THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

FORM TO REQUEST SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES TO AN EXISTING UNDERGRADUATE MAJOR

A request for substantial changes to an existing program requires approval from the school director/department head (managing administrator), college academic dean, Curricular Affairs, Undergraduate Council (UGC), and College Academic Administrators Council (CAAC). Additional approvals may be required, depending on the requested changes. Complete this form and submit to Martin Marquez (martinmarquez@email.arizona.edu) no later than October 25, 2019 to be considered for inclusion in the 2020-2021 Academic Catalog.

I. Requested by (College & School/Department):

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Department of Nutritional Sciences

II. Proposer's name, title, email and phone number:

Ashlee Linares-Gaffer, MS, RDN | Assistant Professor of Practice | alinares@email.arizona.edu | 520-440-0265

III. Degree, major and number of students enrolled in the major. If you have emphases (sub-plans), list the number of students enrolled by emphasis:

B.S. Nutritional Sciences; Total enrollment: 571

Sub Plan 1: Dietetics: 252
Sub Plan 2: Nutrition: 273
No option selected: 46

IV. Describe proposed changes to the major. Provide a rationale and explanation for making changes to the major and include any relevant supporting data. Are the changes proposed a result of Annual Program Review (APR) and/or a result from the assessment of programmatic outcomes? If you are requesting a name change, please indicate if the subject code (course prefix) will also change. Include requested new prefix code and description.

The Department of Nutritional Sciences is requesting to add a pre-major to our program. There are several reasons why we believe this is critical to our ability to effectively manage our program, meet accreditation standards and serve our students. The rapid growth of our online Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD), which is one of only four accredited *online* DPD programs in existence, has presented new challenges in tracking and serving students on a large scale; Implementation of a pre-major will offer a mechanism for improved program management, and ultimately a better student experience, for all NSC students in all campuses.

The primary reasons this request is being made are as follows:

1) **Our accrediting body, the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND), requires that we track completion timelines for all students in our dietetics program.** The program determines the official "start" of the pre-professional dietetics coursework within the existing 4-year student timeline for the degree. In the absence of an official entry-point into the advanced coursework in our dietetics sub plan, we currently track unofficial cohorts based on when they take an advanced dietetics course, NSC 325. We then follow these students to determine whether they graduate within a specific timeline from when they took NSC 325. This system is not comprehensive and requires intensive manual tracking on a student-by-student basis. If a pre-major is implemented, we will be able to track our advanced dietetics students as a group at the point when they transition from pre-major to major at 2-3 time points per year in a cohort-based approach. This will serve needs to comply with accreditation in our

accredited program on all three campus (Main, Online and Yuma). The necessity/urgency for a more robust tracking mechanism to understand program completion timelines has emerged due to the continuous admission cycle in the online campus, allowing for many entry points. We intend to continue to admit students' year round in the online campus but we will complete conversions from pre-major to major at specific time points.

2) **Implementation of a pre-major will provide a transitional space for students who are admitted to the UA for the Nutritional Sciences program while they are completing a number of foundation courses and pre-requisites, including concurrent enrollment in sciences at an outside institution for transfer in to UA.** Students pursuing our Nutritional Sciences degree through the distance campus (UA Yuma) and online campus (Arizona Online) are not eligible to declare the Nutritional Sciences major until they have completed *and* transferred in all core science requirements that UA does not currently offer through the UA Yuma campus or the Arizona Online campus. These courses are pre-requisites to several NSC course sequences and include CHEM 151, CHEM 152, PSIO 201, PSIO 202, and MIC 205A and L. Currently, students who are not eligible to declare the major are admitted and are classified as *No Major Selected (NMS)* in CALS. This poses several challenges: students do not have access to an ADVIP (only What-If report is an option) in order to understand the degree requirements and aid in planning future coursework, students do not feel that they are officially part of the program that they applied to be a part of because there is no official documentation in UAccess stating they are in Nutritional Sciences, CALS has more than one STEM major that cannot allow students to declare their major before sciences have been transferred in so NMS students are mixed together in "one pot" when Analytics reports are pulled for CALS NMS students . A secondary process of utilizing student group codes to track and sort NMS students by their intended program has been implemented but comes with several additional tasks and hurdles to accurately track by student group code, which adds to staff workload and can be largely eliminated as result of implementing a pre-major.

