

UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE FORMS

Academic Program Approval

This form is a routing document for the approval of new and revised academic programs. Proposing department should complete this form. For more information, call the Faculty Senate Office at 831-2921.

Submitted by: Richard Fang phone number x1020

Action: Modification to M.S. in Human Nutrition, addition of two new options
(Example: add major/minor/concentration; delete major/minor/concentration, revise major/minor/concentration, academic unit name change, request for permanent status, policy change, etc.)

Effective term 06F
(use format 04F, 05W)

Current degree M.S. and 5th year Dietetic Internship are currently in place
(Example: BA, BACH, BACJ, HBA, EDD, MA, MBA, etc.)

Proposed change leads to the degree of: M.S.
(Example: BA, BACH, BACJ, HBA, EDD, MA, MBA, etc.)

Proposed name: M.S. in Human Nutrition
Proposed new name for revised or new major / minor / concentration / academic unit (if applicable)

Revising or Deleting:

Undergraduate major / Concentration: _____
(Example: Applied Music – Instrumental degree BMAS)

Undergraduate minor: _____
(Example: African Studies, Business Administration, English, Leadership, etc.)

Graduate Program Policy statement change: _____
(Attach your Graduate Program Policy Statement)

Graduate Program of Study: _____
(Example: Animal Science: MS Animal Science: PHD Economics: MA Economics: PHD)

Graduate concentrations: _____

Department of Health, Nutrition and Exercise Sciences
Proposal for a Combined Master of Science Degree Program with the Dietetic Internship Program

I. Description

The Department of Health, Nutrition and Exercise Sciences currently offers a Master of Science in Human Nutrition and a Dietetic Internship program. The Nutrition and Dietetics (NTDT) Program proposes a program offering two new subplans which combine The Master of Science degree in Human Nutrition with the Dietetic Internship Program. The subplans include both a thesis and nothesis track. This program offers an accelerated program for post-baccalaureate students with a current verification statement from an accredited didactic program in dietetics, to complete a master's program and dietetic internship in a two-year time frame. Currently students interested in a Master's degree and a dietetic internship certificate, must take three years to complete both programs. This combined approach prepares students to successfully complete the Registration Examination and helps students develop critical reasoning, analytical and problem-solving skills so that graduates are positioned to be leaders in their chosen areas of dietetic practice.

The program is designed to provide 30 credits of graduate course work and 8 credits towards the dietetics practicum offering a total of 1064 hours of supervised practice. The program also includes a one-week orientation for the supervised practice component in late August. The Master of Science in Human Nutrition program enables students to pursue their interests through an individualized program of study with either a thesis or non-thesis option. Both options include a core of required credits in nutrition and research methods, after which students work with an advisor to develop a customized elective program that fulfills the remainder of the program credits.

The Goals of the University of Delaware Master of Science/Dietetic Internship are:

Provide students with the skills that will prepare them for diverse career opportunities in the field of dietetics and nutrition.

Adhere to the accreditation standards established by the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education (CADE) for supervised practice programs.

Develop research skills and foster evidence-based approach to practice.

Reinforce the concept of lifelong learning as a personal and professional responsibility.

The Outcomes for the Students Graduating from the Master of Science/Dietetic Internship include:

Graduates will be qualified to take the examination for registration with the Commission on Dietetic Registration.

Graduates will meet or exceed the competencies for entry-level dietetic practitioners and the requirements for the Master of Science degree.

Graduates will possess the theoretical knowledge and practical experience to secure employment and to excel in the competitive, ever-evolving field of dietetics.

II. Rationale and Demand

A. Institutional Factors

1. Mission Compatibility

Mission of the Combined Master of Science – Dietetic Internship Program

The department's mission is to foster scholarship/research and education and to provide outreach programs that promote healthy behaviors across the lifespan. The department strives to meet an increasing demand for well-educated professionals capable of delivering a broad range of preventive, technical, educational, and rehabilitative services. To this end, the department focuses on the following:

- Preparing undergraduate and graduate students for professional careers in the Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Sciences.
- Generating new knowledge in the Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Sciences.
- Providing Health, Nutrition, and Exercise Science related education, services, and resources for the community.
- Developing partnerships with industry, government, the schools, and the medical community.

It is the intention of the Dietetic Internship at the University of Delaware to develop outstanding future oriented dietitians for the profession and society. The Master of Science – Dietetic Internship Certificate subplans are designed to provide a progressive program that integrates graduate education, research, and supervised practice to develop competent, entry-level practitioners prepared for leadership. This program emphasizes that this is the beginning of a career involving continuing education, a variety of experiences and professional growth.

