



Program Orientation – Fall 2020

Date: August 19th

Breakout Session

Department of Dietetics & Nutrition

Joan A. Marn, MS, RDN, LDN

DPD Director and Clinical Instructor

Kudos from a grateful graduate

Jul 12, 2017

Hello, Drs. Huffman and Campa. My name is Dan _____, and I am an alumni from FIU. I graduated with a BS in DN this past December. I am currently a first year medical student at Bastyr University in San Diego California.

I want to thank every single professor in the program for being so strict with me. I was frustrated many times during the program because I had to study so much, and I even got mad at some professors from the overload of reading and assignments I had to do for classes. **I can now say that I am so thankful that professors such a Prof. Marn, and Drs. Rivera, Abel, Coccia, Magnus, and Narayanan pushed me to my limits in order to excel all my classes.** Medical school can be terrifying for students, but I can say that it has been a breeze to me because of my strong background in many of the classes these professors taught.

All students in the program should be very thankful to have them as professors and you ladies should be very lucky to have them work for you. Please keep up the hard and good work!



MUST READ

- ▶ What are 2 handbooks that you must read?



Answers...

DPD Handbook

FIU Student Handbook

PROGRAM MISSION – in DPD Handbook

- ▶ *“...to provide students with a comprehensive, rigorous academic core of knowledge & skills so they are critically thinking graduates, who are ethically & culturally competent & prepared for evidence-based practice in the profession of dietetics & nutrition &/or post-baccalaureate educational programs.*
- ▶ *The DPD track leads to the awarding of the Verification Statement (VS), which is to confirm eligibility for an accredited dietetic internship.”*
- ▶ We provide a high quality didactic & experiential learning environment so that you
 - ▶ Achieve RDN status
 - ▶ Obtain professional employment in the field
 - ▶ Pursue further education

ACCREDITATION – DPD Program

- ▶ Nationally accredited by ACEND, the accrediting agency for AND
- ▶ USDE recognizes ACEND as the accrediting body for nutrition & dietetics education programs
- ▶ ACEND assures the quality of nutrition & dietetics education through a peer review process, certifying that we meet all requirements of academic excellence, curriculum sequencing, funding, support facilities, etc.
 - ▶ Numerous reports & benchmarks are required of me as the director, the department, & the university



ACCREDITATION – DPD Program – cont'd.

- ▶ Completed a comprehensive on-site accreditation review in fall, 2016
- ▶ Granted full accreditation the 7-year maximum reporting period (2024; moved to 2025 due to COVID-19)

Academy Relationships

Academy of Nutrition
and Dietetics

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graph TD; A[Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics] --- B[ACEND Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (Accrediting Agency)]; A --- C[BOD Board of Directors (Professional Membership Organization)]; A --- D[CDR Commission on Dietetic Registration (Credentialing Agency)];
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ACEND

Accreditation
Council for
Education in
Nutrition and
Dietetics

(Accrediting
Agency)

BOD

Board of Directors

(Professional
Membership
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CDR

Commission on
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Role of Faculty in the DPD Program

- Implement & assess specific assignments & activities in courses
- Track student learning outcomes on specific assignments & provided data to program director
- Include knowledge requirements & competencies on syllabi

Abbreviations to know

- ▶ AND = Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics
- ▶ ACEND = Accreditation Council for Education in Dietetics & Nutrition
- ▶ CRDN = Competencies for RDN (CP, DI programs)
- ▶ **KRDN** = Knowledge for RDN (CP, **DPD** programs)
- ▶ **SLO** = student learning outcomes

PROGRAM OF STUDY

BS in Dietetics & Nutrition, Dietetics Track

- ▶ Program is allowed to set admission criteria for freshmen & transfer students
- ▶ If the science of nutrition were easy, everyone/anyone could do it.
- ▶ See the Course Pyramid *handout* in your packet
- ▶ See Advising Sheet *handout* in your packet
- ▶ See 4-year Step-by-Step Progression *handout*

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PROGRESSION THROUGH PROGRAM

- Accept grades of C or above only
- Must complete all required prerequisites;
NO overrides
- Save time & trouble by scheduling mid-semester required advising EVERY semester



DPD Handbook includes...

- ▶ Program mission & goals
- ▶ Pathway to become an RDN
- ▶ Policies, procedures, & regulations regarding
 - ▶ Student complaints
 - ▶ Academic standing
 - ▶ Academic misconduct/integrity
 - ▶ Importance of volunteering

Note to International Students: CPT

- Undergrad DPD students are NOT eligible for Curricular Practical Training
 - DPD has no field experiences that qualify for academic credit
 - CPT allows qualified F-1 status students to gain practical experience in their field of study while making progress towards completion of academic program.
 - FIU graduate-level DI students qualify for CPT

Note to International Students: OPT

- Optional Practical Training = period during which UG & graduate students with F-1 status are permitted to get practical training to complement their field of study once academic program is completed.
 - Affects students applying to free-standing DI programs
 - Speak with DI program directors at the programs to which you are applying to learn about their international student policies

Adapted from <https://globalaffairs.fiu.edu/iss/>

HOW BECOME CREDENTIALLED

- ▶ Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN) = nationally recognized credential for nutrition experts
- ▶ Steps to obtain
 1. Complete an accredited undergraduate program (DPD)
 2. Complete an accredited dietetic internship (DI) of 1200 hours (usually unpaid) → requires a separate application process via DICAS
 3. Pass the national RDN examination on the first sitting

