

Coventry University
BSc. (Hons) Dietetics and Human Nutrition
3-year course (from September 2017)

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.

1000DT Introduction to Dietetic Practice: Placement A

This is a non-credit rated module which includes preparation for placement classes and a 2-week placement at the end of the first year of academic study in an environment where registered dietitians work. 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 practice setting.

1001DT Foundations of Human Nutrition

The overall aim of this module is to provide student dietitians with a sound knowledge and understanding of the science of human nutrition. The role of individual nutrients in the achievement and maintenance of good health will be considered. The module supports the development of skills that are needed to use food composition tables, dietary analysis software and dietary reference values. Practical workshops will enable students to develop a working knowledge of food portion sizes, recipe modification, nutrient-modified foods and food labelling.

1002DT 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. Student dietitians will be provided 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.

1003DT Facilitating Behaviour Change

This 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 will support students to develop their skills of communication with both individuals and groups.

1004DT Applied Human Nutrition

This module aims to further develop concepts of human nutrition introduced in foundations of human nutrition. The module focuses on the application of nutritional science to dietetic practice. It introduces students to the model and process for nutrition and dietetic practice and examines the assessment of nutritional status, nutrient intakes and requirements. Principles underpinning the development of dietary guidelines and current dietary guidelines for the UK population are explored.

1005DT Food Production

This module will introduce students to the major categories of food and food products available. Food production and preparation methods will be explored with impacts on nutrient content, food quality and wider issues, such as sustainability, considered. The module will give students an appreciation of the practical considerations of large and small-scale food preparation in a commercial context. Food microbiology will be taught through the delivery of a basic food hygiene award separately accredited by the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene. The innovative delivery of this module will provide the opportunity for students to learn large scale catering, off campus at a specialist catering college and to develop knowledge within student led kitchen laboratory session on Campus.

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

2000DT Developing Dietetic Practice: Placement B

This module, which runs for a total of seventeen weeks during the second year of academic study, includes preparation for placement classes and a 14-week placement in a range of approved environments where registered dietitians work. Placement B 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 such as those identified in the indicative content. The practice placement will be assessed by portfolio in the placement setting. Following the placement students will use the remaining 2 weeks of the module to complete two pieces of coursework, which allows student effort on placement to be recognised academically.

2001DT Lifestyle Management of Disease

This module aims to develop and integrate themes introduced in 1st year nutrition and biosciences modules. It explores the principles of clinical reasoning and the medical management of patients, including diagnosis and treatment of disease including the required dietary modification. It will examine current theories of causation of obesity and diet related diseases and the role of diet in the prevention and management of disease in both adults and children.

2002DT Diet Therapy and Clinical Medicine 1

This module aims to develop and integrate themes introduced in 1st year nutrition and biosciences modules. It explores the principles of the medical management of patients, including diagnosis and treatment of disease including the required dietary modification. Students will apply the principles of reflection to the application of dietetic practice and explore issues of professionalism and professional practice.

2003DT Diet Therapy and Clinical Medicine 2

This module aims to develop and integrate themes introduced in 1st year nutrition and biosciences modules. It explores the principles of the medical management of patients, including diagnosis and treatment of disease including the required dietary modification. Legal and ethical aspects of professional practice and decision-making will be explored.

2004DT Advancing Diet Therapy

This module aims to develop and integrate themes introduced in previous modules of study, in particular diet therapy and clinical medicine modules. Designed to help develop the skills and knowledge required when working in a range of clinical specialities. It is designed to build upon the students' knowledge and further develop these with more complex clinical cases.

Year 3

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.

3000DT Consolidating Dietetic Practice: Placement C

This module, which runs for a total of fifteen weeks during the third year of academic study, includes preparation for placement classes and a 12-week placement in a range of approved

environments where registered dietitians work. Placement C 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 registered dietitian. The practice placement will be assessed by portfolio in the placement setting. Following the placement students will use the remaining 2 weeks of the module to complete two pieces of coursework, which allows student effort on placement to be recognised academically.

3001DT Independent Research Proposal

The aim of this module is for students to formulate a research proposal, to inform their dissertation. This module will enable students to explore different research methodologies, in order to plan and design their project. Students will be able justify their chosen research approach and data collection methods in order to investigate a research question. Students will also critically appraise relevant literature in their chosen area of research, in order to situate their research question within the existing body of literature.

3002DT Dietitians in Practice: Future Proofing the Profession

The aim of this module is to prepare students to make an impact on the profession through influencing key stakeholders. 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. Students will explore career options and skill sets required in a range of workplace settings such as industry and media, as well as developing the skills to become aspiring entrepreneurs. Students will be required to critically evaluate their own unique selling points, their limitations and plan how to convincingly market themselves in a competitive workplace. Reflection as a tool for professional and inter-professional development will be utilised, building upon the reflective skills acquired previously in the course.

3003DT Public Health for Dietitians

The module aims 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. The Model and Process of Nutrition and Dietetic Care (BDA 2016) will be applied to the public health setting to assess, plan and evaluate a public health intervention. Using an evidence based approach and underpinning theory, students will develop a critical understanding of current nutrition and food policy to support a short placement experience in a public health setting