

Clayton College of Natural Health and My Doctoral Studies

Clayton College of Natural Health was a distance learning institution that operated for approximately 30 years and was licensed by the State of Alabama through the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education and was awarded the Quality Standards Certification by the United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA). It offered structured degree programs in natural health and holistic nutrition, although its accreditation was nontraditional rather than the conventional institutional accreditation associated with most universities. Clayton College ceased operations in 2010, during the period of financial stress following the 2008 financial crisis, when several dozen other U.S. colleges and universities also closed.

My doctoral studies took about two years and included advanced coursework in nutrition, natural health, and practitioner education. The program culminated in my dissertation, *Development of a Self-Directed, Personalized, Nutrition Education Program*, a substantial research and development project that included a literature review, study design, and the creation of a 56-page personalized nutrition education. The complete dissertation is available in the EDUCATION section of this page.

The doctoral studies complemented my broader background in nutrition, health sciences, clinical chemistry, nutraceutical product development, clinical practice, retail, manufacturing, technical education, and marketing. They provided additional study in natural health and the organization and communication of nutrition information.