

## **Dietetic Internship Program**

This program, accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education of the American Dietetic Association, is designed for students who hold an undergraduate degree and meet the requirements for the Didactic Programs in Dietetics as approved by the American Dietetic Association. The program's goal is to provide students with both the attitudes and skills necessary to continue learning in a dynamic discipline. Students develop the intellectual and clinical skills of a successful professional, so as to function efficiently and effectively within a health care or community setting. Dietitians need to be educated to practice not only in hospitals, but in other health care settings such as ambulatory care units and HMOs, as well as in private practice, the business world and government agencies. The emphasis of this program reflects the current trend away from acute hospital-based care and toward health promotion and disease prevention. Upon completion of this program, the student is prepared to take the Commission on Dietetic Registration examination.

### **Program of Study**

The Simmons dietetic internship is a twenty-nine week, full-time program which begins in September. Supervised practice at such sites as acute care and long-term care facilities, community health centers, and public health agencies, and private nutrition practices provides students the opportunity to achieve the performance requirements for an entry-level dietitian.

Twelve graduate credits are earned upon successful completion of the program. The Simmons Dietetic Internship Program awards 9 credits for the fieldwork component and 3 credits for the didactic graduate course. Simmons accepts the 3 credits for didactic course work into the M.S. program. Tuition is charged on the basis of twelve semester credit hours.

There is also an opportunity for students to apply to the Simmons Distance Dietetic Internship. Students who live in the Northeast area may be interested in this option. Students are required to attend campus orientation and attend a class once a week. Clinical rotations must be arranged by the student in their local area. These sites must be approved by the Director of the Program

The Simmons College internship is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education of the American Dietetic Association. The Commission's address is:

Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education  
The American Dietetic Association  
216 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, IL 60606-6995

The telephone number is 312.899.4876.

Students completing the program are expected to take the registration examination. Upon passing, the faculty anticipates that graduates will be capable of practicing in a variety of settings and participating in professional activities. Above all, the graduate is expected to be a dietitian capable of creating an atmosphere of support and respect for individual rights, thereby fostering quality health care and assurance of honor and dignity.

## **Course Description**

### **NTR 451**

#### **Dietetic Internship**

The Graduate Nutrition Program maintains special arrangements with Greater Boston health care agencies where staff dietitians supervise students in a variety of settings. Students spend approximately forty hours a week in the field for twenty-nine weeks.

(9 CREDITS)

### **NTR 452**

#### **Nutrition Practice: Program Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation**

This course focuses on individual and community assessment, program planning, implementation, and evaluation. Setting program goals that produce outcomes which improve health and support wellness are emphasized. Barriers to change are explored. Program evaluation to determine effectiveness, quality control, and costs will be stressed.

Students plan and evaluate a program for a specified population. (3 CREDITS)