

Coventry University

BSc. (Hons) Dietetics

4-year course (Sept 2013 - June 2020)

Year 1

101CC Foundations in Communication and Professionalism

Communication is highlighted as an essential skill for all health care professionals because it impacts on patient satisfaction, as evidenced by much research into this area. This module serves to develop compassionate, caring and professional health care professionals. It acts as the starting point to develop the skills for working in partnership with patients or clients to promote their empowerment. It will provide a foundation for developing the students' professional attributes incorporating the six 'C's model: communication, commitment, courage, care, competence, compassion (RCN 2012) along with collaboration between the members of the inter-professional health care team. The module aims to develop students' understanding of professional skills such as communication, empathy and trustworthiness, required when working with vulnerable groups and as part of the multi-disciplinary team. The module serves to develop the prerequisites of caring and compassion providing a basis for exploration, reflection and evaluation of personal and professional values, within an arena of multi/uni-professional health and social care.

103CC Social Determinants of Health and Well Being

The module aims to develop students' knowledge and understanding of the social, economic, cultural and environmental factors that influence individual and community health and wellbeing and health inequities, locally, nationally and internationally. The focus of the module is on creating active learners who recognise the opportunities and challenges within everyday professional practice to act on the social determinants of health, to improve health and wellbeing, across the life course.

110DT Human Nutrition

This module aims to provide students with a sound knowledge and understanding of the science of human nutrition. It aims to highlight the role of individual nutrients and the diet as a whole in the achievement and maintenance of good health. UK nutrient goals and recommendations for healthy eating will be explored. Dietary adequacy is a core component of the module and will be considered in relation to the general UK population, different life stages and different demographic groups. A working knowledge of food portion sizes will be developed through practical workshops.

111DT Foundations of Dietetic Practice

This module introduces students to the fundamental skills required for effective and safe dietetic practice. Topics addressed fall within the HCPCs competency framework for registered dietitians. The module aims to provide students with an understanding of the factors which influence food choice, including culture and beliefs. The dietitian's role, skills and attributes in supporting clients to make dietary change will be introduced in a range of contexts.

The module aims to develop the communication skills and professional attributes required for the first placement by building on the knowledge and skills from the "Foundations in communication and professionalism" module. The module also aims to give students the practical skills to be able accurately undertake & interpret simple anthropometric measurements.

112DT Foundations of Biosciences for Dietitians

The overall aim of this module is to provide an understanding of the principles of biochemistry and human physiology that are central to the study of dietetics. This module aims to provide student dietitians with an integrated knowledge of the normal structure and function of the human body,

both physiological and biochemical, which can be built upon as they progress through their degree programme and prepare for clinical practice.

It uses laboratory sessions are used to identify key compounds in different nutrient groups

113DT Food Science and Production

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114DT Introduction to Research for Dietitians

This module introduces students to the underlying principles and application of health care research and evidence informed practice (EIP). The module will emphasise the role of research and EIP as a basis for developing and applying knowledge to dietetic practice. It also aims to equip students with an understanding of different research methodologies and designs in preparation for future research modules.

115DT Placement A

This is a non-credit rated module which runs for two weeks at the end of the first year of academic study in a range of approved health and social care settings. It aims to introduce students to the varied work of the dietitian, provide opportunities for students to develop their interpersonal and communication skills, orientate students to the routine of the bedded unit setting and institutional catering systems, and provide opportunities for students to demonstrate professionalism whilst applying the knowledge and skills they have acquired to the clinical setting.

Year 2

201CC Evidence Informed Practice and Decision Making

This module will explore the principles and strategies of Evidence Informed Practice (EIP) to enable students to apply, creatively, a wide range of sources of evidence for clinical decision making. It will provide students with the opportunity to develop collaborative values of communication, team working and decision making within a health and social care context. Students will study in small co-operative teams and will be encouraged to work on small profession specific health and social care related projects/case studies; these projects/ case studies will enable students to apply EIP principles. Students will be introduced to research perspectives (methodology and design), audit, health policy, and service user participation as methods to evaluate their EIP plans and interventions.

212DT Physical Activity and Weight Management

This module aims to develop and integrate the food, nutrition, behaviour and biosciences themes introduced in the first year and relate them to the prevention, development and management of obesity. The module also aims to enable students to understand the health benefits of physical activity. The module will examine current theories on the behavioural, environmental and nutritional causes of obesity and build on these to explore the principles of prevention and management of obesity for both adults and children.

213DT Applied Nutrition

The overall aim of this module is to further develop a number of concepts in human nutrition which were introduced in level one. It examines the development of standards for growth & dietary guidelines. Key areas are the assessment of nutritional status, nutrient intakes and nutritional requirements both of individuals & populations and evaluating available methods. The interactions between nutrition and a range of personal, societal and environmental factors are address.

214DT Diet Therapy and Clinical Medical 1

This module aims to develop and integrate themes introduced in level 1 Human Nutrition and Foundations of biosciences for Dietitians. It is designed to build upon students' knowledge of the scientific basis of healthcare. It explores the principles of the medical management of patients, including diagnosis and treatment of disease including the required dietary modification. It will examine current theories of disease causation and the role of diet in the prevention and management of disease.

215DT Diet Therapy and Clinical Medical 2

This module aims to develop and integrate themes introduced in level 1 Human Nutrition and Foundations of biosciences for Dietitians and diet therapy and clinical medicine 1. It is designed to build upon students' knowledge of the scientific basis of healthcare. It explores the principles of the medical management of patients, including diagnosis and treatment of disease including the required dietary modification. It will examine current theories of disease causation and the role of diet in the prevention and management of disease.

