



OUACHITA

BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

CATALOG

2022—2023

Graduate and Professional Studies

Ouachita Baptist University System

University Switchboard (870) 245-5000

INFORMATION

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Office of the Registrar	Susan Atkinson Registrar and Director of Admissions OBU Box 3757 Arkadelphia, AR 71998-0001 Tel: 870-245-5580 Fax: 870-245-5194
Office of Student Financial Services	Karen Matros Director of Student Financial Services OBU Box 3774 Arkadelphia, AR 71998-0001 870-245-5573
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School of Education	Jeff Root Dean, Huckabee School of Education OBU Box 3789 Arkadelphia, AR 71998-0001 870-245-5154
School of Fine Arts	Ryan Lewis Interim Dean, School of Fine Arts OBU Box 3771 Arkadelphia, AR 71998-0001 870-245-5129
School of Humanities	Jeff Root Dean, School of Humanities OBU Box 3759 Arkadelphia, AR 71998-0001 870-245-5522
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This bulletin becomes effective August 1, 2022, and the policies and programs included will continue in force through July 31, 2023. The University reserves the right to revise any of the policies or programs during the period the bulletin is in force if such revision should become necessary. Any amendments or changes during this period will be posted on the online version of the catalog, available at: <https://obu.edu/academics/general-catalog.php>.

OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY CALENDAR

Residential Campus

Fall 2022

August 10-12	Online check-in for Fall semester (all students)
August 18	Faculty-Staff Assembly
August 19	New Beginnings: Assembly for New Students and Parents
August 19-22	WOW Orientation for New Students
August 23	Classes Begin
August 26	Last Day to Register
August 31	Last Day to Add a Course
September 5	Labor Day: No Classes/Offices Closed
September 30	Last Day to Drop a Course*
October 20-21	Fall Break
October 19	Mid-Semester Grades Due
October 31-November 4; November 7-11	Pre-registration for Spring Classes
November 11	Last Day to Withdraw from a Course
November 23-25	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 12-16	Final Exams

Winter 2022-23

December 14-16	Online check-in for Winter Term (all students)
December 19 – January 8	Winter Term

Spring 2023

January 4-6	Online check-in for Spring semester (all students)
January 16	Martin Luther King Day Observance: Offices Closed
January 17	Faculty/Staff Assembly
January 18	Classes Begin
January 20	Last Day to Register
January 25	Last Day to Add a Course
February 6-10	Christian Focus Week
February 24	Last Day to Drop a Course*
March 16	Mid-Semester Grades Due
March 20-24	Spring Break
April 10	Easter Monday: No Classes; Offices Closed
April 11-14, 17-21	Pre-registration for Fall Classes
April 14	Last Day to Withdraw from a Course
April 22 & 29	Early Registration for New Freshmen
April 26, 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Scholars Day
May 8-12	Final Exams
May 13	Commencement

Summer 2023

May 10-12	Online Check-in for May Term (all students)
May 15	May Term begins
May 16	Last Day to Add a May Term Course
May 19	Last Day to Drop a May Term Course
May 26	Last Day to Withdraw from a May Term Course
May 31-June 2	Online check-in for Summer Term
June 5	Summer Term Begins
June 8	Last Day to Add a Summer Term Course
June 23	Last Day to Drop a Summer Term Course
July 7	Last Day to Withdraw from a Summer Term Course
July 30	Summer Term Ends

* The last day for residential students to Drop a residential course in the Fall semester (September 30) and the Spring semester (February 24) is the last day for residential students to add a Term 2 online course.

OUACHITA ONLINE ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Fall Terms 2022

August 11-13	Online check-in for Fall Term 1 (all students)
August 23	Fall Term 1 Begins
August 26	Last Day to Add a Term 1 Course
September 10	Last Day to Drop a Term 1 Course
September 24	Last Day to Withdraw from a Term 1 Course
October 17	Fall Term 1 Ends
October 13-15	Online check-in for Fall Term 2
October 18	Fall Term 2 Begins
October 21	Last Day to Add a Term 2 Course
November 5	Last Day to Drop a Term 2 Course
November 19	Last Day to Withdraw from a Term 2 Course
November 22-28	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 19	Fall Term 2 Ends

Winter Term 2022-23

December 21-23	Online check-in for Winter Term
December 27	Winter Term Begins (3 weeks)
December 28	Last Day to Add a Winter Term Course
December 31	Last Day to Drop a Winter Term Course
January 7	Last Day to Withdraw from a Winter Term Course
January 16	Winter Term Ends

Spring Terms 2023

January 5-7	Online check-in for Spring Term 1 (all students)
January 18	Spring Term 1 Begins
January 21	Last Day to Add a Term 1 Course
February 4	Last Day to Drop a Term 1 Course
February 18	Last Day to Withdraw from a Term 1 Course
March 13	Spring Term 1 Ends
March 9-11	Online check-in for Spring Term 2
March 14	Spring Term 2 Begins
March 17	Last Day to Add a Term 2 Course
March 21-27	Spring Break
April 4	Preregistration for May/Summer/Fall Terms begins
April 8	Last Day to Drop a Term 2 Course
April 22	Last Day to Withdraw From a Term 2 Course
May 15	Spring Term 2 Ends

May Term 2023

May 11-13	Online check-in for May Term
May 16	May Term Begins (3 weeks)
May 17	Last Day to Add a May Term Course
May 20	Last Day to Drop a May Term Course
May 27	Last Day to Withdraw from a May Term Course
June 5	May Term Ends

Summer Term 2023

June 1-3	Online check-in for Summer Term
June 6	Summer Term Begins
June 9	Last Day to Add a Summer Term Course
June 24	Last Day to Drop a Summer Term Course
July 8	Last Day to Withdraw from a Summer Term Course
July 31	Summer Term Ends

Bulletin
of
Ouachita Baptist
University

GRADUATE CATALOG

with Announcements for

2022 - 2023

One Hundred Thirty-Sixth Session

Arkadelphia, Arkansas

August 2022

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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

On the pages of this catalog, you will find a description of the graduate degree offerings of Ouachita Baptist University. These programs reflect the dreams of those who established the college in 1886 with a mission of educating men and women for exemplary service in the home, the church, and the world. In expanding the reach of the University's mission to include graduate programs, Ouachita seeks to meet the every-growing needs of a world that is always changing while holding to the values that have sustained this University for over 130 years.

Today we continue that mission through a Christ-centered learning community committed to fostering a love of God and a love of learning. We are dreaming a larger dream for Ouachita Baptist University. I invite you to join us as you seek to fulfill your own dream of furthering your education.

Ben R. Sells

OUACHITA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

Vision

Ouachita Baptist University seeks to foster a love of God and a love of learning by creating for students and other constituents dynamic growth opportunities both on campus and throughout the world. With foresight and faithfulness, Ouachita makes a difference.

Mission

Ouachita Baptist University is a Christ-centered learning community. Embracing the liberal arts tradition, the university prepares individuals for ongoing intellectual and spiritual growth, lives of meaningful work, and reasoned engagement with the world.

Values

Ouachita strives to be an academic community of vision, integrity, and service grounded in the following values:

Faith. We believe that life is lived most abundantly in response to the love of God through Jesus Christ.

Scholarship. We advance excellence in teaching, learning, research, and creative expression.

Growth. We foster broad-based education, encouraging growth in intellectual, spiritual, physical, and social domains.

Character. We affirm that respect and honesty undergird responsible citizenship and stewardship.

Community. We promote a vibrant community strengthened by diversity, sustained by common aims and supportive relationships, and committed to leadership and service on campus and beyond.

Origin

Ouachita Baptist College was authorized by a vote of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention as its higher educational institution in November 1885. In April 1886, the trustees of the University voted to locate the institution in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. Classes began on September 6, 1886, and the institution has operated without interruption in the same location since that date. On January 14, 1965, the Board of Trustees voted to change the name from College to University.

While Ouachita's primary obligation is to her parent body, the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, the University has no restrictions as to belief or geographical location of persons whom it serves. The presence of students from many religions, states, and nations helps instill appreciation for other points of view and enriches the academic community. Ouachita welcomes students of all races.

As a Christian institution, Ouachita is more than a nominally church-related school. She takes seriously the person and teachings of Jesus Christ and seeks to relate these to the many disciplines and activities on the University campus. Nor does this orientation impose restrictions or deny academic freedom in the search for truth, for Jesus himself said, "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Fifteen presidents have guided its development: Dr. J.W. Conger, 1886-1907; Dr. H.S. Hartzog, 1907-11; Dr. R.C. Bowers, 1911-13; Dr. S.Y. Jameson, 1913-16; Dr. C.E. Dicken, 1916-26; Mr. A.B. Hill, 1926-29; Dr. C.D. Johnson, 1929-33; Dr. J.R. Grant, 1933-49; Dr. S.W. Eubanks, 1949-51; Dr. Harold A. Haswell, 1952-53; Dr. Ralph A. Phelps, Jr., 1953-1969; Dr. Daniel R. Grant, 1970-1988; Dr. Ben M. Elrod, 1988-1998; Dr. Andrew Westmoreland, 1998-2006; Dr. Rex M. Home, Jr., 2006-2015; Dr. Ben Sells, 2016 to date.

The Liberal Arts Tradition

Since its founding in 1886, Ouachita Baptist University has aimed to unite a broad-based education in the liberal arts with preparation for service in a variety of fields. In the context of an overarching fidelity to Christian faith and practice, Ouachita's educational mission remains rooted in the liberal arts tradition and oriented toward preparing graduates for meaningful work. Our hope is Ouachita graduates not only accomplish their highest vocational aspirations, but also live with a sense of purpose, act with abiding integrity, and joyfully serve their communities.

