



WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Dietetics

Department of Dietetics, Fashion Merchandising & Hospitality, College of Education & Human Services

Program of Study

The Department of Dietetics, Fashion Merchandising, and Hospitality offers three programs: Dietetics, Fashion Merchandising, and Hotel/Restaurant Management. Students completing the program earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Family and Consumer Sciences. Graduates are prepared for many different careers, including management positions for corporations, hospitals, and government agencies.

The vision of the department is for graduates to be innovative, competent, and critical thinking professionals who provide leadership and service within the workplace and in a diverse, ever-changing environment. The mission of the department is to prepare students with the technical, human, and conceptual skills for careers in consumer services.

The program has been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Dietetics Education (CADE) of the American Dietetic Association. The educational goal of our students is to complete the undergraduate degree and then participate in a specialized internship at a CADE accredited site. After completing the internship, students may take the exam to be a Registered Dietitian (RD). Graduates may also choose to further their education through graduate school and professional certifications.

Faculty

Each faculty member has specialized education and industry or research experience in his or her area of instruction. Faculty hold membership and leadership roles in state and national organizations. They have earned master's and doctoral degrees in their fields of expertise. They have certifications as Registered Dietitians (RD), Licensed Dietitians (LD), and Certified Diabetes Educators (CDE).

Scholarships

The department offers more than \$10,000 in scholarships every year for eligible students in the major, based on grade point average, participation in extracurricular activities, and leadership. Students should contact the academic advisor about criteria for scholarship eligibility.

Additional information about scholarships is found on the departmental website (wiu.edu/dfmh), through the University Scholarship Office (309-298-2001), or on the WIU homepage at [wiu.edu.Scholarship](http://wiu.edu/Scholarship).

Student Activities

Students have many choices in their selection of departmental organizations. Any student may be selected to join DFMH Ambassadors, a group of students representing the department at University functions, or Kappa Omicron Nu (KONu) honorary society, which is open to any student with a minimum of 45 overall semester hours (SH) and a 3.0 GPA at WIU. Dietetics students are involved in the Student Association for Nutrition Education (SANE), which offers leadership opportunities and chances to learn information on nutrition and food-related topics and includes fundraisers. The Food and Culture Club is a University group organized by DFMH faculty in which cultural customs and diversity of food and dress are recognized and celebrated.

HIGHER VALUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Special Opportunities

DFMH faculty and Campus Recreation staff collaborate to provide a *Heart Smart* program to Western's female students and staff. Participants are taught to make better choices about the food they eat, and are encouraged to exercise to adopt a more healthy lifestyle.

Staff are involved with the *Bella Hearst Diabetes Institute*, which began as a grant project funded by area doctor Dr. Bella Hearst. Research is conducted on the prevention and control of diabetes, including freshmen making independent meal choices for the first time in college. Individual treatment plans for nutrition and exercise are developed with participating students.

A Nutrition minor and a general Family and Consumer Sciences minor are also available in this program. Dietetics is not a Gradtrac program.

Honors College Admission Requirements

To be eligible for the Centennial Honors College, entering freshmen must have an ACT composite score of at least 28 OR have a 26 or 27 composite ACT and be in the top 15% of their graduating class OR have an ACT composite score of at least 24 and be in the top 10% of their high school graduation class. Transfer students with at least 12 SH and up to 59 SH of undergraduate courses are admitted with a GPA of at least 3.3 or 3.4 for 60 SH or more. To find out more, visit wiu.edu/Honors.



After College

Many graduating students continue on for master's degrees in Community Health or Public Health, while other students focus on their ADA internship leading to the RD credential.

For More Information

Additional materials about the dietetic field of study may be found in the *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, found online at www.bls.gov and on the ADA website (www.eatright.org).

Higher Values in Higher Education

Located in Macomb (population 20,000), with a campus in the Quad Cities (Moline, IL), Western Illinois University offers a caring and supportive learning environment to more than 13,000 students in west-central Illinois. Western students have all the advantages of a large public university—strong faculty, state-of-the-art technology and facilities, and a wide range of academic and extracurricular opportunities—in an atmosphere free from distractions. Western Illinois University is a member of the NCAA and competes at the Division I level, sponsoring 20 intercollegiate sports in a broad-based athletics department. Western's presence in the Quad Cities spans more than 40 years, and that campus offers undergraduate and graduate programs to more than 1,500 students. The core values that are at the heart of the University are academic excellence, educational opportunity, personal growth, and social responsibility.

Western's GradTrac and Cost programs guarantee that students can achieve their degrees within four years while paying a fixed rate for tuition, fees, room, and board.

Western Illinois University is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity employer with a strong commitment to diversity. In that spirit, we are particularly interested in receiving applications from a broad spectrum of people, including, but not limited to, minorities, women, and individuals with disabilities. WIU has a non-discrimination policy that includes sex, race, color, sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression, religion, age, marital status, national origin, disability, and veteran status.

wiu.edu/dfmh

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