COURSE OUTLINE

NUT411 Nutrition and Dietetics Research

School: School of Health - Nutrition and Dietetics

2027 | Trimester 3

UniSC Sunshine Coast | BLENDED LEARNING | Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Please go to unisc.edu.au for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

The course is the culmination of the honours research pathway for the Bachelor of Dietetics (Honours). You will develop professional competencies relevant to research practice. You will finalise collection, analysis, and interpretation of the data relevant to your research study. You will subsequently produce an honours thesis that includes a manuscript suitable for submission to a peer-reviewed journal as the write up of your research outcomes.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
BLENDED LEARNING			
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – The workshops will run throughout the trimesters of offer. Please refer to timetable.	2hrs	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	8 times
Learning materials – Online material and readings will be provided to complete in own time	1hr	Refer to Format	Not Yet Determined
Independent Study/Research – Regular meetings with the research honours supervisor during trimesters.	1hr	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	Not Yet Determined
Independent Study/Research – Work on individual research project and thesis as required	250hrs	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	Once Only

1.3. Course Topics

- Project management and completion in collaboration with a research supervisor
- Data collection, analysis and interpretation
- Writing a thesis
- Preparing a manuscript for publication
- Oral dissemination

2. What level is this course?

400 Level (Graduate)

Demonstrating coherence and breadth or depth of knowledge and skills. Independent application of knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts. Meeting professional requirements and AQF descriptors for the degree. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory or developing knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally undertaken in the third or fourth full-time study year of an undergraduate program.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

24 units (taught over 3 delivery periods)

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES MAPPING	PROFESSIONAL STANDARD MAPPING *
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...	Dietitians Australia
1 Develop coherent and advanced knowledge in a core area of Nutrition and Dietetics	Creative and critical thinker	2.1.3, 2.1.4
2 Apply research methodology, methods, and data analysis in accordance with ethical research principles and procedures	Ethical	3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.1.3
3 Critique research results and discuss their theoretical and applied implications in the field of research	Creative and critical thinker	3.1.3, 3.1.4, 3.1.5
4 Execute clear and coherent communication of research findings and evaluation to a professional audience in oral and written formats	Creative and critical thinker	3.1.4, 4.1.2
5 Demonstrate participation in research professional practice with research supervisor and research teams in accordance with the dietetic student placement code of conduct.	Collaboration	1.3.4

* Competencies by Professional Body

CODE	COMPETENCY
DIETITIANS AUSTRALIA	
1.3.4	Demonstrates leadership: Participates in supervision, teaching and mentoring processes with peers, students and colleagues
2.1.3	Adopts an evidence-based approach to dietetic practice: Systematically searches for, evaluates, interprets and applies findings from food, nutrition, dietetic, social, behavioural and education sciences into dietetic practice
2.1.4	Adopts an evidence-based approach to dietetic practice: Applies problem-solving skills to create realistic solutions to nutrition problems or issues
3.1.1	Conducts research, evaluation, and quality management processes: Identifies and selects appropriate research, evaluation and quality-management methods to advance the practice of dietetics
3.1.2	Conducts research, evaluation, and quality management processes: Applies ethical processes to research, evaluation, and quality management
3.1.3	Conducts research, evaluation, and quality management processes: Collects, analyses and interprets qualitative and quantitative research, evaluation, and quality management data

CODE	COMPETENCY
3.1.4	Conducts research, evaluation, and quality management processes: Accurately documents and disseminates research, evaluation, and quality-management findings
3.1.5	Conducts research, evaluation, and quality management processes: Translates the implications of research findings for dietetic practice, advocacy and key stakeholders
4.1.2	Communicates appropriately with people from various cultural, socioeconomic, organisational and professional backgrounds: Uses a range of communication methods to communicate clearly and concisely to a range of audiences, adapting or co-creating communication messages for specific audiences where appropriate

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the UniSC Glossary of terms for definitions of "pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites".

5.1. Pre-requisites

Enrolled in SC406 and completion of first 288 units of degree

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Students are expected to have adequately progressed their research project prior to commencement of this course. This includes completion of a background literature review, research proposal and human research ethics application (if appropriate to the study design) with approval prior to commencing this course. The course coordinator will require a signed progress report from the supervisor of the project prior to enrolment.