Graduate Learning Goals

At Ouachita Baptist University, graduate programs extend the university's vision, mission, and values to students beyond our traditional, residential campus. By offering advanced study in selected fields, Ouachita aims to promote scholarly achievement, enhance professional expertise, encourage faithful stewardship, and graduate highly capable professionals ready to assume places of leadership and service in their workplaces and communities. To accomplish these purposes, the university's graduate programs support students in achieving the following outcomes:

- Demonstrate graduate-level mastery of the knowledge and skills central to scholarly inquiry and professional practice within a field of study.
- Develop a reasoned approach to the role of faith in scholarly and professional pursuits and responsibly relate Christian perspectives to disciplinary practice.
- Interpret and apply ethical insights and decision-making in the context of one's intended profession.
- Communicate a personal vision of vocation, including how one can contribute meaningfully to one's profession and broader community.

Location

Ouachita Baptist University is located in Arkadelphia, Arkansas, about sixty-five miles southwest of Little Rock on Interstate 30 and thirty miles south of Hot Springs. There is frequent bus and Amtrak service to and from the city. Facilities for air transportation are available both in Hot Springs and Little Rock. Arkadelphia has a population of over 10,000, including the student bodies of Ouachita Baptist University and Henderson State University.

Status and Facilities of the University

Ouachita Baptist University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission. (230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500, Chicago, Illinois, 60604-1413. Telephone: 800-621-7440)

The Teacher Education Program is accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation on the elementary and secondary levels. (Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation: 1140 19th St. NW, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20036. Telephone: 202-223-0077.)

The Division of Music is accredited for the baccalaureate degree by the National Association of Schools of Music. (National Association of Schools of Music: 11250 Roger Bacon Drive, Suite 21, Reston, Virginia, 20190. Telephone: 703-437-0700)

The Didactic Program in Nutrition and Dietetics (DPND) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics. The Program meets the didactic academic requirements for registration eligibility. The University has been granted candidacy for accreditation of a Dietetic Internship by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). Resources from the Academy can be found at www.eatright.org/acend. Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 120 Riverside Plaza Suite 2190, Chicago, IL 60606-6995, 1-800-877-1600 ext. 5400.

The undergraduate degree program in business offered by the Frank D. Hickingbotham School of Business is accredited by AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business.

The University is a member of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, the International Association of Baptist Colleges and Universities, the Consortium for Global Education, the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, and the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

More than thirty permanent buildings are located on the campus, most of which are red brick and modern or colonial styles of architecture. A beautiful interconnecting mega-structure consisting of Evans Student Center, Frank D. Hickingbotham Hall, Lile Hall, Mabee Fine Arts Center, and McClellan Hall, brings together in harmony the Ouachita River, the Ravine, and the heart of the campus. Residence Halls and apartments to house students and student families are located on and near the main campus.

Hickingbotham Hall, the home of the Frank D. Hickingbotham School of Business, was completed in the spring of 2006. The Willard and Pat Walker Conference Center, located on the lower level of the Ouachita Commons, opened in April 2006; the student dining area of the Ouachita Commons opened in January 2001.

The Roy and Christine Sturgis Physical Education Center is a versatile, multipurpose facility containing an Olympic-size pool, racquetball, weight, and tennis facilities, classrooms, offices, the varsity basketball arena, and two multipurpose courts.

The Harvey Jones Science Center, opened in 1997, provides over 60,000 square feet of space for the Departments of Biological Sciences, Chemistry and Physics and Mathematics and Computer Science. The Center provides students and faculty with a beautiful and functional space in which to study and work.

The Harvey and Bernice Jones Performing Arts Center consists of a 1,500-seat auditorium, makeup rooms, prop storage and construction rooms, faculty offices and a ticket office. The facility contains more than 37,000 square feet of functional space and includes a large working stage, an orchestra shell and pit, a state-of-the-art sound system and seating divided into orchestra, mezzanine and balcony sections. Jones Performing Arts Center is connected to Verser Theatre to create one of the most versatile and beautiful theatre arts facilities in the region.

Riley-Hickingbotham Library

In keeping with the University's nature as a church-related, liberal arts institution, Riley-Hickingbotham Library's mission is to be an integral part of the academic program by providing excellent service through bibliographical, physical, and intellectual access to recorded knowledge and information and, insofar as possible, sharing resources with individuals and institutions in the larger scholarly community.

Riley-Hickingbotham Library serves Ouachita and the community as a learning center, supporting the educational process with a wide range of resources. It accomplishes that task through the main library – which offers a Technology Enhanced Collaborative (TEC) study room, group study rooms, individual study space, PCs, and Wi-Fi – and through the music library in Mabee Fine Arts Center.

The library's book collection has approximately 170,000 volumes and thousands of ebook titles among its holdings.

As a selective depository of government resources, the library curates a variety of federal publications, most of which are accessible online.

The periodicals collection provides digital and print access to numerous journals, magazines, and newspapers. Many titles are accessible in the EbscoHost, ProQuest, and JSTOR databases. The library also subscribes to general and subject-specific reference databases. Among the microform collections are the complete Educational Resource Information Center (ERIC) File, the American Culture Series (pre-1874 American publications), the Black History Collection, the Literature of Theology and Church History in North America, the University Music Editions reprint series, and the Eastman School of Music's collection of early music writings.

Instructional Media Services, located on the ground floor of the library, supports campus media technology; provides access to portable projection equipment and the library's video collection; and offers media laminating service.

Special Collections include those of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, Clark County Historical Association, University Archives, and Rare Books section of the main library. A growing collection of political papers – including those of the late Senator John L. McClellan, the District's two most recent Congressmen, and former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee – is likewise part of Special Collections.

The library's discovery catalog facilitates searching all of the library's holdings simultaneously and expanding searches to include neighboring libraries and libraries worldwide.

Ouachita's Scholarly Commons is the online repository of the scholarship, creative works, and historical record of Ouachita Baptist University. This service represents the institution's commitment to the preservation, organization, open access, and dissemination of these resources, produced by the faculty, students, staff, and alumni of the university.

Current Ouachita students and employees may access materials beyond the library's holdings via interlibrary loan service with libraries nationwide and reciprocal borrowing agreements with Henderson State University's Huie Library and the ArkLink Library Consortium.

GOVERNMENT AND INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS

University Government

The University is governed by a twenty-four member Board of Trustees elected by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention. The general program is administered by the President of the University.

University Complaint Policy

Ouachita Baptist University takes seriously all questions, concerns and complaints it receives, and responds in a timely fashion. These should be initiated and resolved through regular university processes whenever possible. Some matters may be directed to the University Compliance Officer who will refer them to the appropriate department or official. The University Complaint Policy can be found at www.obu.edu/about/consumerinfo/. For questions, please use the university's toll-free telephone number, 1.800.342.5628, or e-mail consumerinfo@obu.edu.

Instructional Programs

The Vice President for Academic Affairs is responsible for the overall supervision of the academic program of the University.

The instructional programs of the University are administered by the deans of the respective schools, with faculties who are highly competent in their teaching fields.

The following schools constitute the academic structure of the University:

- The Frank D. Hickingbotham School of Business
- The Chesley and Elizabeth Pruet School of Christian Studies
- The Michael D. Huckabee School of Education
- The School of Fine Arts
- The School of Humanities
- The School of Interdisciplinary Studies
- The J. D. Patterson School of Natural Sciences
- The W. H. Sutton School of Social Sciences

The graduate programs are administered collaboratively with the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies and the respective academic schools.

The Regular Session. The regular session consists of two semesters of seventeen weeks each. Through its eight schools and the Graduate and Professional Studies program, the University offers seven undergraduate degrees, one graduate degree, and one post-baccalaureate certificate. A Spring Commencement concludes each academic year for graduates.

The Winter Session. The winter session consists of a three-week term during which a student may register for one course. The term normally runs from late December through mid-January. The courses for this session are offered online only.

The Summer Session. The summer session consists of a three-week May term, two four-week on-campus terms, and one eight-week online term. A student may register for up to five courses including all summer session terms, with limits of one course in May term, three courses in the Online Summer Term, and two courses each in the on-campus terms.

The Joint Educational Consortium

The Joint Educational Consortium of Arkadelphia fosters enhanced educational opportunities for students. Students at Henderson State University and Ouachita Baptist University have immediate access to all library and reference material on both campuses. Where programs or classes offered by either University are not available on the other campus, cross registration and credit for courses can often be arranged. The Joint Educational Consortium considers cooperative programs of education and research which can enrich and enlarge academic opportunities for students while maintaining the advantages which are inherent in smaller universities, such as smaller classes, greater opportunities for contact between faculty and students, and a genuine interest in each student as an individual.

For additional information about cooperative programs, contact the JEC at P.O. Box 7744, Arkadelphia, AR 71999.

Ouachita Alumni

The Ouachita Alumni is organized under the direction of the Ouachita Alumni Advisory Board and is designed for the purpose of keeping alumni aware of University activities and programs. The group is concerned with the welfare of the University's graduates and alumni and is vitally interested in the development of a greater Ouachita.

Graduates and alumni who have attended Ouachita Baptist University for at least one semester shall be considered members of the Ouachita Alumni. The group is supported through the University, which, in turn, receives a considerable portion of its funding through alumni gifts. There are no dues.

Ben M. Elrod Center for Family and Community

The Ben M. Elrod Center for Family and Community at Ouachita Baptist University is dedicated to serving humankind through the educational experience. Ouachita's faculty, staff, and students are committed to providing leadership that will result in the strengthening of the family and the community. In particular, concepts such as volunteerism, service-learning, applied research, outreach, and instruction are promoted.

