Assessment

Term 1 – Nutritional Epidemiology of Health

1500 word evidence based essay (100% of module mark)

Assessment Criteria:
Produces a concise evidence based essay on a given topic. This demonstrates critical appraisal of the literature and the selection of appropriate material to answer the question

Assessment Mode:

Formative: Group seminar in which students will be supported in their essay preparation; feedback will be provided for essay plan.
Summative: 1500 word evidence based essay on given topic

Assessment guidelines

Choose one of the following two topics and write a 1500 word evidence based essay:

1. The relationship between fruit and vegetable consumption and colon cancer
2. The relationship between red meat consumption and colon cancer

It will be expected that your essay will include the following information:

i. Key epidemiological documents
ii. Critical discussion of, e.g a) study design; b) methodology c) outcome measure; d) interpretation
iii. Short discussion of why this is important in a Public Health/nutrition professional context
iv. Table in Appendix summarising key information from your chosen studies

The main body of the essay should provide a critical discussion of 2-3 key epidemiological studies which have added to the body of evidence in your chosen area. You should give a justification for selecting these. You can then critically discuss (more info in week 15) these studies for e.g. (a) study design, (b) methodology (c) outcome measures (d) interpretation of results. You should also make reference to other studies within this section but your focus should be upon these 2-3. You will be expected to summarise key information from these papers in an Appendix (support for this aspect will be provided in week 16).

Within the application to practice section, you should discuss how the above studies may be applied to practice. For example, how they might inform Public Health policy or your practice as a dietitian / health practitioner.
Marking criteria

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Marking guide (approximate weightings)</th>
<th>%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduction (setting the scene, outline essay, topic to be discussed)</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critical discussion (including study design, methods, exposure/outcome, analysis, interpretation etc)</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application to practice</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conclusions</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>References sources, structure and presentation.</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Appendix containing summary of key information from chosen studies</td>
<td>10</td>
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Assessment tutorials

A formative assessment tutorial will take place in Week 15 (in addition to the weekly tutorial). In preparation for this tutorial please could you make a plan of your essay, giving a brief outline of what you will discuss in each section.

During week 18 there will be an additional assessment tutorial which will be an open Q&A format.

Please refer to your Programme Handbook for information on the marking criteria for summative coursework. See also Appendix 1 for University Assessment regulations.

- link for referencing and Cite Them Right
  http://ilsselfhelp.plymouth.ac.uk/default.asp?id=1338&SID=&Lang=1

- An accurate word count must be given with the coursework - you will be penalised by a 5% reduction of the overall % mark if one is not included. If an inaccurate word count is given that misrepresents the true word total this will be treated as Academic Dishonesty.

- Exceeding the word limit will lead to a penalty. Work that is between 5-10% over the word count will be allowed, but anything over and above this will not be marked. Work that is more than 10% below the word limit is unlikely to contain sufficient material to merit a pass.

Submission of Coursework

This assessment must be submitted through the electronic submission process, via DIET217 Moodle site. Student guide - Submitting coursework online
Submissions MUST be anonymous and students should not put their name on the front sheet or anywhere else in the submission e.g. on a footer.
The provisional results for the coursework will be available within 4 working weeks following submission, although given the Christmas break you can expect this to be turned around by end Jan 201X.

**Deadline for written summative coursework:**

1600hrs XXXX December 201X