

Graduate Certificate in Advanced Dietetic Practice

School of Health Sciences

Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences

This is a course for practising dietitians who wish to undertake further study and develop their career whilst continuing to practise. The course provides opportunities for the student to:

- Enhance their skills of reflection
- Enhance their skills of research design, data collection, program evaluation and statistical analysis
- Select and apply appropriate approaches in order to advance dietetic practice
- Engage in academic debate involving issues relating to practice and evidence based approaches

The course is tailored to meet the needs of the individual dietitian and the context in which they work. On completion of this course, dietitians will feel confident about their contribution to the challenges they are presented with in their daily practice and be able to act as a role model for the advancement of dietetic practice.

The course will also assist current Accredited Practising Dietitians who may wish to apply for the title of Advanced Practitioner with the Dietitians Association of Australia. On completion of this course, students will be able to provide evidence of advanced knowledge and skills in many elements of three of the five key competency areas: 'Research and Evaluation', 'Strategic and Reflective Practice' and Professional Competence". Development of an e-portfolio related to this certificate program will be built into the course structure to assist students in their dossier compilation.

Course structure:

The course consists of four 6-credit point subjects and could be taken in a minimum of 6 months full-time, but is more likely to be completed part-time over a 2 year period. Most subjects are available via flexible or distance learning although some may require attendance on campus for a series of workshops or lectures throughout the semester. The course is composed of 3 core subjects and one elective. The subjects should ideally be taken in sequence to maximise student learning.

Core Subjects

1) GHMB950 Reflective Practice

(4 workshops on campus or by distance)

This subject seeks to develop or enhance existing personal conceptual frameworks and skills of reflexivity applicable to practice. The intention is to allow reflection on theory that underpins practice and to identify potential areas for practice development and meaningful research. Assessment tasks focus on analysis of practitioner incidents through reflection, retrieval and presentation of evidence and literature.

2) A choice of one research methods subject from:

- GHMD983 Statistics in Health research (On campus or distance)
- GHMD984 Health Research Methodology (On campus or distance)
- GHMA932 Research in Human Nutrition (On campus)
- CHBC919 Evaluative Research Methodology (6 workshops on campus)

3) GHMA936 Advanced Dietetic Practice

(Approved external specialist short course + distance learning + 2 optional one day workshops)

This subject offers students the opportunity to complete a specialised project related to an area of their dietetic practice. Students will undertake either an externally provided short course in a specialty area of practice with a minimum of 15 hours face-to-face teaching (approved by the course coordinator) – for example courses provided by Special Interest Groups of DAA - or undertake a guided program of specialist reading. Building on the

knowledge gained and by adopting a critical and reflective approach to their work, students will then analyse a problem and develop a plan to improve or advance an aspect of their current professional practice. The final report will be presented in the format of an article suitable for publication or a business plan or proposal for a new service or clinical practice guideline for use in the health care system.

4) One elective subject from:

- TBS901 Accounting for Managers (on campus or in Sydney)
- TBS903 Managing people in organisations (on campus or in Sydney)
- TBS904 Marketing management (modular delivery in Sydney)
- GHMB926 Coaching skills for health care leaders (6 workshops on campus)
- GHMB984 Social psychology and health (on campus or distance)
- SFC902 Food regulation and policy in Australia (on campus)
- SFC904 Nutrition and food innovation (on campus)
- CHIP912 Advanced studies in behaviour change (4 workshops on campus)
- CHIP911 Social marketing for health (4 workshops on campus)
- CHIP913 Social marketing practice (3 workshops on campus)
- GHMD907 Independent study in public health (on campus or distance)
- or a second research subject

Entry requirements

Students must have completed a relevant undergraduate or postgraduate degree that would make them eligible to become a full member of the Dietitians Association of Australia and must also have a minimum of 3 years experience as a practising dietitian. International students must have an IELTS score of at least 7.0.

Why choose to study this course at the University of Wollongong?

The University of Wollongong has provided dietetic education since 1990 and currently has a staff of 10 dietitian academics. The Graduate Certificate in Advanced Dietetic Practice is the only course of its type in Australia. It epitomises the philosophy of life long learning held by DAA and the University and enables practitioners to undertake further study to develop their career whilst continuing to practise.

Graduates would have the option of further postgraduate study including:

- Master of Science (Research)
- Master of Science (Nutrition Management)
- Master of Nutrition Management
- Master of Business Administration (Nutrition Management)
- Master of Health Leadership and Management
- Doctor of Philosophy

Further information

Application forms are available from UniAdvice (the university admissions office) or on the University website. Please note you will need to ensure you get the standard postgraduate coursework application form, plus the special supplementary questionnaire and referee report forms for this course (attached). Copies of the forms can be downloaded at:

<http://www.uow.edu.au/prospective/apply/index.html>.

Information about fees is at: <http://www.uow.edu.au/student/finances/UOW008171.html#7>.

The course cost in 2009 is \$3720.

For further information contact the course coordinator, A/Prof Peter Williams:

peter_williams@uow.edu.au Tel: (02) 4221 4085.



University of Wollongong

SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

SELECTION SUPPLEMENT

Graduate Certificate in Advanced Dietetic Practice

Introduction

Admission to the Graduate Certificate in Advanced Dietetic Practice course is based on an assessment of the suitability of a candidate's experience and the plans for specialist training and project topics. Please provide evidence about these criteria by completing each section of this form. You **must** also complete the standard university application form and forward that form along with copies of university transcripts to UniAdvice.

Details of Applicant

LAST NAME:	
FIRST NAME:	
CONTACT ADDRESS:	
TELEPHONE (BH):	
TELEPHONE (AH):	
EMAIL	

Declaration

I declare that the information submitted on all pages is correct and complete. I understand that the University reserves the right to vary or reverse any decision made on the basis of incorrect or incomplete information. I hereby authorise the University to obtain records from any educational authority or institution previously attended by me.

I understand and accept the terms and conditions of the University's Privacy Consent and Disclosure Statement at the following website: www.uow.edu.au/about/privacy.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT:

Please lodge with UniAdvice your **Postgraduate Application Form** (including academic transcripts) and this **Selection Supplement**. Referee reports should be sent directly to the Coordinator of Nutrition Programs by the referee.

PART 1: ESSENTIAL CRITERIA

List all your tertiary qualifications

Year of Graduation	Institution	Award

CRITERION	YOUR DETAILS and EVIDENCE
3 years of dietetic practice	

[OFFICE USE ONLY] PROCEED TO PART 2	YES/NO
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PART 2: STUDY PLANS

In the subject GHMD936 (Advanced Dietetic Practice), indicate whether you are planning to undertake either:

An approved external specialist short course

Or

Guided self study.

Write a short statement of 500 words on why you want to undertake the program. Briefly indicate what area of advanced practice you wish to concentrate on in your additional study (including particular courses if known) and your proposed area individual work-based project.

[OFFICE USE ONLY]	Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory
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PART 3: REFERENCE

Provide a reference from your work supervisors and/or co-workers and/or academic staff commenting on support for your application, your professional and management skills and your likely ability to combine postgraduate study with work.

Referees reports should be sent directly by the referee to:

The Coordinator of Nutrition Programs
School of Health Sciences
University of Wollongong
Wollongong NSW 2522
Fax (02) 4221 4844

[OFFICE USE ONLY] SCORE	/10
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