DIETETICS PROGRAM

Program Description

The Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) at San Jose State University provides the curriculum to prepare students (B.S. or M.S.) to meet the requirements to become a Registered Dietitian (RD).

What is a Registered Dietitian?

A Registered Dietitian (RD) is a professional who has completed the course work as well as internship requirements established by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND), the credentialing agency for the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, and who is able to:

♦ Make decisions about nutrition care for people of all ages;
♦ Interpret the latest scientific findings into easy to understand nutritional information;
♦ Plan menus and direct the service of meals.

How to become a RD?

1. Complete a B.S. or B.A. degree.

2. Satisfy coursework requirements of the AND via Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD).
   ♦ Please contact Department Chair and DPD Director Dr. Ashwini Wagle for a transcript evaluation (408-924-3110).

3. Complete an Accredited Dietetic Internship (DI).

4. Pass the RD exam.

Dietetics Course Requirements

♦ Nutritional Science
♦ Food Science
♦ Medical Nutrition Therapy
♦ Foodservice Management
♦ Community Nutrition
♦ Nutrition Education
♦ Chemistry & Biochemistry
♦ Physiology & Microbiology
♦ Statistics

Program Goals:

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

♦ Outcome measure 1.a: Over a five year period, at least 80% of the students completing the DPD program will pass the RD exam on the first attempt.
♦ Outcome measure 1.b: Over a 5 year period, 60% of students will apply to a supervised practice program within 12 months of graduating.

♦ Outcome measure 1.c: 60% of those students applying to a supervised practice program will be accepted.
♦ Outcome measure 1.d: At least 70% of dietetic internship supervisors will rate their degree of overall satisfaction with the education and preparation of their SJSU student as ≥3.0 on a 5.0 scale.
♦ Outcome measure 1.e: 60% of students will complete the program in 3 years, or, 150% of the time planned for completion.

Goal #2: To foster a desire to improve the quality of life in diverse communities.

♦ Outcome measure 2a: At least 50% of students will indicate participation in their community.
♦ Outcome measure 2b: At least 20% of those graduates not accepted into a supervised practice program will take the DTR exam.

Employment Opportunities

The employment outlook for dietitians is excellent. The U.S. Labor Bureau projects a 10 to 20% increase in the need for dietitians through the year 2010. Dietitians may work in a variety of positions or for a variety of employers.

Health Care

♦ Clinical Dietitian
♦ Nutritional Services Administrator
♦ Nutrition Support Dietitian
♦ Specialized Health Educator (e.g. Renal, Diabetes)
 Schools and Universities
♦ Foodservice Administrator
♦ University/College Educator
♦ Research Dietitian

Business and Industry
♦ Food Editor/Journalist
♦ Consumer Nutrition Specialist
♦ Public Relations Specialist
♦ Corporate Health Specialist
♦ Food & Nutrition Researcher
♦ Food Marketing Specialist
♦ Food & Nutrition Advertising Specialist
♦ Pharmaceutical Sales Representative
♦ Food Sales Representative
♦ Equipment Sales Representative

Public Health Agencies
♦ Community Nutrition Programs
♦ Senior Nutrition Programs
♦ Child Care Nutrition Programs

Government Agencies
♦ Food & Drug Administration
♦ Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Supplemental Food Program
♦ Public Health Departments
♦ State Department of Education

Other Areas
♦ Peace Corps Representative
♦ Sports Nutritionist
♦ Private Practice Dietitian

Contact Information
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San Jose State University offers a B.S. Degree in Nutritional Science with a Concentration in Dietetics

The Didactic Program in Dietetics at San Jose State University is granted by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of The Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics (AND), 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000 Chicago, Illinois 60606-6995 312-899-0040 ext.5400 http://www.eatright.org