2. Planning Process

The Master of Science in Human Nutrition was launched in 1955. The Dietetic Internship began in 1995 as a local program in the State of Delaware. The program expanded to include both a local and distance program in the fall of 2001.

Historically, students have applied to the graduate program as a way to strengthen their application to the internship program. All of the graduate students who applied to the dietetic internship were accepted into the internship. Also, many graduates of the internship completed the MS program. It is estimated that approximately 25 students have completed both programs. In a few cases, some chose not to complete the rest of their graduate coursework.

Discussion regarding the combined MS with dietetic internship certificate occurred at three NTDT graduate program meetings with input from the department chair, NTDT faculty, and a graduate student representative. Both programs are currently offered by the department. The major part of the planning centered on the course sequence so that all credit hours could be accomplished in a two-year time frame.

3. Impact on Other Programs

The implementation of the MS with dietetic internship certificate will have no impact on any other academic programs within the University of Delaware.

4. Utilization of Existing Resources

All necessary resources are currently in place. There are several contracts in place in the State of Delaware and practice facilities are available for students to complete their supervised practice program. Both the MS and dietetic internship certificate programs are currently offered and faculty and program resources are in place. The dietetic internship is currently accredited through 2011 by the CADE (what is CADE?) and is approved to accept up to 40 interns annually.

B. Student Demand

For the 2005-2006 academic year, the dietetic internship program received 70 applications while the graduate program received 25 applications. In the current dietetic internship class of 30, three interns have expressed interest in pursuing their master's degree. Currently there are 23 students. Seven of these students completed the dietetic internship program and then entered the MS program.

1. Enrollment Projections

It is projected that there will be approximately 3-6 students per year who would pursue the MS with dietetic internship certificate subplans.

2. Specific Student Criteria

The program is designed to meet the needs of a post-baccalaureate graduate with a current verification statement from a didactic program in dietetics. Students interested in this program will meet the admission criteria for both the existing MS and DI programs. The graduate application and internship certificate application will be completed by the

candidate. Students enrolled in the MS program who wish to switch to the MS with dietetic internship certificate are eligible if they meet all admissions criteria. Applications to switch to this option are accepted in January of each year. Students who are accepted into the MS program with dietetic internship are not eligible to switch to the certificate internship only. The student may however reapply to the certificate internship program in January/February of the following year.

C. Transferability

Students participating in the MS with dietetic internship certificate subplans may be eligible for exemption for prior paid work experience for internship supervised experience. Policies and procedures are in place for rotation exemptions.

D. Graduate/Professional Program Access

Graduates of the MS with dietetic internship certificate will be qualified to take the registration examination for dietitians upon successful completion of all program requirements.

E. Demand and Employment Factors

In the fall of 2003, the Dietetics Education Task Force (DETF) was formed as a result of dialogue and action by the American Dietetic Association (ADA) House of Delegates (HOD). This was a result of ongoing concern expressed by ADA members and employers about the “quality of dietetics education and the ability of graduates to meet marketplace needs today and in the future.” The DETF submitted their final report and recommendations for deliberation by the HOD in May 2005.

CADE developed the Seamless Graduate Degree Demonstration Program to encourage innovative education programs preparing students for evolving dietetics practice. The Task Force recommendations for dietetics education and credentialing would require a graduate degree. Accredited programs would offer a seamless educational system providing both the academic preparation and supervised practice in one graduate degree-granting program. CADE is encouraging innovative programs interested in preparing students for evolving dietetics practice to apply for Provisional Accreditation Status for the Demonstration Program.

The proposed MS with dietetic internship certificate subplans meets the essence of the Task Force recommendations and would qualify for Provisional Accreditation Status for the Demonstration Program.

Graduates of both the Master of Science in Human Nutrition and the Dietetic Internship can be eligible for various positions within the dietetics profession. With the advanced degree in addition to the RD credential, graduates of the MS with dietetic internship certificate have a stronger base for securing positions in management that include industry, healthcare and food service operations. Graduates have attained positions in

research with pharmaceutical companies. Some colleges and universities hire Master's level registered dietitians for teaching positions.

F. Regional/State/National Factors

1. Advantage Over Regional Programs

Within the State of Delaware, the only existing graduate program in nutrition and dietetic internship is offered by the University of Delaware. There are other graduate programs and dietetic internships in the tri-state area, however only one combined MS with dietetic internship certificate is in existence.

