ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS
ASU ◆ NAU ◆ UA

# Request to Establish New Academic Program in Arizona

Please complete all fields. Boxes may be expanded to accommodate longer responses. Clarifying field descriptions can be found below. Should you have any questions or concerns, please email Helen Baxendale, Director of Academic Affairs and Policy at helen.baxendale@azregents.edu

**University: University of Arizona**

**Name of Proposed Academic Program: Bachelor of Science in Nutritional Sciences and Wellness**

**Academic Department:**
School of Nutritional Sciences and Wellness; College of Agriculture, Life, and Environmental Sciences (CALES)

**Geographic Site:**
Tucson- Main

**Instructional Modality:**
In-person

**Total Credit Hours:**
120

**Proposed Inception Term:**
Fall 2024

**Brief Program Description:**
The Bachelor of Science in Nutritional Sciences and Wellness provides an interdisciplinary approach to learning about food, nutritional therapies, and optimal well-being. The program incorporates a strong science core - biology, chemistry, anatomy – of which students are able to tailor the coursework to their interests. For example, students who wish to pursue graduate school in the medical, dental, or pharmacy fields take additional math and science classes.

**Learning Outcomes and Assessment Plan:**

| |
|---|
| **Learning Outcome #1:** Effectively communicate nutrition and wellness information/knowledge to diverse populations. |
| **Concepts:** Impacts of nutrition misinformation on health and wellness; cultural humility; best practices in nutrition communication; nutrition education; weight-inclusive health. |
| **Competencies:** Evaluate community and/or stakeholder needs; create appropriate and targeted nutrition messaging. |
| **Assessment Methods:** This outcome will be assessed in weight inclusive health project and patient case studies. |
| **Measures:** Instructor grading of weight inclusive health project and patient case studies. |
| **Learning Outcome #2:** Develop, interpret, and analyze scientific verbal, written, and multimedia communications. |
| **Concepts:** Technical writing in nutrition field; scientific method; current trends in nutrition and wellness; basic statistics. |

| | |
|---|---|
| | **Competencies:** Analyze and critique nutrition science research; distinguish between lay and peer-reviewed publications; data analysis; apply nutrition or related research to practice. |
| | **Assessment Methods:** This outcome will be assessed in research article critique assignment and patient case studies. |
| | **Measures:** Instructor grading of research article critique assignment and patient case studies. |
| **Learning Outcome #3:** Apply scientific evidence, best practices, and professional judgment when examining the impacts of nutritional intake and diet-gene interactions, metabolic variables related to human disease, and environmental factors. | |
| | **Concepts:** Evidence-based diet patterns and practices to improve health outcomes; metabolic pathways and energy systems in the body; social determinants of health; genomics; precision nutrition; professional scope of practice for different healthcare disciplines. |
| | **Competencies:** Evaluate individuals and populations regarding nutrition-related health issues; differentiate between scientific evidence, best practices, and professional judgement; evaluate the influence of diet-gene interactions on health. |
| | **Assessment Methods:** This outcome will be assessed in nutrigenomics project and metabolic integration assignment. |
| | **Measures:** Instructor grading of nutrigenomics project and metabolic integration assignment. |
| **Learning Outcome #4:** Demonstrate problem solving and critical reasoning skills related to grand wellness challenges. | |
| | **Concepts:** Wellness models that reduce risk factors for disease; integration of multiple science disciplines that relate to health and wellness. |
| | **Competencies:** Critical thinking; contributing as part of an interprofessional team; navigating uncertainty; applying wellness theory to practice. |
| | **Assessment Methods:** This outcome will be assessed in metabolic integration assignment and patient case studies. |
| | **Measures:** Instructor grading of metabolic integration assignment and patient case studies. |

| | NSC 101 | NSC 260 | NSC 275 | NSC 312 | NSC 408 | NSC 410 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| LO #1: Effectively communicate nutrition and wellness information/knowledge to diverse populations. | I | R | | R | | M |
| LO #2: Develop, interpret, and analyze scientific verbal, written, and multimedia communications. | I | R | R | | M | |
| LO #3: Apply scientific evidence, best practices, and professional judgment when examining the impacts of nutritional intake and diet-gene interactions, metabolic variables related to human disease, and environmental factors. | I | R | R | | M | M |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| LO #4: Demonstrate problem solving and critical reasoning skills related to grand wellness challenges | I | R | R | R | M | M |

**Projected Enrollment for the First Three Years:**
Please provide anticipated enrollment numbers for each of the first three years of the proposed program
Enrollment in the current NSC Dietetics program is approximately 200 students across Main, AZOnline, and Distance campuses. We anticipate enrollments will be maintained at this level with the new degree program.

