

GRADUATE COUNCIL

PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN EXISTING COURSE/PROGRAM

ORIGINATING UNIT:

TYPE OF ACTION:

_____ Change in existing course
___X___ Change in existing program

TYPE OF CHANGE REQUESTED:

_____ Number	_____ Title
___X___ Description	_____ Prerequisite(s)
_____ Drop course/program	_____ Program Requirements
_____ Other (specify) _____	

- Change term in which students apply for graduate school.
- Remove clause linking accrediting body, Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND), with the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

Semester and Year Change(s) take effect: Spring 2020

Appropriate Computer Abbreviation (30 spaces or less):

Dietetics, MS

DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE – highlight, **bold**, *italics*, or otherwise identify parts that are changed in proposed copy (omit if dropping a course or program):

Present catalog copy:

Program of Study

The MS in dietetics provides the opportunity to complete the necessary coursework and supervised practice hours after completing the TCU Bachelor of Science in Dietetics. Curriculum is based on

educational standards mandated by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. The Combined BS/MS in Dietetics offers the unique opportunity to acquire the required didactic instruction (lecture and laboratory courses) and supervised practice experience hours necessary to meet the Core Knowledge and Competencies for the Registered Dietitian Nutritionist as mandated by ACEND. Graduates receive verification and establish eligibility to write the Registration Examination for Dietitians.

Admission to TCU is required for all programs; however, admission to the University does not guarantee admission to the Combined BS/MS in Dietetics. Eligibility for admission to the Combined BS/MS in Dietetics is based on successful completion of at least 60 semester hours with a GPA of at least 3.0 for Nutrition (NTDT) classes and an Associated Requirements GPA of 2.75, no more than 3 grades below a B- in the Associated Requirements, 45 semester hours of required prerequisites and major courses, 200 hours of documented food or nutrition practical experience, and an application packet.

Application packets for the Combined BS/MS in Dietetics must be received by Feb. 1 (typically of the sophomore undergraduate year), and applicants are notified of provisional acceptance by April 15 of the same year. Students who are provisionally accepted begin the program in August of the following academic year (typically the junior year). Final acceptance/enrollment in the Combined BS/MS in Dietetics depends on successful completion of required prerequisite courses and summer requirements. Conditional admission to the MS is granted to applicants who have completed all admission formalities and have a sufficient and superior undergraduate record but who have not completed undergraduate requirements. The GRE is not required for this degree.

To be formally admitted, students who have been granted provisional acceptance must apply for graduate school admission during the fall of the year in which they were accepted (typically the junior year) through the College of Science & Engineering. Current graduate application fees apply. Students must comply with all university and college requirements for graduate students to gain admission. Conditional admission to the MS program in Dietetics is granted to applicants who have completed all admission formalities, have a superior undergraduate record but who have not completed undergraduate requirements. Conditional admission will be changed to unconditional admission when the necessary prerequisites and/or admission formalities are fulfilled. Students must abide by all program policies and procedures in order to continue in the MS in Dietetics program.

A student's continuation in the Combined BS/MS in Dietetics is contingent upon attainment of a strong academic record and successful completion of the program sequence.

In order to earn the BS in Dietetics degree, the student must attain a minimum NTDT GPA of 3.0, earn a grade of "C-" or better in all Associated Requirements, earn no more than 3 grades below a "B-" in the Associated Requirements, complete a minimum of 128 hours, and meet all of the requirements of the university and college. If a student does not meet all of these requirements for graduation of the BS in Dietetics or the requirements for admission into the graduate program, the student may change his/her major to Nutrition or another major in order to graduate with a Bachelor's Degree, but cannot continue in the Combined BS/MS in Dietetics. Student who do not meet all of these requirements cannot continue in the combined BS/MS in Dietetics.

Students enrolled in the MS in Dietetics who do not meet all of the requirements to graduate with an MS in Dietetics have the option to pursue verification from the TCU Didactic Program in Dietetics in order to be eligible to pursue a dietetic Internship if they have earned a BS in Dietetics from TCU. Further information about the Combined BS/MS in Dietetics is available in the undergraduate catalog.

Students can graduate with a BS in Dietetics and begin the graduate program, but they will not earn

verification to take the Registration Examination for Dietitians if they are unable to complete the graduate degree requirements and do not earn the MS in Dietetics degree. In order to earn the MS in Dietetics degree, the student must attain a minimum graduate NTDT GPA of 3.0 and earn a "C" or better in all NTDT graduate courses. All final 50000- and 60000-level course grades will be included in the computation of the graduate GPA, but no more than two grades of "C+" or lower may be utilized in satisfying the degree requirements.

Students complete 12 hours of dual undergraduate/graduate credit during the fourth year of undergraduate study. At the end of the fourth year, assuming that all other undergraduate graduation requirements are met, the student earns his/her BS degree in dietetics. Beginning with summer session of the fourth year and continuing with the fifth year of the Combined BS/MS in Dietetics program, the student completes the remaining 20 graduate credit hours (10 hours of coursework, 10 credit hours of supervised practice), toward the MS in Dietetics degree. Students pursuing the thesis option will take an additional 6 credit hours. Students intending to pursue the Combined BS/MS in Dietetics must earn a BS in dietetics from TCU. In addition, all 30000, 40000, 50000 and 60000 NTDT courses must be taken from TCU.

Students may choose to complete a thesis in the MS in Dietetics. In order to complete the thesis option, students must complete 3 hours of [NTDT 70980](#) and three hours of [NTDT 70990](#). Thesis students are required to complete all other coursework necessary for the MS in Dietetics.

Information about costs for tuition and University fees is available through the TCU Office of Admission or Financial Services. More detailed costs for students are outlined in the Combined BS/MS in Dietetics Student Handbook and include approximately \$1,000-\$1,500 per year for travel to supervised practice sites, vaccinations, lab fees, photocopying, school and office supplies, textbooks, lab coats, malpractice insurance and professional dues.

The TCU Combined BS/MS in Dietetics program is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics [of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics](#), 120 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190, Chicago, Ill. 60606-6995, (312) 899-0040, ext. 5400, www.eatright.org/ACEND.

Proposed catalog copy:

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Students must apply for graduate school admission during the last fall semester before graduating with the BS in Dietetics (typically the senior fall). Current graduate application fees apply. Students must comply with all university and college requirements for graduate students to gain admission. Conditional admission to the MS program in Dietetics is granted to applicants who have completed all admission formalities, have a superior undergraduate record but who have not completed undergraduate requirements. Conditional admission will be changed to unconditional admission when the necessary prerequisites and/or admission formalities are fulfilled. Students must abide by all program policies and procedures in order to continue in the MS in Dietetics program.

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Supporting EVIDENCE OR JUSTIFICATION:

Explain how the change(s) will affect the current outcomes and assessment mechanisms?

The changes will not impact current outcomes and assessment mechanisms.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES REQUIRED:

Faculty: N/A

Space: N/A

Equipment: N/A

Library: N/A

Other: N/A

CHANGE IN TEACHING LOAD:

Does this change affect any other units of the University? ____ Yes x No

If yes, submit supporting statement signed by chair of affected unit.

If cross-listed, provide evidence of approval by all curriculum committees appropriate to both the originating and the cross-listed units.

Chair of Originating Unit:

Signature: Anne VanBeber

Name: Anne VanBeber

Unit: Nutritional Sciences