The goals of the Elrod Center for Family and Community are to:

- support public service initiatives in the public and church arenas
- equip students, faculty, and staff to become community leaders
- support and coordinate resources
- publicize public service efforts
- promote volunteerism as vital to active citizenship
- promote interdisciplinary studies that benefit the family and community
- provide an institutional door for the community to relate to the university
- promote non-credit courses that will benefit the community
- strengthen families through education, instruction, and outreach
- recognize and reward outstanding service efforts

Additional outreach initiatives coordinated by the Elrod Center include:

1. **Tiger Serve Day** – a campus-wide event held once a semester that encourages Ouachita volunteers to meet practical and relational needs in the community. Projects include raking, trimming bushes, washing windows and city clean up.
2. **Tutoring** Programs including America Reads/America Counts, Peake Partnership and After school tutoring are offered through the public schools and at the center.
3. **ElderServe** – an outreach program linking students with senior adults in the area for companionship and support purposes.
4. **Healthy Relationships Week** – a weeklong emphasis on developing healthy marriage and dating relationships for students.
5. **TaxServe**- an opportunity for students, faculty, staff and retirees to train and process tax returns for community residents of low to moderate income levels.
6. **EyeServe** – a partnership program between the Elrod Center and Vision Source to provide eyeglasses for people in the developing world.
7. **KSEG** – Kluck Student Enrichment Grants – These grants are awarded in the fall and spring of each semester and are offered to challenge students to be creative in their service thinking. The funds are used to provide the finances to support the service activity proposed.
8. **ESEG**- Elrod Service Enrichment Grants- These grants are awarded in the fall and spring of each semester and are offered to challenge faculty and staff to be creative in their service engagement through the classroom setting. The funds are used to provide the finances needed for the proposed project.
9. **Thanksgiving Baskets**—a university-wide effort to provide for families in need in the community who might not otherwise be able to afford a traditional Thanksgiving meal. The center coordinates these efforts with area school counselors and LightHouse Ministries.

For further information, contact Judy Duvall, Director of the Ben M. Elrod Center for Family and Community. Telephone: 870-245-5320. E-mail: duvalli@obu.edu. Web site: www.obu.edu/elrod.

Financial Support

The expenses of the University are met only in part by student fees. The remainder is derived by income from the endowment fund, an annual Cooperative Program grant from the Arkansas Baptist State Convention, and by current gifts. Substantial support from Arkansas Baptists, alumni, former students, and other friends makes it possible for Ouachita Baptist University to provide the highest quality educational opportunities at a cost that is among the lowest of all accredited private senior colleges and universities in the nation. Every student shares in the benefits generated by gifts and grants.

Over the years, a special group of friends has provided the resources necessary to undertake a successful and ongoing campus development program, resulting in new facilities and equipment, campus beautification projects, and a high quality instructional program. Many of these friends have been recognized for their outstanding commitment to Ouachita's mission, notably in the Hall of Honor in McClellan Hall and by named facilities, projects, and endowments. The support of many other faithful friends has been, and continues to be, an invaluable source of strength that helps to maintain the University's' margin of excellence. Those friends who have made arrangements in their long-range planning to benefit Ouachita are recognized in appropriate ways.

To all of those who share their resources to make Ouachita Baptist University the best it can be, we owe a profound debt of gratitude.

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

The division of Student Development is under the direction of the Vice President for Student Development. Each year, Student Development publishes the *Graduate Tiger Handbook*, the official university guidebook for students.

Medical Requirements

All students must complete health records consistent with state and university requirements. The student must show proof of two measles, mumps, and rubella vaccinations, usually given in the form of an MMR. A tetanus-diphtheria vaccination is recommended within the last ten years. In addition, a tuberculosis screening is required for any student who has lived outside the United States within the past 12 months. All international students must receive a tuberculosis screening at the University Health Services if they were born in a country where TB is endemic.

Arkansas Act 1233 of 1999 requires all universities to notify both students and parent of an increased risk of meningococcal disease among individuals who live in close quarters such as students in college residence halls. A vaccine is available and should be discussed with your local health provider.

University Counseling Services

Counseling services are provided by the University Counselor at no cost to currently enrolled students, faculty, staff, and their families. These services are available to students, faculty, and staff who are experiencing any of a broad range of personal or interpersonal difficulties. We have three staff counselors in the Counseling Center, and two graduate student interns trained to assist students. The Counseling Center is located on the lower level of the Evans Student Center. Appointments may be requested by contacting Vickie Davis in the Student Development Office, at 870-245-5220 or davisv@obu.edu. The University Counseling Center Director, Dan Jarboe, also serves as the ADA/504 Coordinator to assist students requesting accommodations. Students who require assistance beyond the scope of the University Counseling Services will be given a referral to a community-based resource.

Standards of Conduct

By accepting admission to Ouachita Baptist University, each student assumes the responsibility to abide by the standards of the University as well as local, state, and national laws. In general, the rules are based on the desire of the faculty and staff that students demonstrate good citizenship, respect the rights of others, and achieve in their studies in a Christian educational environment. Specific regulations are given in the official University handbook, the *Graduate Tiger Handbook*.

Religious Life at Ouachita

In accordance with the university's vision, mission, and values, Ouachita seeks to foster in our students a love of God and a love of learning. Ouachita believes the local church is central to the spiritual life of Christians and does not consider chapel or other university programs to be replacements for church involvement.

As a public expression of Ouachita's identity and purpose as a Christ-centered learning community, the university's chapel program is designed to deepen students' spiritual lives, to broaden their cultural appreciation, and to realize their role as a part of the Ouachita community. While many programs include worship and teaching from scripture, others promote student participation in university programs or allow Christians from diverse walks of life to share about their faith.

The office of Campus Ministries coordinates the university's spiritual life programs, activities, and resources. Its primary goals are to foster meaningful relationships with Christ among students; to guide them in fruitful ministry, discipleship and fellowship; and to train leaders who will continue to engage the world and serve the church. The office coordinates ministry teams, mission trips, discipleship groups, and student-led gatherings, including Refuge and Noonday. Campus Ministries cooperates with Arkansas Baptist Collegiate Ministries and other Southern Baptist entities, such as the International Mission Board. The organization is led by the Director and Assistant Director of Campus Ministries.

Career Services

The Career and Calling staff assists graduate students by defining goals and preparing for successful internship or employment search. Career and Calling works with individuals throughout their time at Ouachita and as alumni. Career and Calling offers resources providing extensive information about occupations, values, interests, skills, education programs, and more. Handshake, Ouachita's exclusive online job posting site for students and alumni, offers access to information about internships and employment opportunities. The annual Career & Networking Expo connects organizations and employers with students, faculty, and recent graduates. Each fall, a Graduate School Fair introduces students to opportunities for graduate studies. Additional services include coordinating employment interviews, assisting with resumes and applications, and offering educational events designed to help individuals prepare for lives of meaningful work. Career and Calling is located in Cone-Bottoms Hall, Suite 125, and may be contacted at careerandcalling@obu.edu or 870.245.5593.

STUDENT EXPENSES

Ouachita's Student Financial Services Office maintains student financial account information for all applicants, current and former students. This section provides a detail of anticipated charges for students pursuing graduate coursework, an explanation of our payment options, as well as refund and withdrawal policies. The following are typical expenses of students enrolled in Ouachita's graduate programs of study. Students should allow approximately \$550 per semester for books.

Expense Statement

Applied Behavior Analysis Tuition, per credit hour (Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Summer 2023).....	\$750.00
Nutrition and Dietetics Tuition, per credit hour (Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Summer 2023).....	750.00
Education, Curriculum and Instruction Tuition, per credit hour (Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Summer 2023)	500.00
Other expenses where applicable	
Application fee.....	\$40.00
Graduate fee	50.00
Technology fee (per semester)	120.00
Course change after last day to enroll	15.00
Returned Checks or Stop Payment fee.....	35.00
Payment plan handling charge (per semester)	35.00
Parking fee (per semester) for Dietetics Internship students	40.00

The University reserves the right to revise certain costs.

Payment Options

Students may choose one of the following payment options:

- 1) Pay account balance in full by the close of online check-in each term.
- 2) Pay account balance in five monthly installments over the course of the semester. A \$35 payment plan fee will be charged each semester that a payment plan is utilized.

The school accepts payments in the form of cash, check or card. Online payment through the student's portal is the preferred form of payment. Card service convenience fees ranging from 1.8% to 3.3% of the transaction will be assessed for credit/debit card use on the payment of student accounts.

Students who do not pay in full by online check-in will be automatically enrolled in the monthly payment plan. The first payment is due prior to the student's initial online check-in in August or January (or summer, if a summer term is involved). Remaining monthly payments are due on the 15th of each month, with the final payment due by the last day of class for the term. Statements will be uploaded to student portals on the first day of each month with an email reminder sent to the student. Late monthly payments will be charged a \$20 late fee for every month that the payment is late.

Any check payment returned to the school for insufficient funds must be repaid through another means. No further checks or e-checks will be accepted from the student.

Any account not paid in full by the completion of the appropriate semester or term will be charged interest on a monthly basis at a rate equal to 1% above the Bloomberg Financial Services Prime Rate. All Payments received will be applied to any previously outstanding charges before they will be applied to current semester charges.

Additional charges, such as books, may be spread over the semester they are incurred and become part of the monthly installment plan.

Settlement of Accounts

Payment in full of all term charges must be made in Student Financial Services before a student may enroll for an ensuing term or obtain an official transcript or diploma.

Tuition Refund Policy

TUITION AND GENERAL FEES: Students withdrawing from any graduate or online class will be entitled to a refund of tuition at the following rates: (*General fees are non-refundable*)

16-week course:

Week 1-2: 80% Refund
Week 3: 60% Refund
Week 4: 40% Refund
Week 5: 20% Refund
Week 6: No Refund

8-Week Course:

Week 1: 75% Refund
Week 2: 50% Refund
Week 3: 25% Refund
Week 4: No Refund

3- or 4-Week Course:

Day 1-2: 80% Refund
Day 3: 60% Refund
Day 4: 40% Refund
Day 5: 20% Refund
Day 6: No Refund

Note that in the above policy, the definition for a “Week” is a calendar week (Sunday through Saturday), and the definition of “Day 1” in our 3-4 week mini course is the first day of the term as published in Ouachita’s academic calendar.

Effect of Withdrawal on Financial Aid

Students who receive Ouachita aid and withdraw from school mid-term will lose a percentage of their institutional aid for that term. Contact the Office of Student Financial Services for more information regarding refund requirements for specific state and private aid sources.

