

## **Course Requirements**

One of the following:

BIOL 185: Human Anatomy and Physiology I and lab (4) **and** BIOL 186: Human Anatomy and Physiology II and lab (4)

*or*

BIOL 170: Cell and Animal Physiology and lab (4) **and** BIOL 460: Physiology and lab (4)

BIOL 189: Genetics for Health Professions (3) or BIOL 260: Genetics (4)

BIOL 265: Microbiology with lab (4)

BUSA 120: Principles of Management (3)

CHEM 105: General Chemistry I and lab (4)

CHEM 106: General Chemistry II and lab (4)

One of the following:

CHEM 204: Introduction to Organic Chemistry and lab (4)

*or*

CHEM 309: Organic Chemistry I and lab (4) and CHEM 310: Organic Chemistry II and lab (4)

NUTR 102: Introduction to Nutrition and Dietetics

NUTR 121: Food and Food Science and lab (3)

NUTR 210: Food Around the World (2)

NUTR 215: ServSafe Manager (1)

NUTR 222: Principles of Nutrition (3)

NUTR 322: Nutrition through the Life Cycle (3)

NUTR 428: Nutrient Biochemistry (4)

NUTR 430: Nutrition Assessment (1)

NUTR 432: Introduction to Medical Nutrition Therapy (3)

NUTR 333: Food Technology (2)

NUTR 415: Food Service (3)

NUTR 437: Behavioral Health and Counseling (1.5)

NUTR 438: Nutrition Education (1.5)

NUTR 450: Understanding and Applying Research (3)

NUTR 493: Senior Seminar in Nutrition and Dietetics (1)

PSYC 101: Introduction to Psychology (3)

STAT 269: Introductory Statistics (3)

### **GPA required to progress into upper level nutrition courses:**

In order to progress into NUTR 428, NUTR 430, NUTR 432 and NUTR 450 students must have completed the following courses with no grades lower than a C- in each and an average GPA in them of at least 2.50 (at least 2.75 if more than one of these courses is

transferred to Messiah and at least 3.00 if more than one of these courses is transferred to Messiah):

CHEM 105

CHEM 106,

CHEM 204 or CHEM 309 and CHEM 310

BIOL 185 or BIOL 160 or BIOL 170,

NUTR 121

NUTR 222.

Students who do not achieve the required minimum GPA will not be able to complete the Nutrition and Dietetics major, but will be eligible to complete the Food and Nutrition minor.

**Repeat Policy:** One course from the list of courses used to determine the progression GPA may be repeated one time. An attempt at a course will include all letter grades as well as W. When extenuating circumstances arise (i.e. significant illness or death in the family), students may appeal this policy by submitting a written letter explaining the rationale for the exception to the DPD Director. If the appeal is denied, the decision may be appealed to the dean of the School of Science, Engineering and Health.

#### **Verification Statement requirements**

1. Complete the requirements for graduation from Messiah University with a Nutrition and Dietetics Major, another Messiah University major with the additional courses needed for DPD verification, or the non-degree academic verification program. The GPA requirements for graduation include a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 and a major GPA of at least 2.0.
2. Complete at least 18 credits at Messiah University.
3. Complete all NUTR courses at the 300 and 400 level no more than 5 years prior to program completion.

#### **Additional requirement.**

Students will develop a course plan and timeline with the DPD director. Students in the verification program who are not taking courses at Messiah University must communicate with the DPD director at least once per semester (fall and spring) to remain enrolled in the program. Students who deviate significantly from their course plan may encounter delays in completing the program. Students will be assigned to an academic advisor when they begin taking courses at Messiah University and must meet with their academic advisor at least once a semester.

**Please note:**

After successful completion of the Messiah University Academic Verification Program, students wishing to pursue the RDN credential will need to complete an ACEND-accredited dietetic internship (and beginning January 1, 2024 a Master's Degree). Admission to dietetic internships and graduate programs is competitive. A Grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 and preferably > 3.4, especially in major courses, as well as work experience related to food and nutrition are critical factors in successfully obtaining a dietetic internship/Master's degree. Students completing the Messiah University Academic Verification are eligible to apply to be preselected into the Messiah University Master's of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics/Dietetic Internship, bypassing the national match process, but acceptance is not guaranteed.

**Application Process:** Students interested in this program must first have their transcripts evaluated by the Messiah University DPD Director. The fee for this process is \$40.00. To request a transcript evaluation please follow the directions below:

1. Have official transcripts from the school at which you received a Baccalaureate degree, as well as all transcripts documenting courses and grades you may have taken at other colleges or universities that might count towards the verification course requirements, sent to the Messiah Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) Director. All transcripts should be mailed or emailed directly from the college or university at which courses were taken to the DPD director at the following address:

Director of the Didactic Program in Dietetics  
Messiah University  
One University Avenue, Suite 3030  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
[nutritionanddietetics@messiah.edu](mailto:nutritionanddietetics@messiah.edu)

Students interested in beginning classes in the fall should request a transcript evaluation no later than March 1 and students interested in beginning classes in the spring semester should submit transcripts no later than October 1. Transcript evaluation requests received from April through August will typically be evaluated in September.

2. Complete the [Academic Verification in Dietetics Transcript Evaluation Request Form](#) and submit it, along with the \$40.00 payment, online.

Upon receipt of the transcript evaluation request form and all transcripts, the DPD director will evaluate the transcripts against the courses required for DPD verification at Messiah University. After the evaluation has been completed (typically about 2 – 3 weeks after all materials have been received), the DPD director will email or mail the results of the transcript review. After receiving the transcript review, students interested in starting the program should contact the DPD director to set up an interview and course planning meeting.

**For Additional Information on Dietetics Education and Credentialing:**

The Accreditation Commission for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics  
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics  
120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2000  
Chicago, Illinois, 60606-6995  
312) 899-0040, ext. 5400  
[www.eatright.org](http://www.eatright.org)