**Evidence of Market Demand:**
As mentioned above, current enrollment in the NSC Nutrition subplan is sustained and robust. This enrollment level is expected to be maintained with the new degree program. The new degree will prepare students to enter graduate school in nutrition or related fields, as well as health professional programs such as medicine, pharmacy, dentistry, and physician assistance. The US Bureau of Labor and Statistics *Occupational Outlook Handbook* indicates that job growth in different health professions varies from 3-27%. For example, over the next 10 years growth in positions for medical doctors is estimated to be 3% where growth in positions for physician assistants is estimated to be 27%.

**Similar Programs Offered at Arizona Public Universities:**
List existing programs at Arizona public universities that deliver similar concepts and competencies to the proposed new program.
Arizona State University BS in Nutritional Sciences
Northern Arizona University BS in Nutrition and Foods

**Objection(s) Raised by Another Arizona Public University?** YES **NO**
Has another Arizona public university lodged a written objection to the proposed program with the proposing university and the Board of Regents within seven days of receiving notice of the proposed program?

**If Yes, Response to Objections:**
Please provide details of how the proposing university has addressed the objection. If the objection remains unresolved, please explain why it is in the best interests of the university system and the state that the Board override it.

**New Resources Required? (i.e. faculty and administrative positions; infrastructure, etc.):**
The proposed new program is part of School-level undergraduate program adjustments which includes the disestablishment of the BS in Precision Nutrition and Wellness and the BS in Nutrition and Food Systems along with their associated minors. All resources dedicated to the existing Nutrition subplan of the BS in Nutritional Science will be redeployed to this new standalone major, which will provide more flexibility to students with specific academic and professional goals and allow the School of Nutritional Sciences and Wellness to deliver curriculum and career guidance more efficiently to students.

**Plan to Request Program Fee/Differentiated Tuition?** YES **NO**

ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS
ASU ◆ NAU ◆ UA

| |
|---|
| **Estimated Amount: n/a**<br><br>**Program Fee Justification: n/a** |
| **Specialized Accreditation?** YES **NO**<br><br>**Accreditor:**<br>n/a |

# Request to Rename Academic Program

University: University of Arizona

| |
|---|
| **Current Name of Academic Program:**<br>Bachelor of Science in Nutritional Sciences- Nutrition Emphasis |
| **New Name of Academic Program:**<br>Bachelor of Science in Nutritional Sciences and Wellness |
| **Academic Department:**<br>School of Nutritional Sciences and Wellness, College of Agriculture, Life, and Environmental Sciences (CALES) |
| **Geographic Site:**<br>Tucson- Main |
| **Instructional Modality**:<br>In person. |
| **Brief Program Description:**<br><br>The Bachelor of Science in Nutritional Sciences and Wellness provides an interdisciplinary approach to learning about food, nutritional therapies and optimal well-being. The program incorporates a strong science core - biology, chemistry, anatomy - and then students are able to tailor the coursework to their interests. For example, students who wish to pursue graduate school in the medical, dental or physical therapy fields take additional math and science classes; other students incorporate accounting, economics and food services studies to prepare for careers in food and nutritional management.<br><br>LEARNING OUTCOMES<br>- Effectively communicate nutrition and wellness information/knowledge to diverse populations<br>- Develop, interpret and analyze scientific verbal, written, and multimedia communications.<br>- Apply scientific evidence, best practices, and professional judgment when examining the relationships between human nutrition, lifestyles, metabolism, racial/ethnic disparities and human diseases.<br>- Demonstrate problem solving and critical reasoning skills related to grand wellness challenges. |
| **Reason for Renaming the Program:**<br><br>We are updating the curriculum to a more generalized nutritional sciences focus. The proposed changes are intended to prepare students for admission into health-related professional programs (e.g., medicine, pharmacy) and graduate school. The curriculum changes allow for better alignment with professional/graduate school admissions requirements. The new degree name more accurately represents the updated degree |

curriculum and differentiates it from the re-named Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics.

Executive Director Signature:___  _____

Date: ___2/20/24_____