Students who receive Veterans Benefits and withdraw without completing the term may be required to repay the VA a percentage of the benefit received for the term.

Federal Aid Return Policy

Federal aid is available to graduate students in the form of the unsubsidized student loan, the Graduate PLUS loan, and the TEACH Grant, and is awarded with the expectation that the student will complete the term in which the aid was received. When a student receiving federal aid withdraws from school without completing their current term, federal regulations require the school to perform a calculation to determine how much federal aid the student earned and how much federal aid must be returned to the Department of Education.

The federal aid return policy applies to students who received federal aid and who withdraw (officially or unofficially) or are dismissed from enrollment at Ouachita Baptist University. It is separate and distinct from the Ouachita Baptist University Tuition Refund Policy.

Students who withdraw and lose federal aid eligibility may end up with an outstanding tuition balance to the school, and will not be allowed to return until that balance is paid. They will also not be eligible to receive a transcript until any outstanding balance is paid.

WITHDRAWAL EXCEPTION: Any student taking classes in more than one term in a semester (*for example, Fall Term 1 and Fall Term 2*) who withdraws from all active courses he or she is currently attending will be considered as withdrawn *unless* Ouachita Baptist University obtains a written confirmation from the student stating they will be attending a later term in the same semester at the time of the withdrawal request. This will affect all students even if they are already enrolled in a later term. Unless Ouachita obtains the written confirmation from the student at the time of withdrawal, all future classes will be dropped for that student.

Types of Withdrawals:

OFFICIAL WITHDRAWAL: *When a student begins the official withdrawal process to officially notify the school of his or her intent to withdraw.* That student’s withdrawal date is determined by using one of the following:

1. The date he/she officially withdrew with the Dean of Students Office
2. The date the student notified any office on campus of his or her intent to withdraw.
3. The date the student was expelled/dismissed from the university.

UNOFFICIAL WITHDRAWAL: *When a student ceases attendance without notifying any office on campus.*

If a student does not go through the proper withdrawal procedures as defined in the Academic Information section of the University General Catalog, the student’s withdrawal date is determined by using one of the following:

1. The midpoint of the semester
2. The last date of documented academic related activity

Once a school has determined that a student who received federal aid has withdrawn, the school has 30 days to complete the required Return of Title IV Funds calculation to determine the percentage of aid the student earned and the percentage of aid that must be returned to the Department of Education. The school has 45 days from the date it determined that the student withdrew to return any required federal aid. If the student will be required to return any federal aid themselves, the school will notify the student within 30 days.

If the student has earned more aid than has been disbursed and is eligible for a post-withdrawal disbursement of federal aid, the school must advise the student or parent within 30 days.

The federal Return of Title IV Funds calculation is based upon the concept that students earn their federal financial aid in proportion to the amount of time in which they are enrolled. Once 60% of the semester or term is completed, or once an online student successfully completes at least one course that spans at least 49% of the semester, the student is considered to have earned all federal financial aid and will not be required to return any funds.

Ouachita Baptist University does not allow students to take a Leave of Absence during a semester.

Institutional and Student Responsibility in Regard to the Federal Return of Title IV Funds policy

Student Financial Services' responsibilities in regard to the Return of Title IV Funds policy:

1. Provide each student with the information given in this policy;
2. Identify students affected by this policy and complete the Return of Title IV Funds calculation;
3. Inform the student of the result of the Return of Title IV Funds calculation and any balance owed to the University as a result of a required return of funds;
4. Return any unearned Title IV aid that is due to the Title IV programs and, if applicable, notify the borrower's holder of federal loan funds of the student's withdrawal date;
5. Notify student of eligibility for a Post-Withdraw Disbursement, if applicable;

The student's responsibilities in regard to the Return of Title IV Funds policy:

1. Become familiar with the Return of Title IV Funds policy and how withdrawing from all courses will affect eligibility for federal aid;
2. Resolve any outstanding balance owed to Ouachita Baptist University resulting from a required return of unearned federal aid.

The procedures and policies listed above are subject to change without advance notice.

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

The Office of Student Financial Services provides a comprehensive program to assist students in securing federal, state, and private financial assistance.

Financial Aid Application Process

Students wishing to be considered for financial aid should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The FAFSA is required to determine eligibility for federal aid. The application, available at fafsa.gov, is available on October 1 each year for the coming academic year, and uses the prior year's tax information.

Ouachita does not offer university scholarships to students enrolled in our graduate programs. Discounts are reflected upfront in the hourly online rate.

State Aid

The Arkansas Department of Higher Education will allow Arkansas residents who received the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship or the Arkansas Governor's Distinguished Scholarship that complete their undergraduate program in less than 8 semesters to receive the remaining semesters of their scholarship eligibility in a graduate program under certain conditions. Visit sams.adhe.edu for more information.

Arkansas Rehabilitation Services: Provides assistance for college and vocational training to students with disabilities. More information can be found at dws.arkansas.gov/ar-rehabilitation-services/field-services.

Veterans Educational Benefits

Veterans, spouses, and dependents must apply for educational benefits through the Department of Veterans Affairs, and once approved, provide a copy of their VA Certificate of Eligibility to the Office of Student Financial Services at Ouachita.

Chapter 33 / Post 911 GI Bill – provides a tuition and fee payment to the school. This amount can only be applied to tuition and fees at the school. It is not cash refundable to the student. Some recipients may also receive a monthly housing allowance paid to the student directly from the VA.

Other benefit programs pay a monthly stipend directly to the student. Visit www.va.gov/education for more information regarding educational benefits for veterans and their dependents.

Loan Programs

Federal Direct Loans: low-interest loans made to undergraduate or graduate students attending school on at least a half-time basis. Awards may not exceed the cost of education. Interest rates are fixed for the life of the loan, and the rate is tied to the date the loan is first disbursed.

Unsubsidized Federal Direct Loans are available to graduate students and are not awarded based on need. (The subsidized loan is not available to graduate students.) This program enables students, regardless of income, to obtain a low-interest student loan. Interest accrues from the date the loan is disbursed, and repayment begins 6 months after leaving school.

First-time borrowers are required to sign a Promissory Note and complete an on-line Student Loan Entrance Counseling session prior to receipt of the first disbursement of loan funds.

Federal Graduate PLUS Loan: low interest loan made to graduate level students attending school on at least a half-time basis. A credit check is required for this loan, and the interest is slightly higher than the unsubsidized loan. This loan option is used after a student has exhausted their annual unsubsidized eligibility, and can be approved up to the student's cost of attendance.

Private Alternative Loans: loans offered to students by private lenders as an alternative or an addition to federal loans. The interest rate on a private loan is determined by the borrower's credit. Comparison information and applications can be found at www.obu.edu/finaid.

Initial and Continuing Eligibility

To receive financial assistance, a student must be a regularly enrolled graduate student who is carrying three or more hours per term, and who is making satisfactory academic progress (defined later). A student must not owe repayment of a federal grant and must not be in default on a federal student loan or parent loan received at Ouachita or any other school.

Disbursement Method For Graduate Online Programs

All financial aid for the year will typically be split equally between the semesters the student is attending. Each portion will be applied to the student's tuition account at the beginning of each enrollment period. The maximum financial aid awarded from all sources shall not exceed the Cost of Attendance set forth by the University.

Federal Loan disbursement criteria: must be enrolled at least half-time (3 hours per semester); disbursements based on term enrollment per semester.

Financial aid will be credited to the student's account by Student Financial Services. If the amount of aid disbursed exceeds the total charges, the student may be credited with difference. If total aid is less than charges, the student will be expected to pay the difference. Changes in program funding, additional financial aid, and failure to maintain guidelines or satisfactory progress, may cancel or revise a student's approved financial aid. The University reserves the right to make adjustments to financial aid packages.

Satisfactory Academic Progress

Federal regulations require students who are receiving financial aid to make deliberate and measurable progress toward the completion of their degree in order to continue to receive financial aid. This requirement is referred to as Satisfactory Academic Progress.

Quantitative Progress

Master's degree programs at Ouachita must be completed within 5 years from the date a student begins a program. Federal student aid recipients are considered to be making satisfactory progress if they complete at least 67% of credit hours attempted in a semester. Incompletes and withdrawals are considered as attempted.

Transfer credits will be counted as part of the cumulative GPA and quantitative progress towards a degree.

Students receiving financial aid who drop a class after enrollment must contact Student Financial Services.

Qualitative Progress

Student aid recipients must also maintain minimum cumulative grade point averages (GPA) consistent with requirements for graduation to remain eligible for aid: A graduate student is considered to be making satisfactory academic progress by maintaining a 3.000 GPA as required for graduation. Graduate students who are placed on Academic Suspension are ineligible for federal financial aid.

Federal Aid Suspension & Appeal Process

Satisfactory Academic Progress will be reviewed at the end of each semester. Students who fail to meet the minimum standards will be suspended from receiving federal financial aid until the deficiency is resolved.

Students who feel that mitigating circumstances (injury, illness, death of relative, special circumstances) prevented them from making satisfactory academic progress may appeal the decision to suspend their financial aid eligibility in writing to the Director of Student Financial Services. Written appeal must explain why the student failed to make satisfactory progress and what has changed in the situation that will allow improvement during the subsequent semester.

A successful appeal will result in student aid eligibility being reinstated and the student being placed on financial aid probation for one payment period. Notification will be provided in writing to the student upon approval or denial of an appeal. An appeal will not be approved beyond one payment period.

If students are denied aid because of lack of satisfactory progress, courses must be taken at student's own expense until the student completes 67% of a term and earns a 3.0 GPA for that term.

ADMISSION

Prospective students may apply online at www.obu.edu/apply. Specific admission requirements are listed below. Any exception to University graduate admissions requirements must be approved by the Graduate Council.

