

Course Description

HUN1012 | Nutritional Counseling | 3.00 credits

Basic principles of nutrition of an optimum diet for building and maintaining sound teeth and body tissues. Emphasis is placed on nutritional counseling.

Course Competencies:

Competency 1: The student will demonstrate knowledge of the basics of nutrition counseling techniques and how to communicate effectively about nutrition by:

- Identify and describe the main nutrition counseling techniques: assessment, intervention, monitoring, and evaluation
- Demonstrating practical communication skills, such as active listening, empathy, rapport building, and feedback
- 3. Applying appropriate counseling and communication strategies to different scenarios and clients

Competency 2: The student will demonstrate an understanding of client-centered counseling models and practice a variety of essential skills: nonverbal, active listening, goal assessment, motivational interviewing, and group counseling by

- 1. Identifying the concept and benefits of client-centered counseling models, such as the transtheoretical, health belief, and social cognitive theory
- 2. Practicing essential skills for client-centered counseling, such as nonverbal communication, active listening, goal assessment, motivational interviewing, and group counseling
- 3. Evaluating the effectiveness and suitability of client-centered counseling models and skills for different situations and clients

Competency 3: The student will demonstrate knowledge of nutrient metabolism, medical nutrition therapy, and changing nutritional needs throughout the life cycle by:

- 1. Describing the functions and metabolism of macronutrients and micronutrients in the human body
- 2. Identifying and explaining the nutritional interventions and recommendations for various medical conditions and diseases
- 3. Recognizing and addressing the changing nutritional needs and challenges throughout the life cycle stages

Competency 4: The student will demonstrate the ability to effectively communicate nutrition information, develop and implement current research, utilize nutrition literature and resources, and integrate nutrition knowledge from a variety of sources by:

- 1. Communicating nutrition information accurately and persuasively to different audiences and purposes
- 2. Developing and implementing current research methods and findings in nutrition science and practice
- 3. Utilizing reliable and relevant nutrition literature and resources to support evidence-based practice
- 4. Integrating nutrition knowledge from various sources, such as biochemistry, physiology, psychology, sociology, and culture

Competency 5: The student will demonstrate an understanding of how to use skillful counseling techniques to promote positive client behavior change by:

- 1. Comprehending the stages of behavior change and the factors that influence behavior change
- 2. Using skillful counseling techniques to assess client readiness, motivation, barriers, and facilitators for behavior change
- 3. Using skillful counseling techniques to help clients set realistic and specific goals, develop action plans, monitor progress, provide feedback, and reinforce success

Competency 6: The student will demonstrate development of skills in communication, counseling, evidence-based practice, and program planning by:

1. Demonstrating practical oral and written communication skills in various settings and formats Updated: Fall 2025

- 2. Demonstrating competent counseling skills in individual and group settings with diverse clients
- 3. Demonstrating evidence-based practice skills in critically appraising, applying, and disseminating nutrition research
- 4. Demonstrating program planning skills in designing, implementing, evaluating, and improving nutrition programs

Competency 7: The student will demonstrate an understanding of cultural/ethnic/religious and diverse populations while showing competence/ sensitivity to diverse groups by:

- 1. Demonstrating empathy to cultural/religious/ ethnic/diverse population differences while conveying nutritional information
- 2. Demonstrating knowledge of different cultures when sharing nutritional information via counseling
- 3. Showing appreciation for differences by acknowledging their value in counseling
- 4. Incorporating cultural, religious, and ethnic foods in creating nutritional plans and diets for patients/clients

Learning Outcomes:

- Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills
- Solve problems using critical and creative thinking and scientific reasoning
- Demonstrate knowledge of ethical thinking and its application to issues in society
- Demonstrate knowledge of diverse cultures, including global and historical perspectives