School of Medicine

MEDI352: Research in Human Nutrition

Subject Outline
Autumn, 2016
On-Campus
Wollongong

Subject Information
Credit Points: 8
Pre-requisite(s): SHS 150 & SHS 250 & STAT251 or MEDI150 & MEDI250 & STAT251
Co-requisite(s): SHS 351 or SHS 353 or MEDI351 or MEDI353
Restrictions: Entry is competitive. A quota may apply to this subject.
Contact Hours: Email for appointment, Friday 9.30-11.00am

Subject Contacts
Subject Coordinator/Lecturer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name:</th>
<th>Dr Yasmine Probst</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>Building 41, Room 309A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone:</td>
<td>61 2 4221 53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Email:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:yasmine_probst@uow.edu.au">yasmine_probst@uow.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultation mode and times:</td>
<td>Email for appointment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Support and Advice
For general enquiries please contact StudentHub 41:

Location: 41.138B
Telephone: 61 2 4221 3492
Email: smah-students@uow.edu.au
Student Consultation and Communication
University staff receive many emails each day. In order to enable them to respond to your emails appropriately and in a timely fashion, students are asked to observe basic requirements of professional communication:

Please ensure that you include your full name and student number and identify your practical class or tutorial group in your email so that staff know who they are communicating with and can follow-up personally where appropriate.

Consider what the communication is about
- Is your question addressed elsewhere (e.g. in the subject outline or, on the eLearning site)?
- Is it something that is better discussed in person or by telephone? This may be the case if your query requires a lengthy response or a dialogue in order to address. If so, see consultation times above and/or schedule an appointment.
- Are you addressing your request to the most appropriate person?

Specific email subject title to enable easy identification of issue
- Identify the subject code of the subject you are enquiring about (as staff may be involved in more than one subject) put this in the email subject heading. Add a brief, specific query reference after the subject code where appropriate.

Professional courtesy
- Address the staff member appropriately by name (and formal title if you do not yet know them).
- Use full words (avoid ‘text-speak’ abbreviations), correct grammar and correct spelling.
- Be respectful and courteous.
- Allow 3 – 4 working days for a response before following up. If the matter is legitimately urgent, you may wish to try telephoning the staff member (and leaving a voicemail message if necessary) or inquiring at the School Office.
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Section A: General Information

Subject Learning Outcomes

On completion of this subject, students should be able to:

1. Outline a range of research paradigms which inform society on human nutrition
2. Identify the study designs and methods applied in various forms of nutrition research and discuss implications for the establishment of evidence based practice
3. Describe key aspects of diet intake methodology in empirical research and discuss the uses of nutrient databases and technologies for research purposes
4. Describe health outcome measures which are commonly used in nutrition research
5. Compare and contrast the requirements of survey and questionnaire design and qualitative research methods in the nutrition research context
6. Develop a proposal for and undertake a systematic literature review addressing an evidence based question in nutrition

Subject Description

This subject provides an overview of the processes in nutrition research, in particular as they relate to evidence based practice. Topics include an overview of research paradigms and associated research methods in nutrition. There is an emphasis on the methods used to undertake evidence based systematic literature reviews using the approach outlined by NHMRC in the development of practice guidelines and the development of national dietary guidelines.

eLearning Space

This subject has materials and activities available via eLearning. To access eLearning you must have a UOW user account name and password, and be enrolled in the subject. eLearning is accessed via SOLS (student online services). Log on to SOLS and then click on the eLearning link in the menu column. For information regarding the eLearning spaces please use the following link: http://uowblogs.com/moodlelab/files/2013/05/Moodle_StudentGuide-1petpo7.pdf

Lecture, Tutorial, Seminar Times

All timetable information is subject to variation. Check latest timetabling information on the ‘Current Student’ webpage on UOW website or log into SOLS to view your personal timetable prior to attending classes. http://www.uow.edu.au/student/index.html

Timetable information can be accessed from http://www.uow.edu.au/student/timetables/info/index.html

Readings, References and Materials

Textbooks
The following text(s) will need to be purchased by students enrolled in this class.

Nil

Prescribed Readings (includes eReadings)
The following texts are prescribed for this subject, but students are not expected to purchase these. They are available to students through the library on the subjects eLearning site.

OR
OR

Materials
Nil

Recommended Readings
The following references complement the prescribed readings and textbooks:

Supplementary readings provided via Library and eLearning websites. Supplementary readings provided via Library and eLearning websites.