Graduate Admissions Requirements

The University will consider for regular admission a student who satisfies the following General Graduate Admissions Requirements:

1. Conferred bachelor's degree from a regionally-accredited institution
2. 2.500 minimum GPA on a 4.000 scale (individual programs may require a higher GPA)
3. A completed application for admission, which includes a personal statement
4. Three references
5. Minimum English proficiency requirements for international students are as follows:
 - a. **Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL):**
At least 79 on the Internet-based TOEFL (iBT)
At least 550 on the paper-based TOEFL
 - b. International English Language Testing System (IELTS):
At least a 6.5 on the IELTS exam

Please consult specific admissions requirements for individual programs.

Graduate Admissions Categories

Regular Status - Regular graduate student admissions status may be granted to applicants who meet general graduate admissions requirements and program-specific admissions requirements.

Provisional Status - Applicants may be granted Provisional admission status if they meet graduate and program-specific admissions requirements but have not yet submitted all required documents. Provisional status will be changed to Regular status once the applicant submits satisfactory documentation.

Conditional Status - Conditional graduate admission status may be granted to applicants who have completed a bachelor's degree but otherwise fail to meet fully the general and specific degree admission requirements. Students admitted conditionally are on probation and must complete satisfactory course work to demonstrate that they are able to succeed in graduate study. A student on conditional admission may meet the requirements for regular graduate status by successfully completing nine semester hours of graduate study with a minimum GPA of 3.000. Students admitted conditionally must attain regular graduate status by the time they have completed 12 hours. Credits earned as a conditionally-admitted student may apply toward the degree sought.

Special Status - Special graduate admission status may be assigned to a student who does not plan to meet requirements for a degree but wishes to earn additional credits.

Requirements for Graduate Transfer Students

Up to twelve hours of completed relevant coursework may be transferred in, at the discretion of the program director. Specific program requirements vary. Courses must have been completed within the last five years and must have a grade of B or above to be eligible to receive transfer credit.

Dietetic Internship – No transfer credits will be accepted for the Dietetic Internship.

M.S. in Applied Behavior Analysis - Requests for transfer credits in the M.S. of Applied Behavior Analysis program will be evaluated based on Applied Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) guidelines. Transfer credit will not be granted for ABA 6113: Basic Concepts and Principles.

Department of Veterans Affairs

Ouachita Baptist University is an approved institution for veterans and veterans' beneficiaries training. Veterans of recent military service, widows, or children of military personnel who lost their lives in service or who are totally disabled as a result of service should contact the nearest VA Regional Office as far in advance of enrollment date as is possible for assistance in securing veterans benefits. For more information, contact Student Financial Services by email (obustudentfinancialservices@obu.edu) or telephone: (870) 245-5570.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Academic Honesty

In order to promote scholarly endeavor and growth within a Christian environment, Ouachita expects a high level of academic integrity from all its students. This expectation is stated explicitly in the Covenant on Academic Honor, which includes a pledge that all students are obligated to uphold. Violations of proper academic conduct constitute a severe disciplinary problem, which will result in penalties that may include expulsion from class or suspension from the University. The complete Covenant on Academic Honor, including penalties and procedures for adjudicating violations, is found in the *Graduate Tiger Handbook*.

Degrees Offered

At the graduate level, the University offers the Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis, the Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction, the Master of Science in Nutrition, and a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Dietetics. Specific requirements for these programs appear in the appropriate sections of this catalog. At the undergraduate level, the University offers the following degrees: Associate of Arts (online only), Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Music Education.

General Degree Requirements

Evidence of good moral character, fulfillment of all general and specific academic requirements, and formal approval by the faculty are the essential conditions for receiving a degree. A student may not participate in the commencement ceremony unless all conditions have been met.

A student must successfully complete the general requirements for graduation in either the catalog in effect at the time of admission or in a subsequent one. A student out of school more than two years must re-enter under the catalog in force at the time of readmission.

Students must complete all required courses with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.000 and must satisfactorily complete all other requirements of the degree program in which they are enrolled.

Students eligible to graduate are encouraged to be present to receive their diploma at the next commencement after completing all degree requirements. Commencement ceremonies will be held each May. Students who have completed all degree requirements or who are enrolled in their last course requirements during the term immediately preceding the ceremony are eligible to participate. Appearance of a name in the ceremony program is not official acknowledgement of degree completion.

Academic Advisors

Ouachita provides guidance for one's studies in two ways: (1) by the admission and degree requirements explained in this catalog, and (2) by faculty members who advise individual students toward their educational and vocational objectives. Graduate students are assigned to an academic advisor in their program.

Registration

Students who have been officially admitted to Ouachita's graduate program should pre-register during the specified registration period. Late registration is discouraged and is normally not allowed after the second day of classes. Students registering after the first day of classes will pay a \$20 fee for each day late, up to a total of \$40. Students must complete initial registration for each term by 5:00 PM on the second day of classes and may add a class until 5:00 PM on the fourth day of classes. Registration is not complete until the student has arranged payment of charges with Student Financial Services.

A student must be officially registered for a course in order to earn credit for the course.

Changes in Registration

The last day to drop, add or withdraw from a course appears in the official [Ouachita calendar](#) at the beginning of this catalog and on the University's website.

Students may request to drop, add or withdraw from a course through their INFO portal.

The distinction between dropping and withdrawing is as follows: A course which the student has officially dropped will not appear on the student's record. A course from which the student has officially withdrawn will be assigned a final grade of W.

Failure to participate without officially withdrawing from a course will result in a grade of F.

Definition of the Credit Hour

The semester or credit hour, the basis for accreditation of academic work, typically represents one fifty-minute recitation or its equivalent per week for one semester. One recitation period presumes that the student must spend at least two additional hours in preparation, laboratory work, or both.

Academic Load

The typical course load for students in a graduate program is 9 hours per semester. A person carrying 6 or more hours is classified as a full-time student. A student may not carry more than 12 hours per semester. Those registered for fewer than 3 semester hours or not pursuing a degree program offered by the University are classified as non-degree students.

Repeating Courses

A student may repeat one course in which the grade earned falls below minimum standards established by the program. The grade earned when the course is repeated will be used to calculate the grade point average, though all grades will appear on the transcript. Payment for retaking the course is at the expense of the student.

Degree Plan

Every student must submit a completed degree plan the semester before the program is to be completed. The degree plan, developed in consultation with the academic advisor, becomes the program which, if completed successfully, leads to the conferring of the desired degree.

The student is responsible for the content and successful completion of the degree plan.

Master's Time-to-Degree Limit

Unless otherwise specified for a particular program, all requirements for the master's degree must be completed within 5 years of initial enrollment in a graduate program at Ouachita Baptist University. Under extraordinary circumstances, students in good academic standing may petition the Graduate Council for an extension of the time limit to complete their degree. In the event a student takes time off from pursuing their master's degree, they should first check with Student Financial Services to understand what impact it may have on their current aid status and their ability to receive future aid.

Graduation Check

To verify that a student has met all requirements for graduation, a Dean's Degree Check and a Graduation Check must be conducted. These checks are required to be done in the semester prior to the student's semester of graduation. The following steps must be taken:

1. A Dean's degree check must be done by the dean of the student's School after it has been approved by the Program Director. After it is established that a student meets all graduation requirements, the student makes an appointment with the Registrar's Office for a Graduation Check.
2. A final Graduation Check must be conducted by the Registrar's Office.
3. At the completion of this graduation check, the student's account will be charged the \$50 graduation fee.

It is the student's responsibility to make the appointment for the Graduation Check with their Program Director and the Registrar's Office. Students will not be considered for graduation until these steps are completed.

Course Offerings

All courses are subject to any prerequisites or restrictions listed in the course or program description. Every effort is made to offer courses during the semesters specified in the catalog.

The University reserves the right to withdraw, add or change courses.

The schedule of classes is available online at least one week in advance of pre-registration. For specific information about all course offerings, contact the Office of Graduate and Professional Studies.

Numbering of Courses of Instruction

A four-digit number is assigned to each course in the university curriculum and is unique within the department or school that lists the course. Half-credit courses are indicated by a 5 following the decimal point.

The first digit of the course number indicates the course's academic level:

- 1__ Primarily for freshmen.
- 2__ Primarily for sophomores.
- 3__ Primarily for juniors.
- 4__ Primarily for seniors.
- 5__ Graduate-level, though approved undergraduate students may enroll (see "Undergraduates Taking Graduate Courses," below).
- 6__ Graduate-level, for graduate students only.

The second and third digits usually designate the order in which the course is to be taken in relation to other courses in the same department. For example, CORE 1113 should be taken before 1123. Special middle digits 70-99 are used to indicate special categories of courses. For example,

70-79 are used for variable topics courses in some departments; 80-96 for special courses, individual studies, and workshops; and 98 for Honors Directed Studies, Seminars and Thesis. For example, HNRS 2981 indicates an Honors Directed Study.

The fourth digit (and fifth, in some instances) indicates the amount of credit assigned to the course. For example, CORE 1023 indicates that three semester hours are attempted and, if successfully completed, earned. MUEN 1000.5, Concert Choir, indicates one-half hour.

Undergraduates Taking Graduate Courses

Subject to availability, undergraduate students may take up to six (6) hours of graduate credit. Such credit may be earned only in 5000-level courses and will be recorded on the graduate transcript. Students must have senior standing, a 3.0 GPA, and must receive permission from the dean, graduate program director, and the Associate Vice President of Graduate and Professional Studies.

Prior to enrolling in any graduate course, undergraduate students are encouraged to contact Student Financial Services to determine how doing so will affect their account, including charges for tuition and fees and all forms of financial aid. A graduate course fee may be assessed for undergraduates taking graduate courses.

Cross-listed Courses

Certain upper-level undergraduate courses may be cross-listed at the 5000 level in the graduate catalog. Graduate students must enroll in the 5000-level course and will be expected to complete graduate-level work to receive graduate credit. A cross-listed course taken at the 4000-level will not count as graduate credit.

Courses by Conference

Students who lack required courses which are not currently scheduled and for which no suitable substitution can be found may take catalog courses by conference. They must secure in advance of registration the consent of the instructor, the program director/chair of the department and the dean of the school.