5.5. Microcredential Information

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

During the first teaching period of this course, self-assessment of your progress on your research project will be discussed in the workshops and relevant feedback and guidance provided by the course coordinator and research supervisors.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1a	Oral	Individual	0%	10 minute presentation with 5 minutes of questions	Delivery Period 1 - Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	In Class
All	1b	Oral and Written Piece	Individual	10%	No more than 5 x A4 pages including supervisor feedback 10 minute presentation with 5 minutes of questions	Delivery Period 2 - Refer to Format	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check and in class
All	2	Oral and Written Piece	Individual	20%	10 mins oral presentation and 10 mins questions	Delivery Period 3 - Refer to Format	In Class
All	3	Thesis	Individual	70%	8000 word thesis consisting of 3000-5000 word manuscript (depending on journal requirements), 2000-3000 word introduction and background literature and 1000-2000 word general discussion and conclusion.	Delivery Period 3 - Refer to Format	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

All - Assessment Task 1a: Oral presentation

GOAL:	You will be required to present a summary of your progress on your project to the honours research pathway cohort and supervisors.
PRODUCT:	Oral
FORMAT:	Oral presentation of no more than 5 slides.
CRITERIA:	**No.** — **Learning Outcome assessed** 1 Effectively communicates overview of project and progress to audience — 4
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Information literacy

All - Assessment Task 1b: Research Progress Report and oral

GOAL:	You will submit a research progress report documenting your progress in honours thus far, including your progress in regards to data collection, analysis and interpretation, and writing of your thesis. This will include formative feedback and evaluation of performance against the student code of conduct from your supervisor over the period since you commenced your honours research pathway. You will also provide a timeline towards completion in collaboration with your supervisor. As part of this assessment, you will be required to present an updated summary of progress of your project to the honours research pathway cohort and supervisors that will build on task 1a.
PRODUCT:	Oral and Written Piece
FORMAT:	Maximum of 5 A4 pages, that consists of 2-3 page report and 1-2 page Gantt chart (timeline) Oral presentation with no more than 5 slides. The written component will be submitted in week 4 of teaching period 1. The presentation will be scheduled to fit with placement and course schedules.

CRITERIA:

No.		Learning Outcome assessed
1	Critically reflects on progress of research	2 4
2	Provides a viable timeline to completion based on current progress with research project	2
3	Identifies required research tasks and any further development to complete tasks	2
4	Demonstrates collaborative input from research supervisor and adequate performance in alignment with the student code of conduct	5

GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Organisation, Information literacy

All - Assessment Task 2: Oral presentation and oral defence

GOAL:	You will undertake a research presentation for your peers, nutrition and dietetic staff and professionals. You will also be required to defend your honours research through a series of questions asked by the audience after you have completed your oral presentation.
PRODUCT:	Oral and Written Piece
FORMAT:	The style of presentation will be in the format of a conference presentation. The presentation will be supported using PowerPoint or other visual aids. This will include a 10 minute presentation time and 10 minute allowance for questions from the audience as an oral defence. Time must be strictly adhered to. The presentation will be conducted at the conclusion of the course at a time that fits with the final year placement timetable.

CRITERIA:

No.		Learning Outcome assessed
1	Demonstrates advanced knowledge of the topic area	1
2	Suitable selection, analysis and synthesis of content and research evidence	2 3
3	Ability to interpret and respond to questions from the audience regarding the research	1 3 4
4	Demonstrates clear and coherent oral presentation skills following standard scientific approach	4
5	Appropriate use of visual aids	2 4

GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Problem solving, Organisation, Applying technologies, Information literacy

All - Assessment Task 3: Thesis (with manuscript)

