

DEPARTMENT OF

Nutritional Sciences



COLLEGE OF
SCIENCE & ENGINEERING 

July 8, 2020

Dear TCU Nutritional Sciences Students,

We all hope that you are well and safe during this on-going pandemic, as these last few months have affected every one of us in many ways. So much uncertainty in our world can be emotionally draining. We send this letter now to assure you that the TCU Department of Nutritional Sciences (NTDT) faculty and staff are working diligently to make the Fall 2020 semester a positive and energizing experience for everyone. To the returning students, we hope you know that our dedication to excellence in education will remain as it has been. You know we are more than just a teacher you see in the classroom; we have always been available for questions or a quick chat. We don't want those trusts to go away as we transition to this new "normal" for Fall 2020. To our new incoming freshmen and transfer students, we want you to know that the TCU Department of Nutritional Sciences is a supportive and welcoming place where you will know that your interests, passions, dreams, and challenges are always at the forefront of our plans to make sure you have the best educational, curricular, and co-curricular experiences as a university student.

Plans now for Fall 2020 include the option for students to take courses in a totally on-line format or the option to attend classes in person. Faculty also have the option to declare whether they want to teach on-line or in person. Some course sections with large numbers of students have already been classified as on-line courses for this fall, as the large number of students could not be safely accommodated in existing classrooms. Whether your classes are on-line or in person, the faculty are committed to creating an array of interactive activities that will engage you as a student while also insuring that you meet the required student learning outcomes for both the TCU Core and the accredited dietetics curriculum (if applicable).

All NTDT courses will be taught live at their scheduled days and times, whether a student or faculty member is on-line or in the classroom. Students will be expected to be present during each class session, and attendance will be taken. All faculty have been trained and certified for synchronous "hybrid course" delivery, so we will be able to engage with all students in real time whether they are in the classroom or joining via Zoom. Courses this fall will not be offered on a "self-paced" schedule. Syllabi are being created by faculty to provide specific dates for course activities and specific due dates for all assignments.

The NTDT lab experience requires a lot of hands-on activities and experiences to be able to master required knowledge and skills. We plan to offer our labs in person, but best practices are being developed to assure that students who complete the lab experience on-line will receive the same experiences and assignments as the students completing the labs in person. The health and safety of all faculty, staff, and students are of utmost importance as we develop new policies and procedures for implementing our labs.

We will "see" you all in just a short few weeks. For now, we wish you all a continued safe, fun, and happy summer.

Cordially,

Department of Nutritional Sciences Faculty and Staff

Mrs. Samantha Davis

Mrs. Joan Denton

Mrs. Rebecca Dority

Mrs. Meggan Duncan

Mrs. Kate (Bailey) Evans

Dr. Kelly Fisher

Mrs. Kristen Harms

Dr. Gina Hill

Ms. Judy Sargent

Dr. Anne VanBeber

Dr. Jada Willis