Grades

Scholastic achievement at the graduate level is indicated by the following symbols:

- A indicates superior work.
- B indicates good work.
- C indicates the minimum standard for passing.*
- D/F indicates failure to meet the minimum standard for passing.
- I indicates that a student's required work is incomplete and is given at the discretion of the instructor for good and sufficient reason. A grade of "I" automatically becomes "F" unless the deficiency is made up before the last day of regular class the following semester.
- W indicates that the student officially withdrew from the course.
- AU indicates that a student was registered as an auditor, not for credit, and attended at least seventy-five percent of the class meetings.
- S indicates credit for work done under the Satisfactory-Unsatisfactory policy (below) which will not carry quality credits or affect the GPA.
- U indicates unsatisfactory work in a non-graded course and calculates as an "F" in the GPA.
- CR indicates credit awarded, but not calculated in the GPA.

*Individual programs may require a B or higher on all courses that count toward graduation. Refer to the program section of the catalog for specific requirements..

Satisfactory-Unsatisfactory Policy:

Certain graduate-level courses such as field experience, practicums, and internships are regularly offered on a Satisfactory-Unsatisfactory basis. The student will be assigned the grade of S (credit, satisfactory performance) or U (no credit, unsatisfactory performance). The minimum level of performance considered Satisfactory is set by each program. An unsatisfactory grade (U) will be calculated as an F in the GPA.

Change of Grade Policy

Instructors may change final grades as soon as they discover an error. A grade that has been allowed to stand unchallenged past Monday of the tenth week of the next semester is considered final.

Quality Credits and Grade Point Average

Quality credits are assigned to the grades on the following formula: the number of semester hours credit times 4 for an A, 3 for a B, 2 for a C, and 1 for a D, and none for an F or U.

The GPA is calculated by dividing the sum of quality credits by the sum of attempted hours for grades A through F and U and carried to 3 decimal places.

Academic Probation and Suspension

Academic Probation – Academic Probation is the status of a graduate student who fails to achieve a cumulative GPA of 3.000 over all terms of the program. After grades are posted at the end of each semester, the Academic Affairs Office will notify the student, program director, and Registrar of the student's placement on Academic Probation or Academic Suspension. To regain regular academic status, students must achieve a 3.000 grade point average by the time they have earned nine additional credit hours.

Academic Suspension - A graduate student on Academic Probation who does not raise the cumulative GPA to 3.000 after taking nine additional credit hours will be placed on Academic Suspension. Students who are on Academic Suspension may apply for readmission following a lapse of at least one regular semester. In all cases, written application to the Graduate Council for readmission must state reasons for desiring reinstatement and plans for remedying academic deficiencies. A student who has been suspended for academic reasons and readmitted to the University will return on Academic Probation.

Grade Appeals

A final grade assigned in a course may be challenged by the student through Monday of the tenth week of classes of the next full semester. A formal grade appeal will not be considered until the student has first informally communicated with the instructor. If informal communication has not resolved the issue, the student may submit in writing an appeal first to the instructor, then, in sequence, to the program director and dean. If the appeal is denied at each level of review, the student may submit a written appeal to the Associate Vice-President for Graduate and Professional Studies, who will convene a three-person subcommittee of the Graduate Council to consider the appeal. This subcommittee will not include any member previously involved in the appeal. The results of this subcommittee's decision may be appealed to the Vice-President for Academic Affairs, whose decision is final.

Class Attendance

Students are expected to attend all classes in which they are enrolled. Absentee policies for particular classes are at the discretion of the individual faculty member. Attendance in online classes is determined through completion of required activities and assignments.

Withdrawal from the University

A student may withdraw voluntarily or at the request of the University. The student may be asked to withdraw if

1. it is determined that the student's actions or attitudes are unworthy of a good campus citizen;
2. his or her scholastic record falls below normal expectations or for failure to regain regular academic status, as explained in the Academic Probation section; or
3. the student's financial record is unsatisfactory to the University.

When a student withdraws from the University for any reason, that student must report to the Office of Graduate and Online Education. From that point, clearance will be obtained from Student Financial Services, Library, and other check points. Any student who withdraws or is suspended must leave campus within 24 hours and will no longer have access to University resources. Instructors will assign letter grades to any student who withdraws from the University after the last day to withdraw from a course designated in the school calendar.

Transcripts

A student requesting an official transcript should make a request at www.obu.edu/registrar. Telephone requests are not accepted. Transcripts are issued only at the student's request. The request must be approved by both the Registrar and the Student Financial Services office. No transcript is issued to or for a student who is in debt to the University until such indebtedness has been paid in full. Release of student academic records is subject to the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)

Dr. Julyse Horr, Director

The Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis at Ouachita Baptist University prepares graduates to be competent scientist-practitioners and contributors to the discipline by offering approved coursework, supervised practical experience, and preparation for the Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) examination. The curriculum, which has been approved by the Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) as a Verified Course Sequence (VCS), meets the course work requirements, content hours, and faculty standards established by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board (BACB).

In addition to required course work, students seeking the BCBA credential must complete supervised fieldwork that meet the field experience requirements established by the BACB. Ouachita's program accomplishes this through a required fieldwork course sequence that students take each semester. Those who successfully complete the required number of experience hours and coursework will meet minimum requirements to take the BACB examination.

In order to earn the BCBA credential, candidates must submit a complete application to the BACB and then sit for and pass the Behavior Analyst Certification Examination administered by the BACB. *Completion of Ouachita's master's degree does not replace the exam requirement for licensure.*

ABA has applications in business and industry, autism and intellectual disabilities, education, treatment of psychiatric disorders and family relationships, geriatrics, and general or specialized medicine. Graduates of the M.S. in Applied Behavior Analysis program will be eligible for employment in a variety of settings including clinics, regional treatment centers, residential and vocational community based agencies, school districts, businesses, and private clinics and programs that provide intensive behavioral services to children and adults with autism and to their families.

Please note that requirements of the BACB may change and may take effect immediately. Their requirements supersede the University catalog listings.

Requirements and Process to Become a Board Certified Behavior Analyst through Ouachita's M.S. in ABA program:

1. Complete the Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis at Ouachita Baptist University.
2. Complete field experience requirements established by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board.
3. Pass the Behavior Analyst Certification Board examination.
4. Gain licensure in your state of practice, if applicable.
5. Maintain continuing education.

Admissions Requirements for the M.S. in Applied Behavior Analysis:

1. Meet general university graduate admissions requirements
2. A minimum GPA of 3.000 on a 4.000 scale*

*Conditional admission is considered for applicants who meet all other admissions requirements and have a GPA below 3.000, but not lower than 2.500. For students below a 2.500, an alternative path to admission may still be possible on a case-by-case basis and at the discretion of the ABA applications review committee but will require a compelling personal statement and strong letters of recommendations from at least 2 BCBA supervisors. Alternative path to admission must receive approval from Graduate Council.

A Master of Science in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) includes the following courses: ABA 6113, 6123, 6133, 6213, 6223, 6233, 6313, 6323, 6333, 6413, 6423, 6433.

Graduate Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis

The Ouachita Baptist University's certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis prepares future behavior analysts to apply the science of behavior analysis. Our four-semester Behavior Analysis Graduate Certificate program meets the instructional requirements for the BCBA (Board Certified Behavior Analyst®) credential. Each term, students take two 3-hour courses. Students will be expected to complete their supervised fieldwork independently.

Content of the program is in compliance with the Verified Course Sequence and the 5th Edition Task List which has already been approved by ABAI through our Masters in ABA.

Admissions Requirements for the Graduate Certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis:

Completed master's degree in related field as defined by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board.

The certificate option in Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) includes the following courses: ABA 6113, 6123, 6213, 6223, 6313, 6323, 6413, 6423.

6113. Basic Concepts and Principles.

This course introduces the student to basic concepts and principles derived through the experimental and applied analysis of behavior. It will provide an introduction to the historical, philosophical, and methodological foundations of applied behavior analysis as a discipline and a profession. **May Term.**

6123. Legal, Ethical, and Professional Issues.

This course provides the student with an understanding of the historic and current legal, ethical, and professional developments that have shaped the practice of behavior analysis. It will also familiarize the student with the practice codes of various professions, particularly the BACB's Ethical and Professional Compliance Code. Prerequisite: ABA 6113. Co-requisite: 6133 or permission of instructor. **Summer Term.**

6133. Fieldwork Experience I.

This course will provide credit for practical experience undertaken in settings approved by the instructor. Settings may be diverse (e.g., group homes, clinics, schools, businesses) but will allow the student to accumulate supervised experience toward the requirement for such experience for BACB certification. Prerequisite: ABA 6113. Co-requisite: ABA 6123 or permission of instructor. **Summer Term.**

6213. Behavior Assessment.

This course introduces the student to the tactics for measuring behavior and behavioral products, graphing and interpreting data, and designing function-based change procedures within the framework of single subject experimental designs that allow for conclusions about the impact of interventions and maintaining the accountability of the behavior analyst. Prerequisite: ABA 6113. Co-requisite: ABA 6233 or permission of the instructor. **Fall Term 1.**

6223. Behavior Change Procedures I.

The course introduces the student to a wide variety of behaviorally based therapeutic applications for children and adults that have been empirically supported. Interventions covered include behaviorally based therapeutic approaches and techniques that are used to address skill deficits in children and adults in home or clinic-based treatment settings, schools, business and industry, and other community settings. Pre-requisite ABA 6213. Co-requisite 6233 or permission of instructor. **Fall Term 2.**

6233. Fieldwork Experience II.

This course will provide credit for practical experience undertaken in settings approved by the instructor. Settings may be diverse (e.g., group homes, clinics, schools, businesses) but will allow the student to accumulate supervised experience toward the requirement for such experience for BACB certification. Co-requisites ABA 6213 and ABA 6223 or permission of instructor. **Fall.**

6313. Behavior Change Procedures II.

This course surveys behaviorally based therapeutic applications to reduce maladaptive behaviors in children and adults that have been empirically supported. The course also introduces students to the procedures for selecting and implementing behaviorally based therapeutic interventions and techniques that are used with children and adults in home or clinic-based treatment settings, schools, business and industry, and other community settings. Prerequisite: ABA 6223. Co-requisite: ABA 6333 or permission of the instructor. **Spring Term 1.**