Several factors serve to comparatively advantage the MS with dietetic internship certificate relative to other regional programs. One factor is the completion of both the MS and RD eligibility within a two-year time frame. Other factors include the high quality of the program and the faculty who teach in it. The dietetic internship was the recipient of the United States Distance Learning Award (USDLA) for excellence in programming in Telehealth in 2003.

2. Accrediting/Professional Mandates

The proposed MS with dietetic internship certificate subplans is designed to meet the standards of the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education (CADE). The Dietetic Internship Program is currently accredited through 2011. The Dietetic Internship Director will submit an application for a program change to the commission to incorporate an MS with dietetic internship certificate subplan within the framework of the existing program. Approval from CADE must be in place prior to accepting applications for this program.

G. Other Strengths

1. Special Features

Both programs are currently in existence and all resources are in place. Therefore the MS with dietetic internship certificate subplans can be easily implemented upon approval by CADE. The internship makes extensive use of technology, offering flexibility to the student's supervised practice experience. The supervised practice component can be completed outside the State of Delaware.

2. Collaborative Arrangements

Students enrolled in the MS with dietetic internship certificate will be placed in clinical facilities for their supervised practice experiences. Affiliation agreements are currently in place for facilities in and around the State of Delaware. The program faculty will assure that formal agreements are in place prior to the student starting their supervised practice.

III. Enrollment, Admissions and Financial Aid

A. Enrollment Limitations/Criteria

Enrollment in the MS with dietetic internship certificate subplans will be approximately 3-6 students per year. This projected enrollment number is derived from current enrollment in the Master's program and resources available. Currently, the dietetic internship is approved for up to 40 interns annually. The graduate program enrolled 6 new students annually over the past two years.

B. Admission Requirements

1. Criteria

Admission Requirements

- GPA of 2.75 overall and 3.0 in major courses
- A recommended GRE score of minimum 1000
- Verification Statement of completion of a Didactic program in dietetics
- Medical Nutrition Therapy Course within four years of application
- Biochemistry course within five years of application
- Recent relevant work experience beyond what is required for undergraduate course requirements

Applicants to the MS with dietetic internship certificate subplans must complete both the application to the graduate program and the dietetic internship application. Three professional references are required along with a letter of application and transcripts from all schools attended.

2. Transfer Policy

Students wishing to transfer into the MS with dietetic internship certificate subplans either internally or externally must meet all of the above stated admission requirements.

3. Retention Policy

Students enrolled in the MS with dietetic internship certificate will follow the University of Delaware Retention Policy. Students who voluntarily withdraw from the program of their own accord will not be reinstated during that academic year, but may reapply at a future date.

C. Student Expenses and Financial Aid

1. Extraordinary Required Student Expenses

Additional expenses are incurred for the internship practicum. This includes travel to and from practice facilities, purchase of a personal digital assistant, lab coat and books required for the internship practicum.

2. Student Financial Support

Students enrolled in the MS with dietetic internship certificate are considered full-time graduate students and are eligible to apply for financial aid. Graduate teaching assistantships are also available through the department. The MS with dietetic internship certificate student is eligible for a teaching assistantship for the first year. However teaching assistantships for the dietetic internship certificate program will not be available since one must have the registered dietitian (RD) credential.

IV. Curriculum Specifics

A. Degree Awarded

The combined MS with dietetic internship certificate graduate is awarded a Master of Science in Human Nutrition degree and a verification statement of completion of the certificate dietetic internship program. Requirements for both the MS and dietetic internship must meet current standards for completion.

B. Curriculum

1. Requirements

The program is designed to provide 30 credits of graduate course work and 8 credits for the dietetic internship (NTDT 550/551). Students pursuing the thesis option will be required to take CHEM 527 and six thesis credits (NTDT 869). NTDT courses include NTDT 611, 650, 651, and 665. Additional courses include statistics, research design, and six elective credits. Students pursuing the non-thesis option are required to complete a three credit Scholarly Project (NTDT 669) in place of thesis credits. Appendix A summarizes and compares the requirements to those of the existing MS programs.

2. Sample Curriculum

Please refer to Appendix B for a sample curriculum plan for the thesis option and Appendix C for the non-thesis option.

3. Approvals from Affected Departments

This program does not have an impact on other departments within the University of

Delaware.

4. University/College/Department Requirements

A review of the sample curriculum will indicate that all of the college and university requirements are addressed

V. Resources available

A. Learning Resources

The current University of Delaware Library Holdings are adequate to support the MS with dietetic internship certificate subplans. Practice facilities are available for the internship practicum throughout the State of Delaware.