216DT Health Behaviour Changes for Dietitians

This module builds on the year 1 Foundations of Dietetic Practice module. The module aims to provide students with the knowledge and skills required to facilitate dietary change within a range of settings for individuals and groups. Theories of health behaviour change will be considered and applied to dietetic practice. The evidence base to support the application of theory will be considered. The module provides an opportunity for students to reflect on Placement A experiences in relation to communication and health behaviour change. The module will support students to develop their skills of communication with both individuals and groups.

Year 3

307DT Diet Therapy and Clinical Medicine 3

This module aims to develop and integrate themes introduced in previous modules of study, in particular diet therapy and clinical medicine 1 and 2 and level 2 applied nutrition. Designed to help develop the skills and knowledge required for placements in particular those needed by a student dietitian working in a range of clinical specialities. It is designed to build upon the students' knowledge of the scientific basis of healthcare and will examine current theories of disease causation and the role of diet in the prevention and management of disease. The principles of the medical management of patients, the role of diet in the management of disease and the impact of disease on nutritional status.

308DT Professional Skills for Dietitians

This module aims to support students in their preparation for professional practice placements B and C by developing their decision-making and reflection skills prior to placement to ensure that they are able to practise within the legal and ethical boundaries of their profession. Clinical reasoning, clinical audit and reflection are important components, which inform the decision-making process. The complexities of modern practice require an understanding of current legislation and case law to enable the dietitian to effectively contribute to team decision making. Current and emerging issues of practice will be explored and reflected upon.

309DT Public Health Nutrition and Dietetics

This module aims to strengthen students' understanding of nutritional epidemiology and public health, and to enable students to develop and apply their knowledge of evidence based nutrition, non-communicable disease, factors influencing food choice and behaviour change to community and public health settings. This along with an understanding of current nutrition and food policy will prepare students for the public health component of either their B or C placement, during which they will experience working in partnership with colleagues to improve public health.

311DT Placement B

This is a non-credit rated module which runs for fourteen weeks during the third year of academic study in a range of approved health and social care settings. It aims to enable the student to develop the confidence and skills needed to; translate theory into practice, obtain, record and interpret relevant information and advise service users accordingly, communicate effectively with service users and multi-disciplinary team members, manage time and workload efficiently, and demonstrate professionalism. By the end of placement B the student should, with supervisory support and some consistency, be able to lead full and well-structured dietetic consultations for service users having conditions as identified in the indicative content.

Year 4

312DT Placement C

This is a non-credit rated module which runs for twelve weeks during the fourth year of academic study in a range of approved health and social care settings. It aims to enable the student to build on the confidence, knowledge and skills developed through placement B in order to become competent in; translating theory into practice, obtaining, recording and interpreting relevant information and advising service users, justifying decisions made, communicating effectively with service users and healthcare professionals, managing time and workload efficiently, and demonstrating professionalism. Upon successful completion of Placement C the student will be able to competently and independently carry a dietetic caseload comparable with that of a newly qualified band 5 registered dietitian.

301CC Enhancing Practice Through Evaluation and Research

This module provides students with the opportunity to undertake an in-depth exploration in an area of special interest which will have relevance to person-centred practice and which makes clear connections with local and/or national priorities in health and social care. Students will establish a specific research question upon which to focus. Using an appropriate method of enquiry, students will be required to systematically investigate the research question and analyse the information generated in order to derive a set of findings or results. The question may be investigated using a literature-based strategy or an empirical approach (with approval only). Primary research approaches may include hypothesis testing, qualitative methods or evaluative research. On the basis of the study results, students will be encouraged to identify the implications and recommendations for person-centred, collaborative and professional practice. Students will be assessed on their ability to undertake the above, and also on their ability to effectively communicate information through the production of a written piece which will be summatively assessed. In summary, on completion of this module, students will have an enhanced understanding of the relationship between the research and evidence-based practice cycle and person-centred, collaborative, and professional practice.

302CC Working together to Lead Service Improvement

The intention is that students are supported to gain a commitment to ongoing reflection and learning, underpinning their development as competent health and social care professionals to take up leadership roles as reflexive practitioners in complex service delivery environments. Students are supported to work in small inter-professional teams (normally made up of students from at least three different pre-registration professional courses) with local communities, patient, carer and service user groups, to develop service improvement proposals, which can produce positive, measurable improvements in person-centred care. Student teams produce a project proposal, which is assessed by staff and other student teams with contributions to that assessment from patient, community, service groups (as above). Students will also be exposed to self and team development activities and tools which will allow them to explore and reflect upon their own professional identity, leadership competency, and increase their self-awareness. Individual students then produce a critical analysis of their own team's work and their own contribution to successful collaborative inter-professional practice.

310DT Preparation for Dietetic Practice

The aim of this module is to prepare students for their entry into membership of their profession. The module provides opportunities for students to explore their own perspective on a range of professional issues and topical debates concerning the future of their profession. The students will also explore inter-professional issues and the implications of these for professional practice. This will promote their emergence into the profession as individuals who are flexible, self-aware and able to contribute to their own professional development. Issues related to the workplace feature strongly in preparation for employment and career development. Reflection as a tool for professional and inter-professional development will be utilised, building upon the reflective skills acquired previously in the course.

Reference Only - CU Placement Connect