences and Technology recommends that as a student you follow these guidelines when using any social media outlet (e.g., Linked-In, Facebook, Twitter) in order to protect yourself and reduce the likelihood of causing harm to yourself or others:

- Students should never post any information, photos, or identifiable content about current/past clients/patients in their care.
- Students should not post material that is harassing, obscene, defamatory, libelous, threatening, hateful, or embarrassing to any person or entity.
- Students should not post words, jokes, or comments based on an individual's gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, age, or religion.
- Students should not post pictures of themselves in compromising positions (drunk, sexually explicit, inappropriately dressed) as this may cause problems for you and or others later in life. Employers may check social media sites before hiring.
- Students should not complain about their work, coworkers, patients/clients, or organizational policies.
- Students should avoid posting while under the influence (PUI). When people are under the influence of alcohol or drugs, they may post things that they might otherwise avoid.
- Students should "defriend" anyone who is harassing them or making them feel uncomfortable. If the student is scared to completely "unfriend" someone they can possibly alter the settings associated with that person to hide their posts.

- Students should become familiar with the privacy settings on their social media accounts to help ensure that their information is set at the level of privacy at which they are comfortable.

Dress Code

During planned field trips and meeting with guest speakers, students are expected to dress in proper attire. Students will be meeting and interacting with professional dietitians from around the state. Professional attire is recommended to create a positive first impression as these professionals may become future employers and/or internship directors. As we will be guests in facilities, it is important that we adhere to each facility's dress codes and behavioral expectations. The faculty will assist with determining the dress code for specific activities.

The Dietetics Program does have an established uniform that is required in several nutrition courses. The specific requirements will be described in the individual class syllabi. Some field trips and community activities require you wearing the Program Uniform. The current uniform is a monogrammed red short sleeve shirt worn with khaki or black slacks. Faculty can provide you with purchasing information.

Activities

Professional Organizations

Dietetics majors learn through participation in departmental, university, and community activities. As active members of Nicholls Student Dietetic Association (NSDA), Louisiana Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (LAND) and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND) students can network with professionals and collaborate with future colleagues. Through these experiences they gain an appreciation for the many possibilities in the dynamic field of dietetics.

Frequently the dietitians are involved with projects and would welcome the volunteer assistance of students. At times they have hired students to work in their facilities. In several cases paid employment resulted from a student's performance as a volunteer. Participation as a volunteer or employee lets students learn more about dietetics practice and see if they would or would not like to work in similar positions in the future.

Nicholls Student Dietetic Association

Membership in the SDA allows one to meet other students in the major, which fosters the development of camaraderie, as these peers will become your colleagues in the future. Students can support each other through study groups and projects, learning valuable skills such as teamwork and leadership. Guest speakers are invited to the meetings based on student interest increasing your exposure to the job market. Recent

activities of the SDA included participation in the homecoming parade, health fairs, Family Day, Welcome Back Day, Food Day, and National Nutrition Month activities. Students should check the DPD Moodle page to keep up with the Nicholls Student Dietetic Association's news and activities.

Volunteerism and Employment in the Field

Nicholls' dietetics students volunteer in the Food and Nutrition departments of long-term care facilities and hospitals, as well as local food banks. They have worked at the Lafourche Child Nutrition Department's main office and as dietary supervisors and aides in area hospitals and long-term care facilities.

Dietetic Internship selection committees see these efforts as a sign that an individual is mature, responsible, and dedicated. It shows curiosity on the part of the student and enthusiasm for the field of dietetics.

Dietetics Curriculum sheet can be found on the program webpage.

<https://www.nicholls.edu/degrees/>

Admissions Application to the Dietetics Degree at Nicholls State University

The dietetics degree at Nicholls State University is a Didactic Program in Dietetics and is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

The didactic program in dietetics is the first step on the path to becoming a Registered Dietitian. To become a Registered Dietitian, a student must complete an accredited education program and earn a verification statement. Secondly the student must complete an ACEND accredited internship and finally pass the RD exam.

Graduates of the Nicholls State University DPD program must earn a 3.0 GPA on DPD courses in order to earn the verification statement needed in order to apply for an internship.

Minimum requirements for application to the program are:

1. Students must be a declared Dietetics major.
2. Student must have a minimum OVERALL GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.
3. The following courses (or their equivalent) must be completed with a minimum grade of “C.”