Recent Changes to this Subject
i. Change to subject code

List of Topics Covered
The following are examples of the topics to be covered in this course. This is not an exhaustive list and will be subject to change.

* Research ethics
* Database searching
* Reviewing the literature systematically
* Research data cleaning
* Critical appraisal in practice
* Quantitative appraisal
Section B: Assessment

Assessment Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Item</th>
<th>Form of Assessment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Return/Feedback Due Date</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 1</td>
<td>Principles of Critical Review of Literature</td>
<td>28 March – 03 April</td>
<td>Within 21 days of due date</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 2</td>
<td>Proposal for a Critical Appraisal (Systematic Literature Review)</td>
<td>08 April 2016</td>
<td>Within 21 days of due date</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 3</td>
<td>Critical Appraisal of a Selected Nutrition Topic</td>
<td>26 May 2016</td>
<td>Within 21 days of due date</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessment 4</td>
<td>Presentation of Critical Appraisal Outcomes</td>
<td>26 May or 2 June</td>
<td>Release of results</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Marks</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Details of Assessment Tasks

Assessment tasks will be marked using explicit criteria that will be provided to students prior to submission.

Assessment 1: Principles of Critical Review of Literature

Due date: 28 March – 03 April

Weighting: 10%

Submission: Submit an electronic copy of your assessment via upload to eLearning

Type of Collaboration: Individual Assessment

Length: 40 minutes

Details:

This is a timed web-based multiple choice quiz taken independently during week 5. Students can log on at their convenience to undertake the quiz, they may only log on once and access will automatically cut out after 40 mins. Randomised questions will be from material provided in week 1 of the subject. They will cover the principles of critical systematic review of the scientific literature; ethical requirements for studies involving human subjects; and critical evaluation of studies in particular areas.

The quiz will be marked on the number of correct choices made in the multiple choice design. There is only one correct answer per question. There are 25 questions.

Opportunities for practice quizzes will be addressed via eLearning and completion is recommended prior to completion of the assessment task to avoid technical challenges during the timed quiz.

Style and format: Online quiz

Subject Learning Outcomes: 1

Marking Criteria: Assessment 1 will be marked using the following criteria:

1. Correct answers
### Assessment 2

**Proposal for a Critical Appraisal (Systematic Literature Review)**

**Due date**
08 April 2016

**Weighting**
30%

**Submission**
Submit a hardcopy of your assessment to Yasmine Probst (subject coordinator) office Building 41, Room 309A by 4.00pm AND Submit an electronic copy of your assessment through TurnItIn via upload to eLearning

**Type of Collaboration**
Individual Assessment

**Length**
1000 words (excluding references)

**Details**
Proposals should include: title, hypothesis and/or specific aims, rationale based on referenced scientific literature, potential significance and research plan.

Student will be provided with a selection of topics to focus the review via eLearning during week 1. This is a written proposal for a systematic literature review that follows the guidelines for their completion based on NHMRC/PRISMA standards. The submission will provide details of the research question, rationale for database selection, keywords and combinations

**Style and format**
Report

**Subject Learning outcomes**
2, 6

**Marking Criteria**
Assessment 2 will be marked using the following criteria:
1. Clear hypothesis and/or aims
2. Adequate rationale for the review
3. Appropriate and feasible study design
4. Clear, concise and appropriate statement of methods of data collection and analysis
5. Appropriate understanding of ethical considerations

### Assessment 3

**Critical Appraisal of a Selected Nutrition Topic**

**Due date**
26 May by 9:00:00

**Weighting**
50%

**Submission**
Submit a hardcopy of your assessment to Yasmine Probst (subject coordinator) at the beginning of the seminar presentations AND Submit an electronic copy of your assessment through TurnItIn via upload to eLearning

**Type of Collaboration**
Individual Assessment

**Length**
4000 words (excluding tables and evidence rankings)

**Details**
Reports will be written as in the form of a manuscript to be submitted to a scientific journal including introduction, methods, results, discussion and sections. (see Journal of Nutrition and Dietetics – author guidelines). Students will conduct the critical appraisal proposed in assessment 2 utilising review templates provided in e-Learning