SUPERVISED PRACTICE = Dietetic Internship (DI)

- ▶ Apply your didactic knowledge & skills under direction of full-time RDNs
- ▶ Goal is “entry level competency”
- ▶ All DIs follow ACEND accreditation standards
- ▶ Need 1200 hours experience in 3 key areas:
CLINICAL + COMMUNITY + FOOD SERVICE/SCIENCE
- ▶ A few programs offers a small salary; usually intern pays tuition & living expenses
- ▶ <http://www.eatrightacend.org/ACEND/content.aspx?id=10760> for a directory of DI programs
- ▶ Attend fall and spring Internship Workshops for more details

EMPLOYMENT

- ▶ Wide variety of employment settings, including health care, business/industry, community/public health, education, research, government agencies, & private practice
- ▶ Many work environments, particularly those in medical & health-care settings, require the RDN credential.
- ▶ Browse around our professional organization: www.eatright.org
- ▶ RDNs work in
 - ▶ **Hospitals, HMO's or other health-care facilities**
 - ▶ **Food and nutrition-related business & industries**
 - ▶ **Sports nutrition & corporate wellness programs**
 - ▶ **Private practice**
 - ▶ **Community & public health settings**
 - ▶ **Universities & medical centers**
 - ▶ **Research areas**

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

► Data from www.salary.com:

\$62,990 as of July 27, 2020;
range typically falls between \$57,390 - 69,290



FACTORS THAT INCREASE WAGES

- ▶ Number of years in the field
- ▶ Number of years in a position
- ▶ Graduate degree
- ▶ Practice area (highest pay are in management, consulting, education, & research)
- ▶ Supervision responsibilities
- ▶ Budget responsibilities

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- ▶ Main office: AHC5-305A; 305-348-2878 → on call-forward to Sophia Oliva, Program Assistant
- ▶ My office Rm. 308; jmarn@fiu.edu → working remotely from home, so don't come in!
- ▶ Program website: <http://stempel.fiu.edu> > academics > Dietetics & Nutrition → check out resources
- ▶ Check out resources on our professional website: www.eatright.org

PRECEPTING/MENTORING: PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- **Networking** → start now! Fellow students = future colleagues
- **Save** well-done, pertinent assignments for Senior Seminar
- Join! → SDA, SFAND, **AND (required of all DPD students)**, plus other related organizations
 - One never learn something better than when you're teaching it!
 - Need volunteer & leadership experience to develop a solid internship application portfolio
 - AND student membership allows access to the Evidence Analysis Library for a \$25 fee

BEST ADVICE for SUCCESS

- ▶ 2 kinds of education goals
 1. PERFORMANCE = *"I will work my way up to 500 sit ups each day."*
 2. **LEARNING = more powerful** = to actually master the material until it becomes a habit
- ▶ *"Learning to become a self-directed learner is probably the greatest intellectual & psychological challenge that an individual can face in a lifetime."* (Dealty)
- ▶ *"Nothing worthwhile is ever acquired without effort, & effort gives meaning to our lives."* (D. Tipton)

BEST ADVICE for SUCCESS

- ▶ Do not wait for things to be handed to you
 - Show initiative
 - Find opportunities → they are everywhere; say “yes” as often as possible
- ▶ Have fun, make new friends, seek out meaningful experiences, & enjoy your time at FIU
- ▶ Keep Calm & Study Dietetics!


PROFESSIONALISM

- Handout in packet + in DPD Student Handbook
- Life-long process
 - Introduced here & in DIE 3005 (Orientation to Dietetics class)
 - Reinforced/enhanced throughout curriculum
 - Culminates & is assessed in DIE 4506 (Seminar in Dietetics)

PROFESSIONALISM

- ▶ Expected to exhibit professionalism in
 - ▶ ***Demeanor***: consistent with Code of Ethics for the Professional of Dietetics
 - ▶ ***Dress***: project image of self-confidence, self-respect, & respect for others
 - ▶ ***Attitude***: gratitude for opportunity to learn from others
 - ▶ ***Behavior***: respect to fellow students, faculty, administrators, all persons whether on or off campus

PROFESSIONALISM

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- Components of professionalism:
 - Reliability
 - Collegiality
 - Positive attitude towards learning
 - Initiative & self-motivation
 - Balance between humility & confidence in one's ability

PROFESSIONALISM

- Components of professionalism – cont' d:
 - Maturity
 - Class professionalism → applies to Zoom as well...
 - Follows DPD handbook dress code
 - Personal phone is off during class times
 - No gum chewing or eating in classrooms
 - Avoids dishonesty or being complicit in dishonesty
- Allegiance to the profession: memberships, completing surveys, mentoring/precepting fellow students

PROFESSIONALISM – Concept Model

Source: JAND, June 2019, Vol 119, #6



Figure 3. A conceptual model defining professionalism in nutrition and dietetics.



PROFESSIONALISM

I will end with a quote...

“Today is the first day of your “interview.” How you behave in the classroom with your professionalism, your attendance, your attitude, your work ethic, is how you are going to behave when you go out and interact with the internship preceptors.”

---Christopher Taylor, PhD., instructor at
The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

...and I might add “with me, also.”