

Dietetics Specialization Application Instructions

The Dietetics Specialization within the Nutrition major is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) and meets the first requirement for becoming a registered dietitian. The Dietetics Specialization is a Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD), which means through academic coursework and activities you will receive specialized knowledge and training targeted towards a career as a registered dietitian. Graduation from an undergraduate DPD will allow you to apply to ACEND accredited dietetics master's programs and/or to an ACEND accredited internship. *Both a master's degree and supervised practice (included in some master's programs or achieved through an internship) will be required to become a registered dietitian in 2024.*

Who should apply?

Only apply if you have completed or will complete requirements listed below prior to Fall 2022 and have not taken any 3000 level nutrition courses. *If you have completed the below requirements but have less than 3 semesters until graduation, contact your advisor for further direction before applying.* If you have taken any 3000 level nutrition courses, you may be required to complete extra work to meet accreditation requirements. Please contact the program director Dr. Amanda Lynch (lynch3@oakland.edu) to discuss further.

Admission Requirements

Admission into the Specialization is competitive. Applicants must have completed the prerequisite courses (see below) and have earned a B- or higher in NTR 2500. There is no minimum GPA required to apply; however, *competitive* applicants will have a GPA of a 2.0 or higher in science classes and a cumulative GPA of 2.8 or higher.

The following courses MUST BE COMPLETED prior to the start of the Fall 2022 semester. Courses included in the science GPA are marked with an *. Courses taken at institutions other than OU must be direct transfers or receive Program Director approval. Accepted applicants who do not successfully complete these courses will be deferred until the next application cycle.

BIO 1200 - Biology I *
BIO 2600 - Human Physiology and BIO 3621 - Physiology Laboratory OR BIO 2006 - Clinical Anatomy and Physiology *
CDS 3300 - Microbiology of Infectious Diseases OR BIO 3500 OR BIO 3520
CHM 1440 - General Chemistry I *
CHM 1450 - General Chemistry II *
CHM 1470 - General Chemistry Laboratory I *
CHM 1480 - General Chemistry Laboratory II*
CHM 2340 - Organic Chemistry I *
EHS 2550 - Basic Statistics for Health Sciences or STA 2220
HS 2000 - Introduction to Health and Health Behaviors *
NTR 1000 - Careers in Nutrition

NTR 2500 - Human Nutrition and Health *
NTR 2600 - Nutrition Assessment Methods
WRT 1060 - Composition II

To ensure timely program completion, it is recommended that students have also completed:

PH 3000 Introduction to Public Health
HS 3500 Health Behavior Theories

Instructions

Applications must be typed. Only MS Word documents or Adobe pdf file formats will be accepted. These must be emailed to the Dr. Amanda Lynch, Nutrition Program Director (lynch3@oakland.edu) director by 5pm April 15, 2022. *Late applications will be considered only if there are still open spaces in the program.* Oakland's Dietetics Specialization has been accredited for a maximum of 20 students.

The entire application will be reviewed. While grades in courses are an important factor in admissions decisions, students' applications will be evaluated for evidence of passion and understanding for the profession and relevant experiences within the field of nutrition. Spelling, grammar, presentation, and formatting will be considered as evidence of organization and attention to detail, so students should be sure the documents are error free and clearly formatted.

Your application must include the following:

1. Completed application [OU Dietetics Specialization Application](#)
2. Personal statement (limit one-page, included within application)
3. Current Degree Works Progress to Degree PDF
4. Transcripts from any institution where prerequisite coursework was completed
5. Current resume (limit one-page)

Incomplete Application Packets will be returned to students. This may delay or prevent your application from being considered.

The following pages will provide you with an overview of the whole application and specific instructions for the personal statement and resume. Please download the application

Section 1 Student Information

Name (First, Middle Initial, Last):

Current Address:

Phone number:

OU email address:

G Number:

Gender Female Male Nonbinary

Race (select all that apply)

White Black or African American American Indian or Alaska Native

Asian Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander Other

Ethnicity (select one, optional)

Hispanic or Latino Not Hispanic or Latino

Part 2 Courses and GPA

Please complete the following table of courses, including the semester and year for each course taken, letter grade, and grade point assigned. If a course is in progress, you will be required to submit evidence of completion with grades–this must be as a transcript or an updated Degree Works Progress to Degree pdf.

Please calculate and report a Science GPA in the table below for your science courses.

