Torrens University Australia

Bachelor of Nutrition

NUTR2008

Special Populations Nutrition Project

Frequently Asked Questions
Do I need a Working with Children (WWC) check to enrol in this unit?
Yes. Application forms are available online or at Australia Post outlets. You may apply for a volunteer’s WWC which is free of charge. Use the code ‘Educational Institutions’ on your application. Please provide a copy of your WWC to your Supervisor.

How many observational hours do I need to do?
Observational placement participation is compulsory. A student’s ability to pass this subject is dependent upon the successful completion of all observational requirements and assessment tasks. It is recommended that you spend a minimum of 8 hours observing your nutrition program in action.

How do I find a nutrition program?
First step is to make a short list of nutrition programs that run in your local area to contact, and write yourself a brief introduction so you can be clear and succinct in your phone call or email; outlining your needs for the program lead / contact. Use the ‘Letter of Introduction’ document on Blackboard to assist you.

Finding a nutrition program placement may require some persistence and a little ‘thinking outside the square', consider nutrition programs delivered by hospitals, non-government and community health organisations, and your local council. These could be in different areas of your town / city, or in rural areas rather than focusing on programs in your immediate neighbourhood. This provides more opportunity.

Does the program have to be focused on Nutrition?
Yes, your chosen program must be modality-specific, that is relevant to the field of public health nutrition that you are studying. This may include weight management groups, disease prevention / health promotion / lifestyle modification programs that promote healthy dietary and lifestyle choices through educational means.

The aim of your observational hours is to observe the program delivery process, the facilitator-participant relationship and the running of the program.

What if I’m having trouble finding placement?
Securing placement is the student’s responsibility; however we acknowledge that it can sometimes be challenging. If you are unsure of anything, or need assistance please contact your lecturer (supervisor) and/or our Industry Advisory team.
Can I start my placement hours before the Trimester starts?
Yes – but you must first complete and upload the Work Integrated Learning Agreement document (see details below).

I’ve found a program to observe in, what do I do next?
Once you establish contact, ensure you and your host organisation completes the Work Integrated Learning Agreement form available on Blackboard. Both you and your chosen program lead / contact must sign this form before you commence your observations for you to be covered by our insurance policy whilst you are completing your placement hours.

The Work Integrated Learning Agreement form must then be scanned and uploaded to Blackboard as part of your Assessment 1 at the end of week two. You may email the form to your supervisor earlier if your observations begin before this date. You also need to print a copy of the Certificate of Currency and give this to the program lead / contact.

What forms do I need?
1. Work Integrated Learning Agreement Form with the Certificate of Currency
2. Subject Outline
3. Letter of introduction
4. Program Placement Participation Log

Do I need to write a Reflective Log for each program session I observe?
It is recommended that you reflect on each program session you observe. Reflection worksheets are available in your subject module pages. Remember that these logs provide you with an opportunity to reflect on the experience, and will assist you in your assessment tasks for this subject. They are not a place to critique and criticise the practitioners you observe.