Nutrition and Dietetics
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Indianapolis

Chairperson
Clinical Professor Jacquelynn O’Palka

Departmental E-mail
jopalka@iupui.edu

Departmental URL
www.shrs.iupui.edu/nd/

Graduate Faculty
(An asterisk [*] denotes membership in the University Graduate School faculty with the endorsement to direct doctoral dissertations.)

Professors
M. Sue Brady*, Jacquelynn O’Palka, Karyl Rickard*, Arlene Wilson* (Emerita)

Associate Professors
Sara Blackburn, Judith Ernst

Assistant Professor
Ada Van Ness* (Emeritus)

Adjunct Professors
James Lemons (Pediatrics), Donald Orr* (Pediatrics)

Graduate Advisor
Jacquelynn O’Palka, 224 Coleman Hall, 1140 W. Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202-5180, (317) 278-0933, jopalka@iupui.edu.

Master of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics

The program is located at the Indiana University Medical Center in Indianapolis and utilizes facilities throughout central Indiana. The purpose of the program is to provide an opportunity for health care professionals to deepen their knowledge base and practice skills, particularly in the area of clinical nutrition. The curriculum is designed for the student who has a special interest in health promotion, the nutritional requirements and provision of nutrition therapy in acute and chronic conditions, or the care of special populations, such as pre-term infants. Program affiliations throughout central Indiana provide the opportunity for the student to work with patient populations in both outpatient and inpatient settings, as well as with the general public. Students may specialize in either adult or pediatric nutrition. This curriculum will not prepare the student to sit for the Registration Examination for Dietitians.

Course Requirements
Students will be required to take graduate-level courses in biochemistry, statistics or biostatistics, and physiology. Other courses and clinical study (open only to students who are registered dietitians) may be selected from the graduate-level offerings of the Nutrition and Dietetics Program and from other schools and departments on the Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis campus.

Degree Requirements
To earn the M.S. degree, a minimum of 37 credit hours (43 if the Pediatric Nutrition Fellowship is included) at the graduate level are required. Candidates for this degree may petition to apply up to 8 credit hours of graduate work from other institutions or programs to this degree. A thesis is required.

Admission Requirements
Applicants should have a bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university, a minimum grade point average of B (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) overall, an appropriate level of achievement on the Graduate Record Examination, a current health care practice credential or proof of completion of an undergraduate major in nutrition and dietetics, and three letters of recommendation addressed to the Nutrition and Dietetics Program. The applicant must submit a completed application form to the Office of Research and Graduate Studies, along with two copies of transcripts from all universities attended. Indiana University graduates should request that the Registrar’s Office send unofficial copies of their transcript. Non–Indiana University graduates must submit at least one official transcript from each university attended. A current health care practice credential or proof of completion of an undergraduate major in nutrition and dietetics is required. A nonrefundable application fee is required. Applications and further information may be obtained by writing to the following address:

Department of Nutrition and Dietetics
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Indiana University–Purdue University Indianapolis
1140 W. Michigan Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-5119
Grade Requirement
A minimum of a 3.0 (B) grade point average in graduate work is required for continuance in graduate study. When the grade point average of a student falls below 3.0 or the student is not making sufficient progress toward the degree, the Graduate Studies Committee will review the student’s record and recommend to the dean that the student be placed on probation. Unless the student achieves a 3.0 grade point average or begins making satisfactory progress, in the next semester of enrollment, the student will not ordinarily be allowed to continue in the graduate program. For more information about academic regulations, contact the program director.

Thesis
Students may elect to complete a thesis or to take additional course work and complete a problem. Contact the graduate advisor for details.

Curriculum

Health and Rehabilitation Sciences (3 cr.)
W510 Trends and Issues in Allied Health

Basic Sciences (7 cr.)
BIOC B500 Biochemistry
PHSL F503 Human Physiology

Professional (12 cr.)
N550 Human Nutritional Pathophysiology I (required for all students)
N552 Human Nutritional Pathophysiology II

Adult emphasis
N552 Human Nutritional Pathophysiology II

Pediatric emphasis
N570 Pediatric Nutrition I
N572 Advanced Pediatric Nutrition

Electives

Pediatric emphasis
N570 Pediatric Nutrition I
N572 Advanced Pediatric Nutrition

Elective Research (15 cr.)