6323. Research Methods.

This course introduces the student to the tactics for measuring behavior and behavioral products, graphing and interpreting data, and designing/delivering behavior change procedures within the framework of single subject experimental designs that allow for conclusions about the impact of interventions and maintaining the accountability of the behavior analyst. Prerequisite: ABA 6313. Co-requisite: 6333 or permission of instructor. **Spring Term 2.**

6333. Fieldwork Experience III.

This course will provide credit for practical experience undertaken in settings approved by the instructor. Settings may be diverse (e.g., group homes, clinics, schools, businesses) but will allow the student to accumulate supervised experience toward the requirement for such experience for BACB certification. Co-requisites: ABA 6313 and ABA 6323 or permission of instructor. **Spring.**

6413. Training, Supervision, and Consultation.

This course introduces the student to the challenges of undertaking behavioral service delivery in organizations (e.g., schools, homes, businesses). Data driven tactics for developing the competence of personnel in these environments, and for providing ongoing supervision and consultation to them, will be addressed. Pre-requisite: ABA 6333. Co-requisite: ABA 6433 or permission of the instructor. **May Term.**

6423. Advanced Concepts and Principles.

This course introduces the student to historic and contemporary philosophical assumptions explicitly or implicitly embraced by science, in general, and by the experimental and applied analysis of behavior in particular. Particular consideration will be given in this overview to the concepts of determinism, parsimony, and selection. Pre-requisite: ABA 6413. Co-requisite: ABA 6433 or permission of the instructor. **Summer Term.**

6433. Fieldwork Experience IV.

This course will provide credit for practical experience undertaken in settings approved by the instructor. Settings may be diverse (e.g., group homes, clinics, schools, businesses) but will allow the student to accumulate supervised experience toward the requirement for such experience for BACB certification. Pre-requisite: ABA 6413. Co-requisite: ABA 6423 or permission of the instructor. **Summer Term.**

Curriculum and Instruction (EDCI)

Professor Gail Hughes, Director

The Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction (M.Ed.) at Ouachita Baptist University is designed to enhance educators existing knowledge, skills, and dispositions to ensure they are highly skilled professionals who extend learning for all students and to continue their professional growth as leaders in their schools and communities. At the conclusion of the program, educators will be able to:

1. **Lead curriculum planning** by articulating the what, when, why, and how of teaching content. They will also be able to describe the connections among different content areas with a focus on state and national content standards and implementation with high student expectations.
2. **Use data to plan programs and instruction for all learners** that will help close achievement gaps. Lead professional learning communities to analyze data to create lessons to improve student learning.
3. **Promote effective instructional practice** with a specific emphasis on the latest trends to determine the best technology tools to engage students and design effective instruction for differentiating learning for *all* students with an emphasis on student diversity to increase student learning.
4. **Encourage student character** with a greater understanding of the relationship between teacher behavior and classroom culture, student motivation, student leadership, and student learning.
5. **Exemplify Biblical ethics in leadership** behavior with an emphasis on the traits of personal integrity, courage, resilience, and perseverance as they model Christ's love. They will also be prepared to set high personal standards, model professional learning, and establish a culture of personal and professional growth in themselves, their students, and beyond.

Admissions Requirements for the M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction:

1. Meet general university graduate admissions requirements
2. A minimum GPA of 2.750 on a 4.000 scale*

*Conditional admission is considered for applicants who meet all other admissions requirements and have a GPA below 2.750 but not lower than 2.500.

The Graduate Certificate Program in Curriculum and Instruction is a subset of the Master's Degree with the goal of providing educators with an overview of curriculum development and enhancing their skills with classroom management, student engagement, instructional practice, and technology along with a deeper appreciation for teaching as ministry. A Graduate Certificate in Curriculum and Instruction includes the following courses: EDCI 5113, 5313, 5413, and 5523.

A Master of Education Degree in Curriculum and Instruction includes the following courses: EDCI 5113, 5313, 5413, 5523, 6123, 6213, 6223, 6323, 6423, 6513.

5113. Curriculum and Practice.

We will reflect on what we teach, when we teach it, why we teach it, and discuss connections among the different content areas with a focus on state and national content standards. We will then use that information to develop model curriculum units. Topics will also include the role of curriculum specialists in curriculum implementation, mapping, gap analysis, pacing, and assessment. **Spring Term 1.**

5313. Teaching as a Calling.

We will reflect on how faith guides our work as teachers. We will discuss educational applications of ethical teachings of the Bible and ethical thinking related to professional conduct, individual ethics (e.g., personal integrity, courage, resilience, and perseverance), and student-teacher-parent relationships. **Summer.**

5413. Classroom Management and Student Engagement.

We will analyze the relationships among classroom environment, classroom behavior, and learning. We will explore various classroom management models and the relationships among teacher behavior and classroom culture, student motivation, and student learning. We will also investigate effective strategies for including families and communities within the classroom community. **Fall Term 1.**

5523. Instructional Practice and Technology Tools.

We will identify, evaluate, and promote effective instructional practice with a specific emphasis on the latest trends in technology tools (e.g., use of the Internet, student devices, and other classroom technology tools) for instruction and student engagement to increase student learning.) **Fall Term 2.**

6123. Issues in Education.

We will debate perspectives on the social, cultural, and political influences on our education system. We will reflect on our own cultural lenses and how they impact our relationships with students, colleagues, and families. We will engage in crucial conversations about race, ethnicity, and linguistic diversity and be equipped to apply strategies to help close achievement gaps between groups. **Fall Term 1.**

6213. Program Evaluation.

We will scrutinize models of summative and formative evaluation with a focus on social science methods of inquiry for the purpose of evaluating educational programs. Topics include program goals, models of program evaluation, accountability evidence, research

methods and techniques, data-driven decisions, justifying conclusions, and report writing with clarity. Teams will design a program evaluation that attends to diversity and sensitivity for a broad range of stakeholders. **Spring Term 2.**

6223. Teaching Diverse Learners.

We will design effective instruction for differentiating learning for all students with emphases on student diversity (e.g., cultural, socio-economic, linguistic, exceptional, and gifted) and increasing student learning. Emphasis will be placed on theories of assessment, including the Response to Intervention framework, and the development of skills and knowledge needed to analyze and implement teaching strategies for use with all learners. **Spring Term 2.**

6323. Education Law and Leadership.

We will review state and federal laws and discuss applications in education. We will debate case studies with an emphasis on how to ethically and equitably protect the rights of all stakeholders, including the issues of church and state. We will examine leadership theory and practice. We will be challenged to set high personal standards, model professional learning, and establish a culture of personal and professional growth in ourselves, our students, and beyond. **Summer.**

6423. Applied Learning Theories.

We will extend our knowledge of learning theories, human growth and development, motivation, and the cognitive, emotional, and physical characteristics of children in various age groups. We will also incorporate current brain research on teaching and learning. **Spring Term 1.**

6513. Data-Informed Teaching.

We will focus on the implementation of professional learning communities, coaching (instructional, data, and content area), mentoring, lesson study, and online collaboration. We will investigate the statistics used in standardized test score reports, explore new trends in classroom assessment, and enhance our skills in constructing assessments. **Fall Term 2.**

Nutrition and Dietetics (DIET)

Assistant Professor Holly Kyzer, Director

The Dietetic Internship at Ouachita Baptist University has been granted Candidacy for Accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190, Chicago, Illinois 60606-6995, 800/877-1600 ext. 5400. ACEND is the accrediting agency for education programs preparing students for careers as Registered Dietitian Nutritionists. ACEND® is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a Title IV gatekeeper. This recognition affirms that ACEND® meets national standards and is a reliable authority on the quality of nutrition and dietetics education programs. The Dietetic Internship is the second step in the process of becoming a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist. Upon successful completion of the Dietetic Internship, individuals may sit for the Commission on Dietetic Registration's dietetic registration exam. *Please note that requirements of ACEND may change and may take effect immediately.* Their requirements supersede OBU catalog listings.

Requirements and Process to Become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist

1. Complete a bachelor's degree or a master's degree and receive a Verification Statement from an ACEND®-accredited program (Didactic Program in Dietetics, Coordinated Program, Graduate Program or Foreign Dietitian Education Program) Note, effective January 1, 2024, a graduate degree will be required to be eligible to take the Commission on Dietetic Registration Exam.
2. Complete an ACEND®-accredited supervised practice Dietetic Internship program or Individual Supervised Practice Pathway is an option. Supervised practice/experiential learning is combined with the Coordinated Program and Graduate Program.
3. Pass the Commission on Dietetic Registration's dietetic registration exam.
4. Gain licensure in your state of practice, if applicable.
5. Maintain continuing education.

The Dietetic Internship is the supervised practice program listed in step 2.

Effective January 1, 2024, the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) will require a minimum of a master's degree to be eligible to take the credentialing exam to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN). In addition, CDR requires that individuals complete coursework and supervised practice in program(s) accredited by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). In most states, graduates also must obtain licensure or certification to practice. Graduates who successfully complete the ACEND-accredited DPD program at Ouachita Baptist University are eligible to apply to an ACEND-accredited supervised practice program.

Graduation and Completion Requirements

The Dietetic Internship is a post-baccalaureate certificate program. Students must successfully complete all supervised practice rotations and pass all courses with a B or higher to successfully complete the program. Students will participate in the May graduation ceremony.

Pre-selection of Dietetic Interns

The Ouachita Baptist University Dietetic Internship participates in the pre-select option for students receiving a Verification Statement or a Declaration of Intent to Complete DPD from the OBU DPD. Up to nine intern slots will be available for the pre-select option. The pre-select deadline is January 15. It is open to all students who receive a Verification Statement or a Declaration of Intent to Complete DPD from the Ouachita DPD. OBU's \$40 graduate application fee applies. Consideration for pre-selection does not require application to the Dietetic Inclusive Centralized Application Services (DICAS). The applicant will be notified confirming his/her acceptance status in the program by February 1. If pre-selected, the applicant's name and email are submitted to D&D Digital Systems, Inc. to ensure that the applicant will not participate in the computer match. If the applicant is not selected through the pre-select process, he/she may apply to any DI including the OBU DI through the computer matching process.

