



**U.S. Military - Baylor University  
Graduate Program in Nutrition &  
U.S. Army Dietetic Internship**



**Fact Sheet**

<http://www.baylor.edu/graduate/nutrition/>

**GPN Mission:** We are first in service to the Nation, creating dynamic military dietitians.

**GPN Vision:** To be the premier program for graduate dietetics education.

**GPN Values:** Selfless Service to the Nation, Integrity, and Excellence in academics and research

**Program Description:** Students who successfully complete this two-phased program will receive a Master of Science degree in Nutrition from Baylor University and will be eligible to take the Registration Exam for Dietitians.

• **Phase 1: U.S. Military – Baylor University Graduate Program in Nutrition**

Didactic coursework and comprehensive study of nutrition in the following areas: medical nutrition therapy with an emphasis on burns/trauma; nutrition and performance; institutional and organizational leadership; international/humanitarian nutrition; advanced nutrition assessment lab; and research.

- Location: Joint Base San Antonio - Fort Sam Houston, TX
- Duration: 9 months (47 credit hours)

<b>Semester 1 (January – April) 25 Credit Hours</b>	
Course Title	Description
MPN 5409 Advanced Anatomy & Physiology	In this course, students will learn anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology of the gastrointestinal, urinary, respiratory, cardiovascular, endocrine and other major systems. Students will participate in cadaver laboratory associated with several blocks of instruction.
MPN 5401 Research Methods I	This course is designed to introduce students to the basic and advanced concepts, techniques, and technologies used in the scientific inquiry of applied clinical research. Topics to be investigated include the research process and the scientific method, measurement theory, indices of validity and reliability, hypothesis construction and testing, sampling, data collection and coding schemes, experimental design, epidemiology, qualitative and survey research.



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MPN 5505 Medical Nutrition Therapy w/ Lab	Lecture, discussion, and case studies that emphasize implementation of the nutrition care process and the provision of medical nutrition therapy to patients with various disease states in both the inpatient and outpatient setting. Nutritional concerns throughout the lifecycle will be addressed. The course also examines nutrition counseling techniques and nutrition assessment. The course will use medical patient simulations to allow students to refine their counseling and critical thinking skills in real-time.
MPN 5307 Nutrition in Stability Operations	This course is designed to provide students with in depth knowledge of nutrition issues confronted in complex emergencies and within the developing world. Emphasis will be placed on macronutrient and micronutrient malnutrition, assessment of nutritional needs, nutritional surveillance and food distribution programs.
MPN 5411 Effective Scientific Writing	By the end of this course students will be competent in finding relevant peer reviewed journal articles for a specific topic; critically evaluate peer reviewed journal articles and determine their appropriateness to the topic being addressed; and write a clear, concise and coherent literature review. Evidence-based practice requires that one is able to evaluate the literature available when a review has not yet been published, and this class will aid students in building the skills to do so.
MPN 5504 Advanced Energy Metabolism	By the end of this course, students will evaluate the underlying role of the molecular structure and function of biological molecules including proteins, carbohydrates, lipids, nucleic acids, vitamins, hormones and buffers; their anabolism; catabolism; regulatory mechanisms; overall integration and regulation in clinical manifestation of disease. Additionally, become familiar with various energy disorders, energy metabolism, and bioenergetics; apply evidence-based practice in a variety of energy-related disease states and disorders; critically-assess the validity and logic behind weight loss claims and advertisements; explore best-practices for adult weight management and pediatric weight management; familiarization with gene expression, nutrigenomics, and molecular diagnostics.