GOAL:	In consultation with your supervisor, you shall undertake and submit an honours research thesis. With advice from your supervisor, you will be responsible for and participate in, all steps of the investigation and reporting. That is, you are responsible for (where applicable) Completion of participant recruitment and data collection; Data analysis; Interpretation and discussion of findings; and Preparation and presentation of a manuscript within the required style and format of your chosen journal.
PRODUCT:	Thesis
FORMAT:	The thesis will contain a title page, table of contents, an abstract, an introduction with key background literature, a manuscript prepared for submission to an appropriate journal, and a summary/ conclusion and references. The length of your manuscript will be influenced by the requirements of your chosen journal, as well as the type of research (qualitative research articles will typically be longer). The thesis must be submitted in pdf format. There will be two examiners for the thesis (internal and external). NOTE: This assessment task will contribute to the Dietetics Portfolio where you will collate various purposefully selected tasks to provide comprehensive information about your progress in developing and attaining Dietitians Australia (DA) competencies for dietetic practice. You will continue to add to your Portfolio over the final years of the program, providing a basis for collective decision-making on your progress and stimulating your own learning. You will receive feedback on your progression of your competencies. This will contribute to evidence towards your final competency assessment for the Bachelor of Dietetics (Honours). Submission is due at the end of the final teaching period.
CRITERIA:	**No.** / **Learning Outcome assessed** 1 Accurately documents research methodology and methods relevant to the project — 2 2 Quality of data analysis and presentation of results — 2 3 4 3 Critical interpretation of research results in context of current evidence and implications for practice — 1 3 4 Written presentation in line with journal requirements — 4 5 Provides background and context based on current evidence relevant to the research — 1
GENERIC SKILLS:	Communication, Collaboration, Problem solving, Organisation, Information literacy

6.4. Assessment to competency mapping

PROGRAMME DELIVERY MODE	ASSESSMENT TYPE	TITLE	COMPETENCY	TEACHING METHODS
NATIONAL COMPETENCY STANDARDS FOR DIETITIANS IN AUSTRALIA (2021)				
All delivery modes	Oral	Oral presentation	3.1.1	Practiced
			3.1.2	Practiced
	Oral and Written Piece	Research Progress Report and oral	1.1.3	Practiced, Assessed
			1.4.1	Practiced, Assessed
			3.1.1	Practiced, Assessed
		Oral presentation and oral defence	3.1.5	Practiced, Assessed
			4.1.2	Practiced, Assessed
	Thesis	Thesis (with manuscript)	3.1.1	Practiced, Assessed
			3.1.2	Practiced, Assessed
			3.1.3	Practiced, Assessed
			3.1.4	Practiced, Assessed
			3.1.5	Practiced, Assessed

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

7.1. Schedule

PERIOD AND TOPIC	ACTIVITIES
n/a	Introduction to NUT410 Research dissemination - thesis and oral presentation Interpretation and presentation of research Understanding the peer review publication process and quality of research This course will include: - Presentation of progress to supervisors - Individual meetings with supervisors - Regular group meetings with course cohort - Group writing sessions with supervisors
Week 14	Oral presentation assessment

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

> There are no required/recommended resources for this course.

8.2. Specific requirements

Please note that course information is available on the course Canvas site. Workshops are held periodically to support your research journey. You are expected to regularly meet with your research supervisor throughout the teaching periods of this course. This course will be delivered in the order of trimester 3, trimester 1 and trimester 2 .

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the online induction training for students, and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:
(a) The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%; and
(b) The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

This course contributes to the minimum of 100 days of professional placement in total to meet the Dietitians Australia National Competency and Accreditation Standards for Dietetic Education. Your research supervisor and course coordinator will evaluate your performance. This will determined against the student code of conduct. If you fail to meet the Student Code of Conduct, you can be withdrawn from the research activity immediately, as per the UniSC Workplace and Industry Placement - Procedures.

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submissions may be penalised up to and including the following maximum percentage of the assessment task's identified value, with weekdays and weekends included in the calculation of days late:
(a) One day: deduct 5%;
(b) Two days: deduct 10%;
(c) Three days: deduct 20%;
(d) Four days: deduct 40%;
(e) Five days: deduct 60%;
(f) Six days: deduct 80%;
(g) Seven days: A result of zero is awarded for the assessment task.

The following penalties will apply for a late submission for an online examination:
Less than 15 minutes: No penalty
From 15 minutes to 30 minutes: 20% penalty
More than 30 minutes: 100% penalty

10.4. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching

10.5. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The Student Charter sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

10.6. General Enquiries

For course-specific questions, contact your teaching staff or Course Coordinator.

For other enquiries or to access support, please contact Student Central:

- UniSC Student Central
- UniSC Adelaide Student Central