GUIDELINES FOR CLINICAL LEARNING ACTIVITIES
Abbreviated for Preceptors

Message for Preceptors: Please note that you may assign tasks or projects that would be beneficial for interns in addition to those listed here. While it is the intern’s responsibility to complete the assignments required by the USU DI, you as the preceptor can ask to see the results of their work on those assignments and offer useful feedback on their performance. Some of the projects they do may result in data that could be useful for your facility.

Clinical Rotation Objectives
At the end of this rotation the intern will be able to:
1. Effectively apply clinical skills and competency to provide appropriate medical nutrition therapy (MNT) and other nutrition care in a variety of medical and health areas.
2. Analyze and critically evaluate clinical ideas, practices, and procedures.
3. Function as a productive member of the clinical team with other clinical and medical disciplines.
4. Effectively find and use appropriate resources to solve clinical questions and problems.
5. Apply clinical didactic knowledge while working in various medical and health areas.

Intern and Preceptor Meetings
The intern is responsible for setting up some conference calls during this rotation. One meeting during the first week of the rotation will be with the intern, the preceptor, and the USU DI faculty. The other call is just between the intern and the USU DI Faculty and may or may not take place during the rotation.

General Clinical Assignments (IPC, OPC, LTC)
1. PROFESSIONALISM POINTS
   DI Faculty will give interns Professionalism Points based on their conduct, completion of assignments, and communication during the course of the rotation.

2. CLINICAL WORKSHEET
   The intern completes this prior to beginning to the rotation to prepare for what may be encountered during the rotation.

3. CLINICAL TASK SHEET
   CRDN 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6, 3.1, 4.3, 4.9
   The intern must complete a variety of tasks or speak with specific personnel about certain aspects of the clinical setting. On this sheet they will keep track of which tasks have been completed with dates and initials of those with whom they talked to or worked.

4. CLINICAL STATISTICS REPORT
   CRDN 2.3, 2.4, 2.6
   The intern is responsible for keeping track of the work done during the clinical rotations. This will help the intern keep track of the number of disease states they learn about and patients they screen, assess, and teach. The intern is to record the number of times they do tasks daily.

5. RESEARCH-LIVE PRESENTATION
   CRDN 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 2.2, 2.10, 3.3
   The intern will choose a controversial nutrition topic with opposing views and present their analysis of the research to their classmates in an online class. This will allow interns to practice their research analysis and presentation skills.
6. **CLINICAL DISCUSSION BOARD**

   The intern is to use online discussion boards to actively discuss rotation-related topics with classmates located in varied locations. This includes offering comments, questions, and/or replies to other postings that are engaging, develop critical thinking skills, make connections to real-life situations, generate new ideas, and/or offer suggestions that can be translated back to practice.

**Inpatient Clinical Assignments (IPC)**

7. **IPC DATA SHEET**

   The intern must answer the questions on this data sheet in conjunction with some of their assignments or meetings with personnel as part of completing the Clinical Task Sheet.

8. **NCP DOCUMENTATION & EVALUATION**

   The intern must practice using the Nutrition Care Process. The intern must document **TWO** patients (at least one should be a critical care, nutrition support, or renal patient) by completing a thorough nutrition assessment on the patient(s), identifying the best nutrition diagnosis using the NCP standardized language, plan and implement nutrition intervention strategies, and specify appropriate indicators to be monitored and/or evaluated to determine the progress of each patient. The intern will document or chart each of these NCP processes using the ADIME format, and have the preceptor evaluate each note using the **NCP Documentation Evaluation**. The intern will type and submit a copy of the note to the USU DI that does not include any patient identifiers.

9. **NUTRITION CASE STUDY PRESENTATION**

   The intern must prepare and present a clinical patient case study to professional colleagues. This should be completed toward the end of the inpatient rotation.

10. **INTERVIEW AND EDUCATION EVALUATIONS**

    The intern is to practice interviewing and teaching skills after observing the dietitian 1-2 times.
    - **10.1 Patient Interview**: The intern and preceptor will select a new patient and/or family to interview. The preceptor will observe and complete the **Interview Evaluation**.
    - **10.2 Patient Education**: The intern and preceptor will select two (2) patients who need education on a nutrition topic and teach that patient and/or family on the topic. The preceptor will observe and complete the **Education Evaluation** for each education provided.

11. **CLINICAL STAFF RELIEF**

    The intern is to take on all clinical responsibilities of one of the dietitians at the facility. The goal is to give the intern the opportunity to practice the clinical skills they have learned by working as the “RD”. While doing staff relief, the dietitian/preceptor will still be available for questions if the intern runs into problems and will continue to co-sign all documentation. Approximately two weeks or eighty (80) hours of staff relief are required.

**Outpatient Clinical Assignments (OPC)**

12. **OPC DATA SHEET**

    The intern must answer the questions on this data sheet in conjunction with some of their assignments or meetings with personnel as part of completing the Clinical Task Sheet.
13. NCP DOCUMENTATION & EVALUATION

Practice using the Nutrition Care Process. Document on **ONE** client; use assignment #9 guidelines.

14. MEAL PLANNING ON A BUDGET

The intern will develop a one week menu for one adult with a budget of $45 for groceries. The meal plan should include three (3) meals per day and provide about 1800-2000 calories per day. The intern may tailor the menu to address the needs of the outpatient population seen during OPC. The meal plan and grocery list will be submitted online.

15. COUNSELING EVALUATIONS

The intern will practice counseling skills and techniques while working with clients. Effective counseling requires specific skills which the intern will learn through observation and practice. After observing the dietitian counseling clients 3-4 times, the intern and preceptor will discuss the different counseling skills and techniques the dietitian uses and why/how they work. The intern and preceptor will select one (1) client to for the intern to counsel. The preceptor will observe and evaluate the intern and complete the **Counseling Evaluation**.

**Long-Term Care Assignments (LTC)**

16. LTC DATA SHEET

The intern must answer the questions on this data sheet by interviewing the LTC preceptor.

17. NCP DOCUMENTATION & EVALUATION

The intern must practice using the Nutrition Care Process and document on **ONE** resident; using assignment #9 guidelines.

**Additional Items**

18. OTHER EVALUATIONS AND LOGS

The intern must complete various other evaluations and logs during their experience. Some of these may need to be signed by the preceptor. The preceptor will be asked to complete a **Final Evaluation** towards the end of the rotation to evaluate the intern’s overall performance in specific areas.

19. ONLINE CASE STUDIES

The intern is to complete case studies found in the Clinical course online. These case studies are designed to help interns practice using the NCP.

20. LEARNING MODULES, APPLICATION, AND COMPREHENSIVE EXAM

The intern must complete various lectures and quizzes online. The comprehensive exam is proctored through an online program called Proctorio. In the event the Proctorio system does not work an intern may ask a preceptor to proctor their exam.