**Style and format**
Report

**Subject Learning Outcomes**
2, 3, 4, 5, 6

**Marking Criteria**
Assessment 3 will be marked using the following criteria:
1. Quality of abstract
2. Demonstration of adequate understanding of field of research
3. Internally consistent presentation of:
   - Aims
   - Methods
   - Results
4. Adequate development of argument through defensible interpretation of results and appropriate use of literature
5. Sound conclusions/recommendations
6. Literary quality
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment 4</th>
<th>Presentation of Critical Appraisal Outcomes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Due date</td>
<td>26/05/16 AND 02/06/16 (pre-allocated times)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[attendance at both sessions is required to avoid a technical fail]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weighting</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission</td>
<td>Submit an electronic copy of your presentation via upload to eLearning by midnight 25/05/16 and bring a copy on USB to the seminar at which you will present (class handouts are optional).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Collaboration</td>
<td>Individual Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length</td>
<td>10 Minutes (8 minutes presentation, 2 minutes question time)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Details:
- Students are required to attend all seminars for the critical appraisal presentations. A technical fail will be awarded if attendance during both weeks is not noted.
- Students will provide an oral presentation of their critical appraisal with up to 6 PowerPoint/Prezi slides addressing:
  - What is the problem (background/rationale/aims)
  - What does your review say about the problem? (study design/data analysis/results)
  - What are the limitations of the review?
  - What is the significance and what are the potential outcomes of the review?

Style and format:
- Oral presentation

Subject Learning Outcomes
- 2, 3, 4, 5

Marking Criteria
- Assessment 4 will be marked using the following criteria:
  1. Presentation skills (including visual aids)
  2. Content of presentation

Minimum Requirements for a Pass in this Subject

To receive a clear pass in this subject a total mark of 50% or more must be achieved. In addition, failure to meet any of the minimum performance requirements is grounds for awarding a Technical Fail (TF) in the subject, even where total marks accumulated are greater than 50%.

The minimum performance requirements for this subject are:
- Attempt all assessment tasks
- Meet attendance requirements at critical appraisal presentations
- Meet the minimum attendance requirements set out below.

Minimum Student Attendance and Participation

It is expected that students will allocate 16 hours per week to this subject, including any required class attendance, completion of prescribed readings and assessment tasks.

Student attendance at tutorials is compulsory and students must attend at least 80% of classes. **Students are required to attend the critical appraisal presentations.** Absences will require the submission of an application for Academic Consideration via SOLS and the presentation of suitable documentation, for example a Medical Certificate, to Student Central as soon as practical. For further details about applying for academic consideration visit the Student Central webpage: [http://www.uow.edu.au/student/central/academicconsideration/index.html](http://www.uow.edu.au/student/central/academicconsideration/index.html)

Scaling

Scaling will not occur in this subject.
Late Submission
Late submission of an assessment task without an approved extension of the deadline is not acceptable. If you are unable to submit an assessment due to extenuating circumstances (e.g. medical grounds or compassionate grounds), you can make an application of academic consideration. Not all circumstances qualify for academic consideration. For further details about applying for academic consideration visit the Student Central webpage: http://www.uow.edu.au/student/central/academicconsideration/index.html

Late Submission Penalty
Marks will be deducted for late submission at the rate of 5% of the total possible marks for that particular assessment task per day. This means that if a piece of work is marked out of 100, then the late penalty will be 5 marks per day (5% of 100 possible marks per day). The formula for calculating the late penalty is: the total possible marks x 0.05 x number of days late. For the purposes of this policy a weekend (Saturday and Sunday) will be regarded as two days.

For example:

- Student A submits an assessment which is marked out of 100. The assessment is submitted 7 days late. This means that a late penalty of 35 marks will apply (100 x 0.05 x 7). The assessment is marked as per normal out of 100 and is given a mark of 85/100, and then the late penalty is applied. The result is that the student receives a final mark of 50/100 for the assessment (85 (original mark) – 35 marks (late penalty) = 50/100 (final mark)).
- Student B submits a report which is marked out of 20. The report is submitted three days late. This means that a late penalty of 3 marks will apply ((20 x 0.05 x 3). The report is marked as per normal out of 20 and is given a mark of 17/20, and then the late penalty is applied. The result is that the student receives a final mark of 14/20 for the report (17 (original mark) – 3 marks (late penalty) = 14/20 (final mark)).

No marks will be awarded for work submitted either after the assessment has been returned to the students or more than two weeks after the due date, whichever is the sooner. This does not apply to situations where a particular assessment task is undertaken by students at different times throughout the session, but where the assessment is based on experiments or case studies specific to a student. In this case no marks will be awarded for work submitted more than two weeks after the due date.

Notwithstanding this, students must complete all assessment tasks to a satisfactory standard and submit them, regardless of lateness or loss of marks, where submission is a condition of satisfactorily completing the subject.