B. Faculty/Administrative Resources

Dr. Chengshun Fang is the current graduate program coordinator for the Master of Science in Human Nutrition. Ann Rucinski is the current director for the dietetic internship program. A senior secretary serves as administrative support for the graduate program. The dietetic internship is supported by a departmental secretary with 40% of her time towards the program. In addition, the dietetic internship staff includes a program supervisor and three graduate teaching assistants who are either registered dietitians or registry eligible.

C. External Funding

No external funding is needed to support the addition of the two new subplans.

VI. Resources Required

A. Learning Resources

The Department of Health, Nutrition and Exercise Sciences currently provides all of the learning resources necessary to support the program and to enable the program to compete favorably for the highest caliber students. Faculty will utilize a state-of-the-art computer lab, internet connections for classroom instruction, audio visual equipment and statistical software to enhance the student experience.

B. Personnel Resources

All necessary personnel are currently in place.

C. Budgetary Needs.

No new budgetary needs are associated with initiating an MS with dietetic internship certificate program.

VII. Implementation and Evaluation

A. Implementation Plan

The plan is to implement the two new subplans in the fall of 2006.

B. Evaluation Plan

1. Internal Evaluation, other than standard program review

The faculty will evaluate the success of the programs through exit interview with students, tracking job placement, success on the RD exam and alumni and employer surveys.

2. Criteria for External Evaluation

The dietetic internship will be reviewed for continued accreditation in conjunction with the didactic program in dietetics in 2011 by CADE.

VII. Appendices

Appendix A. Summary of requirements of the proposed MS WITH DIETETIC INTERNSHIP CERTIFICATE program in comparison to the existing MS programs.

	EXISTING PROGRAM		PROPOSED PROGRAM	
	MS - THESIS	MS - NON-THESIS	MS WITH DIETETIC INTERNSHIP CERTIFICATE – THESIS	MS WITH DIETETIC INTERNSHIP CERTIFICATE – NON-THESIS
PREREQUISITES	Inorganic Chemistry Organic Chemistry Biochemistry Physiology Nutrition*	Inorganic Chemistry Organic Chemistry Biochemistry Physiology Nutrition*	Inorganic Chemistry Organic Chemistry Biochemistry Physiology Nutrition* Verification Statement of completion of a Didactic program in dietetics Medical Nutrition Therapy Course within four years of application Recent relevant work experience	Inorganic Chemistry Organic Chemistry Biochemistry Physiology Nutrition* Verification Statement of completion of a Didactic program in dietetics Medical Nutrition Therapy Course within four years of application Recent relevant work experience
MINIMUM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS	1000 GRE (V+Q) 2.75 GPA Overall 3.00 GPA based on major courses	1000 GRE (V+Q) 2.75 GPA Overall 3.00 GPA based on major courses	1000 GRE (V+Q) 2.75 GPA Overall 3.00 GPA based on major courses	1000 GRE (V+Q) 2.75 GPA Overall 3.00 GPA based on major courses
COURSE REQUIREMENTS NTDT courses	NTDT611 Advanced Nutrition (3) NTDT Electives (6-9)	NTDT611 Advanced Nutrition (3) NTDT Electives (9-12)	NTDT611 Advanced Nutrition (3) NTDT550 Dietetics Practicum I (4) NTDT551 Dietetics Practicum II (4) NTDT650 Current Perspectives In Dietetics I (2) NTDT651 Current Perspectives In Dietetics II (2) NTDT Electives (0-3)	NTDT611 Advanced Nutrition (3) NTDT550 Dietetics Practicum I (4) NTDT551 Dietetics Practicum II (4) NTDT650 Current Perspectives In Dietetics I (2) NTDT651 Current Perspectives In Dietetics II (2) NTDT Electives (3-6)
Non-NTDT courses	CHEM527 (3) STAT (3) Research Design (3) Electives (3-6)	STAT (3) Research Design. (3) Electives (6-9)	CHEM527 (3) STAT (3) Research Design (3) Electives (3-6)	STAT (3) Research Design. (3) Electives (6-9)
Seminar	NTDT665 (2)	NTDT665 (2)	NTDT665 (2)	NTDT665 (2)
Thesis/Field Study	NTDT869 (6)	NTDT669 (3)	NTDT869 (6)	NTDT669 (3)
TOTAL CREDITS	(32)	(32)	(38)	(38)
OTHER	Thesis Defense/Oral Exam	Comprehensive Exam	Thesis Defense/Oral Exam	Comprehensive Exam

* Requiring Biochemistry as a prerequisite.