**Semester 2 (May – September) 22 Credit Hours**

MPN 5404 Advanced Nutrition and Critical Care w/ Lab	This course provides an in-depth review of the study and application of nutrition principles related to the critically ill patient with an emphasis on trauma and burn. Topics will include nutrition assessment, nutrition focused physical exam and Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) design, implementation and evaluation. Prerequisites: MNT; AEM; Advanced Anatomy & Physiology
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MPN 5506 Nutrition and Performance w/ Lab	This course provides students with in-depth knowledge of how nutrition variables can impact both physical and cognitive performance in a tactical athlete. Topics include: fuel mobilization (carbohydrate, fat, and protein), micronutrients (vitamins and minerals), hydration, body composition, supplements and energy balance. Prerequisites: AEM; Advanced Anatomy & Physiology
MPN 5303 Research Methods II	This course focuses on the principles of biostatistics (biometry) using current computer software. Topics include: t-test, chi square, ANOVA, SPSS software. Prerequisites: Research Methods I.
MPN 5305 Protocol Development	This course provides practical experience in developing and writing a research protocol that will be executed in Phase 2. Prerequisites: Effective Scientific Writing, Research Methods I
MPN 5410 Force Health Protection	This course is designed to introduce students to public health and preventive medicine measures, health promotion and disease prevention programs that uniquely impact military populations, both in garrison and in deployed settings. Students will be provided hands on experience in nutrition initiatives at Army post dining facilities or other community venues.
MPN 5308 Leadership & Management Development	This course is designed to explore a broad range of leadership and foodservice topics and issues, and to help students develop their executive skills for future roles as leaders and managers in clinic and food service operations. Students will have the opportunity to examine their own leadership qualities and develop their skills through readings, research, and self-reflection. Readings and discussion will cover both theoretical bases for leadership and practical strategies for effective leadership in the diagnosis, prediction, and analysis of human behavior in organizations. Foodservice management issues will be introduced to help students develop baseline knowledge of operations management.



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• **Phase 2: U.S. Military Dietetic Internship Consortium**

Accredited dietetic internship and supervised practice focuses on clinical nutrition, food service, community nutrition, and military skills rotation (Joint Field Nutrition Operations Course at Camp Bullis, Fort Sam Houston, TX). Students also collect and analyze data for master's research project and write research manuscript (9 credit hours).

- Location: Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, TX; Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Bethesda, MD; Madigan Healthcare System, Joint Base Lewis McChord, WA, or Womack Army Medical Center, Ft. Bragg, NC.
- Duration: 12 months

<b>Phase II: Semester 3 (October – September)</b>	
MPN 5V99 or MPN 5V98	Master's Thesis or Master's Research Project

**Academic standards during the program:** Students must earn a grade of C or better in every course and maintain a 3.0 GPA to earn a Master's degree upon completion of the program.

**Eligibility Criteria:**

- U.S. citizen
- Meet age requirements
- Meet medical and physical fitness standards
- Minimum degree requirement is either 1) a Baccalaureate Degree from a Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD) accredited or approved by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) or 2) a Baccalaureate degree plus post-baccalaureate completion of DPD core elements. The DPD provides the required dietetics coursework leading to a degree that qualifies graduates to apply for dietetic internship programs. Applicants who are within six months of receiving a bachelor's degree may apply. Applicants will complete bachelors by report date.
- Minimum GPA of 3.0 for both total undergraduate GPA and prerequisite DPD-required courses.
- Minimum GRE score of 297 (148 verbal and 149 quantitative)
- Minimum GRE analytical writing score of 3.5
- Must participate in computer matching for the internship through D&D Digital (<https://www.dnndigital.com/ada/index.php>)



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**Selection criteria:**

- GPA and GRE scores
- Leadership experience and potential
- Experience in dietetics and/or food service
- Interest in military service
- Letters of recommendation
- Telephone interview

**Active Duty Service Obligation:** 72 months. After completion of the Direct Commissioning Course (DCC), Basic Officer Leader Course (BOLC), and 20 month Graduate program, individuals must serve on active duty for approximately 4 years.

**Number of Students Accepted:** 15-20 U.S. Army students each year.

**Application deadline:** November each year

**Military selection board date:** March each year

**Announcement of selectees:** April each year by D&D Digital Computer Matching

**Contact information:**

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- Find an Active Duty Army Medical (AMEDD) healthcare recruiter in your region to apply for the program: <https://m.goarmy.com/locate-a-recruiter.m.html>