However, DIET 200 and/or DIET 202 must be completed with a “B” or higher. While C’s are the minimum grade required, it is recommended that students earn A’s and B’s.

Course Number	Course Name	Credit Hours
BIOL 114	Human Anatomy & Phys I	3
BIOL 115	Human Anatomy & Phys Lab I	1
BIOL 116	Human Anatomy & Phys II	3
BIOL 117	Human Anatomy & Phys Lab II	1
ENGL 101	English Composition I	3
ENGL 102	English Composition II	3
MATH 101	College Algebra	3
MATH 214	Statistics	3
DIET 111	Food and Nutrition	3
DIET 200 or DIET 202	Applied Nutrition or Introduction to Human Nutrition and Metabolism	3
CHEM 105	Introductory Chemistry I	3
PSYC Elective		3
Total Credit Hours		32 hours

4. Once students have been accepted into the Dietetics Program they must pass each course with a minimum grade of “C”. Students will be allowed to repeat a course that has a grade lower than a “C” once. If the student cannot pass the course successfully the second time they will be counseled and advised as to alternative majors.

5. Write a Personal statement, 12 point font, double spaced, no longer than 2 pages (300-500 words) explaining your career goals and why you want to be a Registered Dietitian.

Applications are due: TBA (check program website)

Application to the Nicholls State University Dietetic Degree Program

1. Name: _____

2: N Number: _____

3. Nicholls Email Address: _____

4. Phone Number: _____

**All pieces of this application must be enclosed in one envelope.
Applications should be dropped off at Gouaux 107**

Dietetics Grade Work Sheet
Grades and GPA will be reviewed in Banner for accuracy

Semester and year completed	Course	Grade Earned

Courses used to calculate DPD GPA Dietetic Internship Applications

DPD Professional Courses	DPD Science Courses
DIET 111 Food and Nutrition	Math 214 Statistics
DIET 120 Orientation to the Dietetics Profession	BIOL 114 Human Anatomy and Physiology I
DIET 200 Applied Nutrition or DIET 202 Introduction to Human Nutrition & Metabolism	BIOL 115 Human Anatomy and Physiology I Lab
DIET 201 Applied Nutrition Lab	BIOL 116 Human Anatomy and Physiology II
DIET 113 Food and Nutrition Lab	BIOL 117 Human Anatomy and Physiology II Lab
DIET 264 Food Science	BIOL 205 Microbiology
DIET 300 Nutrition Education and Counseling	
Diet 301 Institutional Planning and Purchasing	CHEM 105 Introductory Chemistry
DIET 305 Nutrition through the Lifecycle	CHEM 208 Organic and Biological Chemistry for the Health Sciences
DIET 316 Organization and Management	
DIET 330 Health Beliefs and Practices in a Diverse Society	
DIET 390 Community Nutrition	
DIET 395 Nutrition Assessment	
DIET 404 Quantity Food Production	
DIET 411 Advanced Nutrition I	
DIET 412 Advanced Nutrition II	
DIET 416 Medical Nutrition Therapy I	
DIET 418 Medical Nutrition Therapy II	
DIET 419 Medical Nutrition Therapy II Lab	
DIET 450 Special Topics	
DIET 400 Research in Dietetics I	
DIET 401 Research in Dietetics II	
DIET 459 Senior Seminar	
PSYC Elective	
SOCI 151 Introductory Sociology	
MKTG 300 Marketing	
FACS 262 Demonstrations or SPCH 101 Fundamentals of Public Speaking	
ENGL 468 Technical Writing for the Sciences	

NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY

DIDACTIC PROGRAM IN DIETETICS

Verification of Receipt of Program Handbook

I, _____ have received a copy of the Nicholls State University, Didactic Program in Dietetics Handbook and understand that it contains important information regarding the Dietetic Program’s policies. I understand that as a dietetics major, it is my obligation to be aware of and abide by the policies contained in this handbook.

I understand that the policies contained in this handbook may occasionally require clarification and that I should discuss any questions that arise with my faculty advisor or the Dietetics Program Coordinator.

I also understand that updates and additional information regarding the program may be made available in the Dietetics section of the University website.

I also understand that a DPD Verification Statement cannot be provided unless I have a minimum of a “C” or higher in all required coursework.

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Upon completion, please submit to your faculty advisor.