Biostatistics
W520 Research Methodology in Allied Health
W570 Research Communications in Allied Health
N598 Research in Nutrition and Dietetics Program

Total Minimum Credits: 37

Courses

“P” refers to a course prerequisite and “C” to a course that must be taken concurrently.

N500 Nutrition I (3 cr.) P: Graduate standing. Undergraduate courses in biological sciences or consent of instructor. This course applies the principles of physiology, chemistry and biology to describe the role of nutrition and exercise in the human body, explores the interrelated and protective role of nutrition and exercise in wellness, health promotion and disease prevention. This course is taught online.

N544 Diet Therapy (3 cr.) P: Dietetic internship. Study of physiological and biochemical alterations that occur during disease states and their effect on nutritional requirements and methods of providing nutrients.

N546 Medical Lectures (cr. arr.) Lectures by professional staff and invited guests in the health care field.

N550 Human Nutritional Pathophysiology I (3 cr.) P: N500, F503 or BIOL 557, or consent of instructor. An integrated study of the biochemical and physiological aspects of human carbohydrate and lipid metabolism with special reference to fundamental nutrition issues, including determination of nutrient quality, nutrient interrelationships, micronutrients and energy balance in humans and in common clinical problems.

N552 Human Nutritional Pathophysiology II (3 cr.) P: N550 or consent of instructor. A continuation of N550. An integrated study of the biochemical and physiological aspects of human protein and micronutrient metabolism, including determination of nutrient quality, nutrient interrelationships and energy partitioning in humans and in common clinical problems.

N560 Review of Nutrition Standards (3 cr.) Review of various nutrition standards including those of the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, and the World Health Organization. Course includes a review of all cited literature for one of the nutrients listed in the Recommended Dietary Allowances.

N563 Research Methods in Nutrition and Dietetics (3 cr.) P: Graduate level statistics course or consent of instructor. Study of research methodology utilized in nutrition and dietetics. Course includes critique of literature and preparation of a grant proposal.

N567 Management Issues in Dietetics (1 cr.) P: Dietetic intern. Advanced study in institutional and hospital dietetic management including personnel, financial, operational, and regulatory issues.

N570 Pediatric Nutrition I (3 cr.) P: B500, BIOL 557, undergraduate metabolic nutrition course, or consent of instructor. An application of principles of physiology, biochemistry, and nutrition to the specialized nutrient needs and nutritional care of healthy infants, children, and adolescents and those with the most common pediatric conditions/illnesses or disorders of broad nutritional significance.

N572 Advanced Pediatric Nutrition (3 cr.) P: N550, N570, or consent of instructor. An application of principles of physiology, biochemistry, and nutrition to the specialized nutrient needs and nutritional care of infants, both pre-term and term, and patients with complex pediatric conditions/illnesses that have a significant nutritional component.
N574 Nutrition Management of High Risk Neonates and Infants (3 cr.) P: N572. An application of physiology, biochemistry, and nutrition to the specialized nutrient needs and nutritional care of neonates, both preterm and term, who require intensive care. Discussion will include nutritional management issues related to the infant(s) during hospitalization, at discharge, and after discharge.

N590 Dietetic Internship (4-10 cr.) P: Dietetic internship. Supervised clinical experience in clinical and community nutrition and food service systems management. Course meets the requirements of the American Dietetic Association for the postbaccalaureate experience needed for dietetic registration. Previous admission into dietetic internship required. May be taken for a maximum of 23 credit hours. Not applicable to a graduate degree program.

N591 Seminar in Nutrition and Dietetics (1 cr.) Exploration of various topics and issues in nutrition. May be repeated for a maximum of 4 credits.

N593 Topics in Nutrition (1-3 cr.) P: Consent of instructor. Exploration of a selected topic in nutrition at an advanced level. May be repeated once for credit if topics differ.

N595 Readings in Nutrition (1-3 cr.) P: Consent of instructor. Individualized readings on topics not covered in regular course offerings.

N596 Clinical Dietetics (cr. arr.) Clinical study in specialized areas of dietetics. May be taken more than once with the consent of the department for a maximum of 15 credit hours.

N598 Research in Dietetics (cr. arr.) Original research as approved by the department.