3) **A pre-major will provide a broad introduction to nutritional sciences which provides a foundation in a recommended sequence to allow students to determine whether this career path may be right for them or not.** By completing the required core classes, students will become familiar with the job requirements in the field of nutrition and dietetics that dietetic internships, graduate programs and employers expect. Implementation of a pre-major would provide a clearer understanding of how our students are distributed across the program and will enable better projections for specific course needs and staffing. Additionally, the didactic program in dietetics (DPD) is a nationally accredited program that must be reviewed on a set schedule by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). ACEND must approve any significant program changes. With the rise in enrolled students, a pre-major will allow us to better determine actual student enrollment, because if enrollment exceeds the allowed ACEND program capacity, we must schedule a review by ACEND. At this time, we are unable to accurately measure student enrollment because students in the online and distance campus (Yuma) are not eligible to declare the Nutritional Sciences major if they have not yet completed and transferred in any of the required courses that are not offered in those campuses (CHEM 151, CHEM 152, PSIO 201, PSIO 202, MIC 205A and L).

V. Comparison Chart–complete the chart below using your existing academic advisement report. You may not need to complete all portions. Highlight row(s) indicating the proposed significant changes. You can find course information to help complete the chart below by using the UA course catalog or UAnalytics (Catalog and Schedule Dashboard> "Printable Course Descriptions by Department" On Demand Report; right side of screen). Proposed changes resulting in similar curriculum with other plans (within department, college, or university) may require completion of an additional comparison chart.

	Existing Major Requirements	**Requirements For Modified Major**
Major, emphasis (if applicable) and degree *	BS	BS
CIP Code –lookup here or contact Martin Marquez for assistance, if needed	30.1901	30.1901
Total units required to complete the degree*	126	126
Upper -division units required to complete the degree	42	42
Total CC transfer units that may apply to this degree*	64	64
Foundation courses		
Math	Moderate Math Strand	No change
Second Language	Second Semester Proficiency	No change
General Education		
Tier I GE Requirements (150, 160, 170)	2- Tier 1 150 (INDV) 2- Tier 1 160 (TRAD) 0- Tier 1 170 (NATS)	No change
Tier II GE Requirements (Arts, HUMS, INDV, NATS)	3 units -Tier II Arts 1-Tier II Humanities 1- Tier II Individuals and Societies 0-Tier II Natural Sciences	No change
Pre-major? (Yes/No)	No	Yes
List any special requirements to declare or gain admission to this major (completion of specific coursework, minimum GPA, interview, application, etc.)	None	*1. Completion of pre-major coursework with a 2.0 GPA* ***Pre-Major Core Coursework***

		(included in major units and GPA) - *NSC 101 (3) Introduction to Human Nutrition* - *NSC 225 (2) Foundational Skills in Nutritional Sciences* - *NSC 260 (3) Nutrition Communication and Scientific Literacy* - *NSC 301 (3) Nutrition and the Life Cycle* - *NSC 396A (1) Survey of Nutrition Careers* ***Pre-major supporting coursework (not included in major units and GPA)*** - *MCB 181R and L (4) Introductory Biology* - *MIC 205A (3) General Microbiology* - *MIC 205L (1) Bio Microorganism Lab* - *[PSIO 201 (4) Anatomy and Physiology* *and* - *PSIO 202 (4) Anatomy and Physiology II] *required for Dietetics emphasis** *or* - *PSIO 380 (4) Fundamentals of Human Physiology* - *CHEM 151 (4) General Chemistry I* - *CHEM 152 (4) General Chemistry II* *2) Complete application for conversion form pre-major to major*