Supplementary Assessments
Supplementary assessment may be offered to students whose performance in this subject is close to that required to pass the subject, and are otherwise identified as meriting an offer of a supplementary assessment. The precise form of supplementary assessment will be determined at the time the offer of a supplementary assessment is made.

Students can log on to SOLS and click on the link titled “Supplementary Assessment” to view any applicable offers or use the following link; http://www.uow.edu.au/student/exams/suppassess/index.html

System of Referencing Used for Written Work
The Author-Date (Harvard) referencing system should, unless otherwise specified for a particular assessment (check Details of Assessment Tasks), be utilised. A summary of the Harvard system can be accessed on the Library website at: http://public01.library.uow.edu.au/refcite/style-guides/html/
Use of Internet Sources

Students are able to use the Internet to access the most current information on relevant topics and information. Internet sources should only be used after careful critical analysis of the currency of the information, the role and standing of the sponsoring institution, reputation and credentials of the author, the clarity of the information and the extent to which the information can be supported or ratified by other authoritative sources.

Plagiarism

The full policy on Academic Integrity and Plagiarism is found in the Policy Directory on the UOW website.

“The University’s Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy, Faculty Handbooks and subject guides clearly set out the University’s expectation that students submit only their own original work for assessment and avoid plagiarising the work of others or cheating. Re-using any of your own work (either in part or in full) which you have submitted previously for assessment is not permitted without appropriate acknowledgement. Plagiarism can be detected and has led to students being expelled from the University.

The use by students of any website that provides access to essays or other assessment items (sometimes marketed as ‘resources’), is extremely unwise. Students who provide an assessment item (or provide access to an assessment item) to others, either directly or indirectly (for example by uploading an assessment item to a website) are considered by the university to be intentionally or recklessly helping other students to cheat. This is considered academic misconduct and students place themselves at risk of being expelled from the University.”

Submission of Assessments

Refer to the submission requirements under the details of the individual assessments. Students should ensure that they receive a receipt/evidence acknowledging assessment submission. Students will be required to produce this in the event that an assessment task is considered to be lost. Students are also expected to keep a copy of all their submitted assignments in the event that re-submission is required.

Assessment Return

Students will be notified when they are able to view their marked assessment. In accordance with University Policy marked assignments will usually only be held for 21 days after the declaration of marks for that assignment.
Section C: General Advice

Students should refer to the Faculty of Science, Medicine and Health website for information on policies, learning and support services and other general advice.

University Policies

Students should be familiar with the following University policies:

a. Code of Practice – Teaching and Assessment  

b. Code of Practice – Research, where relevant  

c. Code of Practice – Honours, where relevant  

d. Student Charter  

e. Code of Practice – Student Professional Experience, where relevant  

f. Academic Integrity and Plagiarism Policy  

g. Student Academic Consideration Policy  

h. Course Progress Policy  

i. Graduate Qualities Policy  

j. Academic Complaints Policy (Coursework and Honours Students)  

k. Policy and Guidelines on Non-Discriminatory Language Practice and Presentation  

l. Workplace Health and Safety, where relevant  

m. Intellectual Property Policy  

n. IP Student Assessment of Intellectual Property Policy, where relevant  

o. Policy on Ethical Objection by Students to the Use of Animal and Animal Products in Coursework Subjects, where relevant  

p. Human Research Ethics Guidelines, where relevant  

q. Animal Research Guidelines, where relevant  

Hardcopies of this document are considered uncontrolled please refer to UOW website or eLearning for the latest version

r. Student Conduct Rules and accompanying Procedures or Research Misconduct Policy for research students

Student Support Services and Facilities
Students can access information on student support services and facilities at the following link. This includes information on "Academic Support", "Starting at University", "Help at University" as well as information and support on "Career's and Jobs". http://www.uow.edu.au/student/services/index.html

Student Etiquette
Guidelines on the use of email to contact teaching staff, mobile phone use in class and information on the university guide to eLearning 'Netiquette' can be found at http://www.uow.edu.au/student/elearning/netiquette/index.html

Version Control Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Version Control</th>
<th>Release Date</th>
<th>Author/Reviewer</th>
<th>Approved By</th>
<th>Amendment</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>20160209</td>
<td>Dr Yasmine Probst – Subject Coordinator</td>
<td>Sonia Losinno – ADE Nominee</td>
<td>Change to assessment 1 dates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>20151211</td>
<td>Dr Yasmine Probst – Subject Coordinator</td>
<td>Sonia Losinno – ADE Nominee</td>
<td>FINAL MEDI352 Autumn 2016 Subject Outline</td>
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</tbody>
</table>