

**Southeast Missouri State University  
Course Syllabus**

**Department of** Human Environmental Studies

New: Spring 2013

**Title of Course** Seminar in Advanced  
Professional Skills for the  
Registered Dietitian

Revision: \_\_\_\_\_

**Course  
Number** FN650

**I. Catalogue Description and Credit Hours of Course:** Refinement of advanced professional skills needed in the practice of dietetics. Seminar and field experience. (2 credits)

**II. Prerequisite(s):** Student must be accepted to the Dietetic Internship before enrolling.

**III. Objectives of the Course**

The student will:

1. Perform self assessments, develop goals and objectives and prepare a draft portfolio for professional development as defined by the Commission on Dietetic Registration
2. Develop and implement projects using appropriate research methods, ethical procedures and data analysis
3. Evaluate emerging research for application in dietetics practice
4. Demonstrate professional writing skills in preparing professional communications
5. Participate in public policy activities, including both legislative and regulatory initiatives
6. Demonstrate how to code and bill for dietetic/nutrition services to obtain reimbursement from public or private insurers

**IV. Student Learning Outcomes**

1. Critique current political viewpoints as related to legislative and regulatory initiatives.
2. Develop a draft portfolio for professional development as defined by the Commission on Dietetic Registration.
3. Evaluate emerging research for application in dietetics practice.

**V. Expectation of Students**

1. Successful completion of all written examinations.
2. Active participation in class discussion.
3. Satisfactory completion of all course assignments and projects.

**VI. Course Outline**

**Hours**

Seminar Component

2

1. Portfolio Development
  - A. Self-assessment
  - B. Goals and objectives

C. Portfolio development	
2. Research study	3
A. Methods	
B. Ethical procedures	
C. Data analysis	
3. Evaluation of emerging research for application in dietetics practice	3
A. Evaluation criterion	
B. Application standards	
4. Professional writing skills	2
A. Formatting	
B. Style	
5. Public policy involvement	3
A. Legislative	
B. Regulatory	
C. Lobbying	
6. Coding and billing	2
A. Public insurers	
B. Private insurers	
C. Coding requirements	
Total didactic hours	15

Field component: a minimum of 30 contact hours in which students will be placed at community nutrition sites in the local area. They will be supervised by Registered Dietitians or Southeast Missouri State University internship faculty. Interns will have the opportunity to perform professional skills in a community setting and they will be required to complete modules related to community nutrition experiences. 30

**VII. Textbook:** Mitchell, F.B., Silver, A.M. (2011). *Making Nutrition Your Business: Private Practice and Beyond*, American Dietetic Association.

**VIII Basis for Student Evaluation**

Projects and Assignments	30%
Research Project	40%
Portfolio	30%

Grading Scale

100-95%	A
94-85%	B
84-75%	C
74% and Below	F

The weights of evaluation criteria may vary at the discretion of the course instructor.

**IX. Academic Policy Statement**

Students will be expected to abide by the **University Policy for Academic Honesty** regarding plagiarism and academic honesty. Refer to <http://www6.semo.edu/judaffairs/code.html> .

**X. Student with Disabilities Statement**

If a student has a special need addressed by the **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**

and requires materials in an alternative format, please notify the instructor at the beginning of the course. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate special needs. Refer to <http://www.semo.edu/ds> .