		Note: The following courses are prerequisites for this degree and are not offered in a fully online format. Students enrolled in this program will need to transfer in or obtain equivalent credit concurrently for these courses: *CHEM 151: General Chemistry I (4 units)* *CHEM 152: General Chemistry II (4 units)* *MIC 205A: General Microbiology (3 units)* *MIC 205L: Biology of Microorganisms Lab (1 unit)* *PSIO 201: Human Anatomy and Physiology I (4 units)* *PSIO 202: Human Anatomy and Physiology II (4 units)*
Minimum # of units required in the major (units counting towards major units and major GPA)	66	58
Minimum # of upper-division units required in the major (upper division units counting towards major GPA)	24	24
Minimum # of residency units to be completed in the major	18	18
Required supporting coursework (courses that do not count towards major units and major GPA, but are required for the major). Courses listed must include prefix, number, units, and title. Include any limits/restrictions in place/needed (house number limit, etc.). Provide email(s)/letter(s) of support from home department head(s) for courses not owned by your department.	25 units CHEM 151 (4) General Chemistry I CHEM 152 (4) General Chemistry II CHEM 241A (3) Organic Chemistry I MCB 181R (3) Introductory Biology I MCB 181L (1) Intro Biology I MIC 205A (3) General Microbiology MIC 205L (1) Bio Microorganism Lab	9 units CHEM 241A (3) Organic Chemistry I Science Elective (3) Statistics (3)

	Science Elective (3) Statistics (3)	
Major requirements. List all major requirements including core and electives. If applicable, list the emphasis^ requirements. Courses listed count towards major units and major GPA. Courses listed must include prefix, number, units, and title. Mark new coursework (New). Include any limits/restrictions in place/needed (house number limit, etc.). Provide email(s)/letter(s) of support from home department head(s) for courses being added and are not owned by your department. Recommend ordering requirements in the same order as your advisement report.	NSC 101 (3) Intro Human Nutrition BIOC 384 (3) Foundations in Biochemistry BIOC 385 (3) Metabolic Biochemistry NSC 225 (2) Foundational Skills NSC 260 (3) Nutrition Communication and Scientific Literacy NSC 301 (3) Nutrition + Life Cycle NSC 308 (3) Nutrition + Metabolism NSC 351R (3) Fundamentals of Food Science NSC 395A (2) Experiential Learning in Nutritional Sciences NSC 396A (1) Survey of Nutrition Careers NSC 408 (3) Nutritional Biology **Dietetics Sub plan** PSIO 201 (4) Human Anatomy + Physiology I PSIO 202 (4) Human Anatomy + Physiology II NSC 325 (4) Foundations of MNT NSC 325L (1) MNT Lab NSC 351L (1) Food Studies Laboratory NSC 358L (1) Institutional Food Mgmt Lab NSC 358R (2) Institutional Food Mgmt	(See pre-major coursework listed above) BIOC 384 (3) Foundations in Biochemistry BIOC 385 (3) Metabolic Biochemistry NSC 308 (3) Nutrition + Metabolism NSC 351R (3) Fundamentals of Food Science NSC 395A (2) Experiential Learning in Nutritional Sciences NSC 408 (3) Nutritional Biology **Dietetics Sub plan** NSC 325 (4) Foundations of Medical Nutrition Therapy NSC 325L (1) Foundations of Medical Nutrition Therapy Lab NSC 351L (1) Food Studies Laboratory NSC 358L (1) Institutional Food Mgmt Lab NSC 358R (2) Institutional Food Mgmt NSC 420 (2) Nutrition Education + Counseling NSC 425 (4) Medical Nutrition Therapy I NSC 435 (4) Medical Nutrition Therapy II NSC 444 (3) Community Nutrition NSC 458 (3) Foodservice Organization and Mgmt

