SDSU’s Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD)
The Road to Becoming a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist

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WHAT CAN I DO WITH A DEGREE IN NUTRITION?

BS Foods and Nutrition
• Degreed nutritionist

Bachelor’s Degree + DPD
• Nutrition and dietetics technician, registered (NDTR) – usually work in clinical or social services

Bachelor’s Degree + DPD + Master’s Degree + Dietetic Internship
• Registered dietitian nutritionist (RD/RDN)
Why Become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist?

- RD/RDN only nationally recognized profession for nutrition expertise
- RD/RDN services included in state and federal regulations
- RD/RDN reimbursement under medical services
- RD/RDN one of fastest growing health careers
- RD/RDN nutrition expert, credibility
The Road to Your RD/RDN

• Apply to the SDSU DPD
  ◦ Must be advanced to Foods and Nutrition major or a graduate student in MS Nutritional Sciences or Concurrent MS program

• Maintain grades for DPD
  ◦ 3.1 overall GPA
  ◦ 3.1 DPD course GPA
  ◦ No DPD course grade less than a C

• Apply for and complete a graduate degree and then an accredited dietetic internship (DI) or a combined graduate degree and supervised practice program
  ◦ Minimum 1000 hours of supervised practice

• Take national registration exam
Completing the DPD

Required

• Complete Nutr 407, Nutr 409, Nutr 511
• Complete portfolio
• Maintain required grades/GPA

Optional, but recommended

• Work or volunteer in the field
• Participate in Student Nutrition Organization (SNO) activities
• Get involved in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the San Diego district (CANDSD)
Resources

- DPD website
  https://ens.sdsu.edu/academic-programs/dpd/overview/
- DPD Instagram (@sdsudpd) and Facebook page
  https://www.facebook.com/SDSU-Didactic-Program-in-Dietetics-357146781002100
- Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and local chapter – join as a student member!
  www.eatright.org
  https://dietitian.org/
- Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND)
  https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend