

ORIENTATION MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD
DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND NUTRITION- 2020/2021

1. Welcoming Note

Dear Students,

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Almighty God for granting us a healthy life all the yearlong as well as congratulating you for being selected to join OUT (New students) and continue well in your studies (ongoing students) for the academic year 2020/2021.

2. Teaching and Learning

The department offers two programmes at Undergraduate levels namely.

- i. B.Sc. Food, Nutrition and Dietetics
- ii. B.Sc. Home Economics with Education

3. Overview of Programme Structure

i. B.Sc. Food, Nutrition and Dietetics

The programme is to be offered in *three* progressive levels, each level covering approximately 12 units whereby 10 are core units. A student will be eligible for graduation on covering 30 core units and a total number of 38 units including special project, industrial training and science practical.

Graduates of this program have multiple career prospects / options. They can work in nutrition, education and promotion, government departments concerned with health and food, hospitals, schools, collages, factories, cafeterias, research career, food product manufacturing companies and hospitals, teaching in colleges and universities, work as private consultant or private practitioner.

ii. **B.Sc. Home Economics with Education**

Students admitted into B. Sc. (Ed) programme at OUT shall select two science subjects from the following combinations, for our case; Biology and Home Economics & Human Nutrition. **Year I** (OHE 154; Textiles I & II and OHE 155; Food & Nutrition), **Year II** (OHE 156; Home Management and OHE 155; Food Science I n the Home), **Year III** (OHE 254; Therapeutic Diet & Community Nutrition, OHE 350; H/Economics & H/Nutrition Practicals and OHE 307; Special Project). The minimum number of completed units for graduation is 38.

4. **Conducting Science Practical, Industrial Training and Special Project**

i. **Science practical**

In every year students are supposed to attend practical sessions that are organized in various universities (currently SUA). Future plans are to have our own laboratory so that students will be attending practical sessions at OUT. Before attending the session, a student must register and pay tuition fee for the course. Both registration and payment of tuition fee are carried once. So once registered and paid fee in first year, you will qualify to attend practical sessions in the coming years without both registering and paying tuition fee.

ii. **Field placements or field practise or field attachment**

The B.Sc. Food, Nutrition & Dietetics involves a one month placement to an area practicing Food, Nutrition & Dietetics or related profession so as to expose them to professional experience. These are done at levels 2 & 3. Before attending the session, a student must both register and pay tuition fee for the course. Both registration and payment of tuition fee are carried once. At the end of field attachment two reports are submitted to the department, (i) confidential report from the field supervisor and (ii) well written report prepared by a student explaining experiences they have had in their attachment. **Reports** are submitted two weeks after completion of the attachment.

iii. **Individual research project/ special projects**

Students with minimum of two thirds (26/38) units do qualify to attend the course Individual research project (OFD 305). The student will work independently under the supervision of OUT staff. For student intending to graduate the coming year, the process of proposal development should start just

after completing June/July exams so as to give enough time for the proposal review process before embarking on data collection.

5. General Matters

There is a growing tendency of students writing so many examination papers in one sitting with an intention of finishing their studies earlier. This in turn has been affecting their performance. My advice to you is that since OUT has a flexible way of learning, select few courses that you can manage for its examinations and register for another set in various examination sessions organized by the university (about four).

6. Conclusion

Dear students, since this is not exhaustive note, kindly visit OUT website to access the faculty student handbook, prospectus and department brochures for more clarification on various issues.. Should you require some clarification from the department, here are the contact details: Head of Department, Dr Elina Masetta (elina.maseta@out.ac.tz, Cell no.0689354550). Please communicate in official hours.

I once again welcome you to the Department of Food and Nutrition of The Open University of Tanzania.



Elina Masetta (PhD)