	NSC 420 (2) Nutrition Education + Counseling NSC 425 (4) MNT I NSC 435 (4) MNT II NSC 444 (3) Community Nutrition NSC 458 (3) Foodservice Organization and Mgmt NSC 495A (1) Dietetic Internship Prep Elective (3) **Nutrition Sub plan** NSC 410 (3) Applied Nutrition and Disease Electives (30) PSIO 201 (4) Human Anatomy + Physiology I PSIO 202 (4) Human Anatomy + Physiology II OR PSIO 380 (4) Fundamentals of Human Physiology	NSC 495A (1) Dietetic Internship Prep Elective (3) **Nutrition Sub plan** NSC 410 (3) Applied Nutrition and Disease Electives (26)
Internship, practicum, applied course requirements. (Yes/No). If yes, provide description.	No	No
Senior thesis or senior project required (Yes/No). If yes, provide description.	No	No
Additional requirements (provide description)	None	None
Minor (optional or required)	Optional	Optional

*May require Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) approval
^Emphases are officially recognized sub-specializations within the discipline. ABOR Policy 2-221 c. Academic Degree Programs Subspecializations requires all undergraduate emphases within a major to share at least 40% curricular commonality across emphases (known as "major core"). Total units required for each emphasis must be equal.

VI. Peer institution comparison- describe how your modified major requirements are similar and different from major requirements of two peer institutions. Select peers from (in order of priority) ABOR approved institutions, AAU members, and/or other relevant institutions recognized in the field.

Our program is one of four programs that offer an accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD), online. These peers all have a similar structure to what we are proposing, with a pre-major (*pre-dietetics)* to create distinction between students who are completing preliminary coursework and those who are pursuing the advanced dietetics coursework. Students are required to complete a mix of science courses and lower division

nutrition courses, and meet minimum GPA (3.0) and individual course grade requirements in order to proceed in the dietetics program from the pre-major. The changes we are proposing are overall less stringent than our peers; we are proposing a minimum GPA of 2.0 to transition from the pre-major to the major. The comparable programs include The University of Alabama, Kansas State University and University of Northern Colorado.

Some of our ABOR peer institutions also have a structure very similar to the one that was proposed for their main campus Nutritional Sciences degree programs, when they offer an accredited DPD program. This includes the programs at the University of Florida, Michigan State University, The Ohio State University, Penn State University, Texas A&M, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

VII. **Faculty impact**– indicate if new faculty hires will be required to deliver the proposed modified/new curriculum.

No new faculty hires are anticipated as a direct result of implementing a pre-major.

VIII. **Budgetary impact**– indicate new resources needed and source of funding to implement the proposed changes. If reallocating resources, indicate where resources will be taken from and the impact this will have on students/faculty/program/unit.

No new resources are anticipated to be needed as a result of implementing a pre-major.

IX. Required signatures

Managing unit administrator (print name and title): Dr. Scott Going, Department Head, Nutritional Sciences

Managing administrator's signature: Scott Going Date: 10/18/19

Managing unit administrator (print name and title): Dr. Scott Going, Professor and Head

Managing administrator's signature: _____ Date: _____

Dean (print name): Michael Staten Associate Dean

Dean's signature: _____ Date: 10/18/2019

Dean (print name): _____

Dean's signature: _____ Date: _____

Note: In some situations, signatures of more than one unit head and/or college dean may be required.

For use by Curricular Affairs:

Committee	Approval date
Academic Programs Subcommittee	
Undergraduate Council	
College Academic Administrators Council	
Arizona Board of Regents (if applicable)	

☐ Notify proposers of approval
☐ Upload proposal documents to relevant UAccess tables
☐ Notify ADVIP team and proposers

If ABOR approval required :
☐ If applicable, create approval memo
☐ Send memo to college/dept and acad_org listserv.
☐ If applicable, create new plan code (secondary too)
☐ If applicable, update emphases
☐ If applicable, add last admit term to prior plan code(s)
☐ Upload proposal docs to relevant UAccess table values
☐ Notify ADVIP team and proposers