**Appendix B. Combined Masters of Science – Dietetic Internship Sample Course Schedule
Thesis Option**

Year One

Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
Chem 527 (3)	NTDT 550 (1) Community Nutr. Practicum	NTDT 611 (3)	NTDT 550 (3) Clinical Nutr. Practicum
NTDT elective or elective (3)		NTDT Elective or Elective (3)	
Res. Des. Elec (3)		Stat (3)	
<i>Total 9 credits</i>	<i>Total 1 credit</i>	<i>Total 9 credits</i>	<i>Total 3 credits</i>

Year Two

Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
NTDT 869 (3)	NTDT 551 (1)	NTDT 869 (3)	
NTDT 665 (1)		NTDT 665 (1)	
NTDT 551 (3)		NTDT 651 (2)	
NTDT 650 (2)			
<i>Total 9 credits</i>	<i>Total 1 credit</i>	<i>Total 6 credits</i>	

Graduate Coursework – 30 credits

Dietetics Practicum – 8 credits (28 weeks supervised practice)

Dietetic Internship Practicum

NTDT 550 will be completed in supervised practice facilities during a winter and summer session in one calendar year. The remainder of the practicum (551) will be completed in the fall of year two on a part time basis. The practicum will be completed during the following winter session. Interns enrolled in the MS with dietetic internship certificate must attend the one week orientation held in mid August in year 1.

The program offers flexibility when completing NTDT 550/551 internship practicum.

**C. Combined Masters of Science – Dietetic Internship Sample Course Schedule
Non-Thesis Option**

Year One

Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
NTDT elective or elective (3)	NTDT 550 (1) Community Nutr. Practicum	NTDT 611 (3)	NTDT 550 (3) Clinical Nutr. Practicum
Elective (3)		NTDT Elective or Elective (3)	
Res. Des. Elec (3)		Stat (3)	
<i>Total 9 credits</i>	<i>Total 1 credit</i>	<i>Total 9 credits</i>	<i>Total 3 credits</i>

Year Two

Fall	Winter	Spring	Summer
NTDT (3)	NTDT 551 (1)	NTDT 669 (3)	
NTDT 665 (1)		NTDT 665 (1)	
NTDT 551 (3)		NTDT 651 (2)	
NTDT 650 (2)			
<i>Total 9 credits</i>	<i>Total 1 credit</i>	<i>Total 6 credits</i>	

Graduate Coursework – 30 credits

Dietetics Practicum – 8 credits (28 weeks supervised practice)

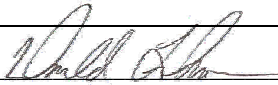
Dietetic Internship Practicum

NTDT 550 will be completed in supervised practice facilities during a winter and summer session in one calendar year. The remainder of the practicum (551) will be completed in the fall of year two on a part time basis. The practicum will be completed during the following winter session. Interns enrolled in the MS with dietetic internship certificate must attend the one week orientation held in mid August in year 1.

The program offers flexibility when completing NTDT 550/551 internship practicum.

ROUTING AND AUTHORIZATION: (Please do not remove supporting documentation.)

Susan J. Hall

Department Chairperson _____ Date 11/10/05
Dean of College _____ Date _____
Chairperson, College Curriculum Committee  Date 12/14/05
Chairperson, Senate Com. on UG or GR Studies _____ Date _____
Chairperson, Senate Coordinating Com. _____ Date _____
Secretary, Faculty Senate _____ Date _____
Date of Senate Resolution _____ Date to be Effective _____
Registrar _____ Program Code _____ Date _____
Vice Provost for Academic Programs & Planning _____ Date _____
Provost _____ Date _____
Board of Trustee Notification _____ Date _____

Revised 12/14/05

**Addition of Dietetic Internship Certificate Program to the
M.S. in Human Nutrition/Dietetic**

Resolution

To add the Dietetic Internship Certificate Program to the M.S. in Human Nutrition in the Dept of Health, Nutrition & Exercise Sciences.

Whereas the addition of the Dietetic Internship Certificate Program to the current M.S. program offers an accelerated program for post-baccalaureate students, with a current verification statement from an accredited didactic program in dietetics, to complete a master's program & dietetic internship in a two-year time frame.

Whereas the addition of this certificate program does not require any new courses or library resources or budgetary needs

Whereas existing faculty/administrative resources will support the addition of the Dietetic Internship Certificate Program, be it therefore

Resolved that the Dietetic Internship Certificate Program be added to the M.S. in Human Nutrition in the Dept of Health, Nutrition & Exercise Sciences to accommodate eligible post-baccalaureate students interested in a two-year accelerated M.S. and Dietetic Internship Certificate program.