Science Courses							
Science Course (or equivalent)	Credits	Semester	Year	Grade ¹	Grade Point ¹	If non-OU course, indicate course name, Number, and location	Grade point X Credits ³
BIO 1200							
BIO 2006							
BIO 2600 ²							
BIO 3621 ²							
CDS 3300/ BIO3500/ BIO3520							
CHM 1440							
CHM 1450							

Science Courses							
Science Course (or equivalent)	Credits	Semester	Year	Grade ¹	Grade Point ¹	If non-OU course, indicate course name, Number, and location	Grade point X Credits ³
CHM 1470							
CHM 1480							
CHM 2340							
ADD credits for total science credits		In the last column, multiple grade point for each class by the number of credits. ADD numbers in last column					
DIVIDE by the total number of credits for science classes for a Science GPA							
¹ If in progress or taken over summer, indicate IP ² Write N/A if you took BIO 2006 (or N/A for BIO 2006 if you took BIO 2600 & 3621) ³ Multiply the grade point for the course by the number of course credits							

Other Pre-requisite Courses						
Course (or equivalent)	Credits	Semester	Year	Grade	Grade Point	If non-OU course, indicate course name, Number and location
HS 2000						
NTR 1000						
NTR 2500						
WRT 1060						

Applicants must include a Progress to Degree PDF (through Degree Works, accessible through MySail) with their application to document courses taken and in progress. *If any prerequisite courses were taken at another institution, please include a copy of the transcript.* Please meet with your SHS adviser to review your courses or if you need help downloading a Progress to Degree pdf. *Students accepted into the Dietetics Specialization MUST update their catalog year to the semester and year they matriculate into the specialization.* This ensures students are following the current, approved curricula for this accredited program. *This may change required courses for graduation*, including non-nutrition course requirements.

Optional

If you feel you need to explain any grades, withdrawals, or incompletes on your transcripts and degree audit, you have an opportunity here. Limit your explanation to 1/2 page, double spaced.

Part 3 Personal Statement

Personal statements should reflect 1) interest and/or experience in the field of dietetics and nutrition, 2) strengths or experiences that make you a good candidate for the specialization and 3) post-graduation plans or goals related to career or employment in the field of dietetics and 4) what you hope to contribute to the profession.

Please proofread for grammar, spelling, and organization! This is a reflection on your attention to detail and academic aptitude. Consider showing personal statements to others for feedback or contact the Writing Center for individualized assistance.

The Pre-professional Advising Website has information on preparing personal statements which you may find useful: <https://oakland.edu/pre-professional/application-preparation/>

Writing and File Formats

Personal statements must be typed into the application. They must adhere to the following guidelines:

- Maximum one page, double spaced
- 1 inch margins
- Typed using 11 or 12 point font (Arial, Times New Roman, or Calibri)

Part 4 Resume

Students must submit a 1-page resume as an MS Word or pdf document. References ARE NOT NECESSARY. While there are many ways to organize and format a resume, in general, you should include sections that highlight your educational background, work and/or volunteer experiences, other activities (e.g. sports teams), and relevant skills.

For assistance in developing or tailoring your resume, consider making an appointment with Career Services or looking at their resources on Handshake:

<https://www.oakland.edu/careerservices/>

What happens next?

Applications will be notified by April 30th with a decision via e-mail. **E-mails will only be sent to a student's Oakland University email address** so please be sure to check email regularly.

Students will need to acknowledge, in writing, their acceptance into the program and their desire to matriculate into the Specialization. Further details will be provided in the email. Upon acceptance into the program, SHS advising will be notified of the decision. Students are encouraged to contact their advisor to make sure their course schedule for 2022-2023 is in alignment with the current degree plan to ensure a timely graduation.

Upon confirmation of acceptance into the specialization, students will be provided with a student handbook. *In the Fall, there will be an orientation to the program on the first day of class in NTR 3100. Dietetics Specialization students must attend this first day of NTR 3100.* Please be sure to register for NTR 3100. This is a 1 credit course that meets 12-1pm on Thursdays.

Graduation Requirements

Once accepted into the Dietetics Specialization, students must change their catalog year to reflect the year they matriculate into the specialization. **THIS MAY CHANGE graduation requirements**, so please check with your advisor. *Students accepted into the first cohort, beginning in Fall 2022 will be required to complete both Anatomy and Physiology, either as BIO 2006 OR two separate Anatomy and Physiology classes (e.g. BIO 2100 and BIO 2600).* This is a change from the 2021-2022 catalog as the result of changes in accreditation learning requirements.

A DPD Verification Statement is required by internships, some graduate programs, and the Commission on Dietetics Registration to take the dietetics credentialing exam. To receive a DPD verification statement, students must meet all graduation requirements for Oakland University as well as program and accreditation specific criteria:

1. Earn a C or higher in ALL Nutrition courses in the Dietetics Specialization
2. Demonstrate they have met the Knowledge Requirements required for the program (see program handbook)
3. Earn a B- or higher in NTR 4600 Community Nutrition Practicum
4. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher
5. Complete 20 hours of nutrition-focused community service or volunteer work

If graduation requirements are not met for the dietetics specialization, a Nutrition BS degree will be achievable through standard graduation requirements. However, the Nutrition degree may not be acceptable to meet requirements to become a Registered Dietitian.

We are very excited to begin this program! If you have any questions, please reach out to the Nutrition Program director, Dr. Amanda Lynch, lynch3@oakland.edu.