Mission of the Dietetic Internship Program

The mission of the Ouachita Baptist University Dietetic Internship is to prepare competent, entry-level Registered Dietitian Nutritionists to practice in current and emerging jobs in clinical, foodservice or community nutrition. Students in the internship are guided in lifelong learning to be effective in future Christian leadership and professional service to the community and profession. Students successfully completing the program will possess the knowledge and competency skills needed to meet the standards of education and core competencies for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists established by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

Goals of the Dietetic Internship Program

1. To prepare graduates who are competent to practice as an entry-level Registered Dietitian Nutritionist.
2. To prepare graduates with knowledge and experiences that promote lifelong learning, professional growth, and Christian leadership and service.

Admissions Requirements for the Dietetic Internship

- Baccalaureate degree in nutrition or related field from an accredited university. All official transcripts must be provided.

Nutrition and Dietetics

- Verification Statement from an ACEND-accredited Nutrition and Dietetics Didactic Program (DPD) or Foreign Dietitian Education program (FDE) obtained from the DPD director within the last five years. If the Verification Statement is greater than five years old, the student will be required to take a minimum of three hours of course credit in Clinical Dietetics and three hours of course credit in Administrative Dietetics.
- Minimum cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.7 on a 4.0 scale
- Minimum of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale of all nutrition and dietetic courses
- Minimum of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale in all science courses
- Achieved a minimum 3.00 GPA on any graduate course work previously taken at another accredited institution.
- Three letters of recommendation discussing the individual's potential for success in graduate study.

International applicants or American citizens who learned English as a second language must score at least 550 (paper) or 79 (Internet) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language or at least 6.5 on the International English Language Testing System

For the class starting Fall 2022, the Master of Science in Nutrition (M.S. in Nutrition) is optional. Upon completion of the Dietetic Internship, graduates choosing to begin the M.S. in Nutrition will have five years to start.

For the class starting Fall 2023, the Master of Science in Nutrition and Dietetic Internship (MS/DI) is a combined program.

Master of Science in Nutrition and Dietetic Internship (MS/DI)

Graduation and Completion Requirements

Students must successfully complete all supervised practice rotations and maintain a B or higher average to successfully complete the MS/DI. Students will participate in the May graduation ceremony.

Pre-selection of Dietetic Interns

The Ouachita Baptist University MS/DI participates in the pre-select option for students receiving a Verification Statement or a Declaration of Intent to Complete DPD from the Ouachita DPD. Up to nine intern slots will be available for the pre-select option. The pre-select deadline is January 15. It is open to all students who receive a Verification Statement or a Declaration of Intent to Complete DPD from the Ouachita DPD. OBU's \$40 graduate application fee applies. Consideration for pre-selection does not require application to the Dietetic Inclusive Centralized Application Services (DICAS). The applicant will be notified confirming his/her acceptance status in the program prior to February 1. If pre-selected, the applicant's name and email are submitted to D&D Digital Systems, Inc. to ensure that the applicant will not participate in the computer match. If the applicant is not selected through the pre-select process, he/she may apply to any program including the Ouachita MS/DI through the computer matching process.

Mission of the MS/DI Program

The mission of the Ouachita Master of Science in Nutrition and the Dietetic Internship (MS/DI) is to prepare competent, entry-level Registered Dietitian Nutritionists to practice in current and emerging jobs in clinical, foodservice or community nutrition. Students in the MS/DI are guided in lifelong learning to be effective in future Christian leadership and professional service to the community and profession. Students successfully completing the program will possess the knowledge and competency skills needed to meet the standards of education and core competencies for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists established by the Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND) of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

Goals of the MS/DI Program

1. To prepare graduates who are competent to practice as an entry-level Registered Dietitian Nutritionist.
2. To prepare graduates with knowledge and experiences that promote lifelong learning, professional growth, and Christian leadership and service.

Admissions Requirements for the MS/DI

- Baccalaureate degree in nutrition or related field from an accredited university. All official transcripts must be provided.
- Verification Statement from an ACEND-accredited Nutrition and Dietetics Didactic Program (DPD) or Foreign Dietitian Education program (FDE) obtained from the DPD director within the last five years. If the Verification Statement is greater than five years old, the student will be required to take a minimum of three hours of course credit in Clinical Dietetics and three hours of course credit in Administrative Dietetics.
- Minimum cumulative undergraduate GPA of 2.7 on a 4.0 scale
- Minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in all nutrition and dietetic courses
- Minimum GPA of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale in all science courses
- Minimum GPA of 3.0 on any graduate course work previously taken at another accredited institution
- Possess dietetics-related and/or food service work experience, volunteer or paid

- Three letters of recommendation discussing the individual's potential for success in graduate study.

Exceptions to any admissions requirements will be considered on an individual basis.

International applicants or American citizens who learned English as a second language must score at least 550 (paper) or 79 (Internet) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language or at least 6.5 on the International English Language Testing System.

The MS/DI includes the following courses: DIET 5003, 5043, 6013, 6023, 6033, 6053, 6063, 6073, 6083, 6093, 6103, and 6113.

Up to twelve hours of transfer credit will be accepted into the M.S. in Nutrition.

Students who have completed an ACEND-accredited Dietetic Internship program and passed the Commission on Dietetic Registration (CDR) Exam in the last five years may receive up to 18 hours of graduate credit toward the 36 required hours (subject to approval by program director, must provide current CDR ID card).

Fall semester

DIET 5003 Advanced Community Nutrition – 3 credit hours

DIET 6013 Nutrition and Dietetics Research – 3 credit hours

DIET 6023 Supervised Practice I – 3 credit hours

Spring semester

DIET 5043 Nutrition Counseling – 3 credit hours

DIET 6033 Advanced Administrative Dietetics – 3 credit hours

DIET 6053 Supervised Practice II – 3 credit hours

Summer term

DIET 6083 Diabetes, Obesity and Weight Management – 3 credit hours

DIET 6093 Trends in Nutrition – 3 credit hours

DIET 6113 Nutrition and Dietetics Applied Statistics – 3 credit hours

Fall semester

DIET 6063 Sports Nutrition – 3 credit hours

DIET 6073 Pediatric Nutrition – 3 credit hours

DIET 6103 Eating Disorders – 3 credit hours

Course Descriptions

5003. Advanced Community Nutrition.

Provides an understanding of the methods, strategies, and evaluation of nutrition and diet counseling with consideration of learning styles. Integration of scientific principles of nutrition and food science into the use of foods and nutrients in disease prevention and treatment in accordance with competencies for the entry-level dietitian. **Fall Term 2.**

5043. Nutrition Counseling.

Theoretical and applied issues in nutrition counseling. Students will learn the theories of behavior change and how to apply these to nutrition issues. **Spring Term 2.**

6013. Nutrition and Dietetics Research.

Research in nutrition and dietetics to reflect content, application to practice, and study parameters and design. Students will read current research, write critiques, and make presentations for discussion. **Fall Term 1.**

6023. Supervised Practice I.

The first semester of supervised learning experience in clinical, community and administrative dietetics designed to meet specific objectives and achieve identified clinical, community and administrative nutrition competencies. Experiences scheduled in a variety of health care settings. **Fall.**

6033. Advanced Administrative Dietetics.

Equips students with leadership and management skills needed to establish and maintain effective food and nutrition programs. **Spring Term 1.**

6053. Supervised Practice II.

The second semester of supervised learning experience in clinical, community and administrative dietetics designed to meet specific objectives and achieve identified clinical, community and administrative nutrition competencies. Experiences scheduled in a variety of health care settings. **Spring.**

6063. Sports Nutrition.

Exercise physiology and nutrient requirements in sports and exercise: macronutrient, micronutrient and fluid needs of athletes engaged in specific sports, pre/post exercise meals, gender specific requirements, role of ergogenic aids, eating disorders, and role of exercise in weight management and chronic disease. **Fall Term 1.**

6073. Pediatric Nutrition.

Effects of nutritional factors on development from prenatal growth to adolescence. This course examines the physiologic, biochemical, and nutritional aspects of disease processes relevant to infants and children up to 18 years of age. Medical nutrition therapy for a variety of medical conditions found in this population will be discussed including inborn errors of metabolism, food hypersensitivity, obesity, and diseases of the major organ systems. **Fall Term 1.**

6083. Diabetes, Obesity and Weight Management.

Prevalence of overweight/obesity in different socio-economic and populations groups, global perspectives, and epidemiology. In-depth study of diabetes, including prevalence, classification, risk factors, pathophysiology, therapy, management, and prevention. **Summer Term.**

6093. Trends in Nutrition.

Exploration of current topics in nutritional science, food science and public health nutrition. Examines emerging issues in nutrition. **Summer Term.**

6103. Eating Disorders.

Eating behaviors vary widely across individuals, but only the extremes of these behaviors are considered pathological. This course provides an opportunity for students to attain a theoretical overview of eating and weight-related disorders, including anorexia nervosa, binge eating disorder, bulimia nervosa, obesity, and dieting. The course will discuss theories and current literature on the causes, diagnosis, symptoms, and treatment of eating and weight-related disorders. **Fall Term 2.**

6113. Nutrition and Dietetics Applied Statistics.

The overall goal of this course is to teach students how to take raw behavioral science data, explore it, and present the results in a useful way. Students will receive a broad introduction to some of the fundamental tools and concepts of statistics for representing, visualizing, modeling, and interpreting data. **Summer Term.**

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Susan Atkinson, M.M.E.	Registrar and Director of Admissions
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B.S., Ouachita Baptist University, 2007; M.S., Louisiana Tech University, 2013. (2022)

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