

EP.08.42
(Rev. 3/4/08)

Title of the Proposal:

Revised Curriculum for the Undergraduate Degree in Kinesiology
Department of Kinesiology and Community Health (KCH)
College of Applied Health Sciences

Sponsor:

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Brief Description:

The major component of the proposed revisions to the Kinesiology undergraduate curriculum is the addition of a two course (6 hour) Kinesiology and Community Health Departmental core. This change is complemented by a 6 hour reduction in our Elective Kinesiology Courses requirement. There are also minor changes to the Kinesiology core and the way that University General Education Requirements are listed. Specifically, these changes include: a) the addition of a Department-wide core of 6 hours (CHLH 101 Introduction of Public Health and KIN 122 Physical Activity and Health); b) restructuring general education requirements consistent with general University General Education Requirements - from 54 hours of General Education and Departmental General Education Supporting Work to 40 hours of General Education hours plus 8 hours of Kinesiology Required Courses (a total of 48 hours); c) eliminate the Kinesiology mathematics requirement listed in General Education Supporting Work because this is now met by General Education Quant I and II requirements; d) change the Kinesiology Core by eliminating the 2 hour KIN 131-136 movement skills series requirement and changing the credit for KIN 130 from 1 to 2 hours; and e) reducing the current Elective Kinesiology Courses requirement from 18 hours to 12 hours and restructure these hours so that 6 or more hours must be at the 400 level rather than 9 hours as is currently required. In summary, these changes would result in an 8-hour reduction in required course work and an equal increase in the number of free electives. The minimum hours for the degree would remain at 128 hours. The Athletic Training Concentration and the Teacher Certification Program can also be completed in 128 hours.

Justification:

In 2005 the Department of Community Health and the Department of Kinesiology merged into the Department of Kinesiology and Community Health with two distinct undergraduate programs, one in Kinesiology and one in Community Health. However, there is not a course from either curriculum in the core requirements of the other. The absence of curriculum sharing is unusual given that both programs prepare students to address health and wellness from the perspective of prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and public policy. The proposed changes will allow for partial integration of the disciplines that make up our department. The inclusion of CHLH 101 as a core requirement for Kinesiology majors characterizes the cross-disciplinary emphasis promoted within the college and across the University. The undergraduate degree program in Kinesiology was last revised in 1988. Since that time our Department, and the field in general, has increased its focus on health related issues. The inclusion of KIN 122 as a core course for Kinesiology students reflects this change. The changes to the Kinesiology Core (elimination of the 2 1-hour activity courses from the KIN 131-136 movement skills series and the additional hour of credit for KIN 130) more accurately reflect the academic focus of our undergraduate student population. The Kinesiology Elective Courses hour reduction offsets the added Departmental Core hours. Finally, the reduction of required 400 level course hours allows students to select from a wider variety of courses that meet their educational goals and, at the same time, will provide a more balanced ratio of undergraduate to graduate students in 400 level courses.

Budgetary and Staff Implications:

Combined, the Kinesiology and Community Health undergraduate programs have over 1000 students. The addition of approximately 150 Kinesiology students to CHLH 101 per year (75 per semester) would require an

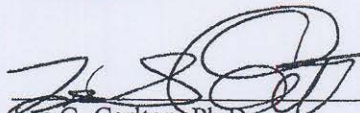
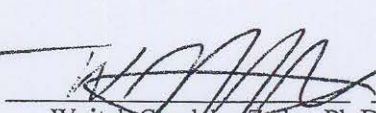
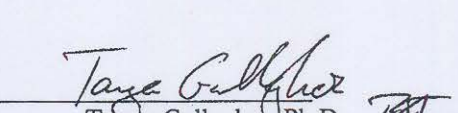
increase in enrollment for this course. Additional discussion sections would be required to meet this additional enrollment in the form of a .50 graduate assistantship. The enrollment in KIN 122 would increase from its current 75 students per semester to approximately 150 students. Because KIN 122 does not have a discussion or laboratory component, there is no impact on existing classroom or laboratory space other than the requirement for a larger lecture classroom. The increase in class size would require a .50 graduate assistantship. Elective Kinesiology hour reductions will result in a small reduction in the number of 400 level courses offered and this will offset the costs associated with larger class sizes for CHLH 101 and KIN 122. Elimination of required activity courses (KIN 131-136) will result in fewer of these courses being offered, also providing a cost savings.

The Head of KCH (Wojtek Chodzko-Zajko) endorses the revision and has pledged the additional resources and planning needed to accommodate the influx of students in CHLH 101 and KIN 122. The library would not experience a sudden or sustained drain on resources because the revisions only involve new course work for existing students rather than increases in the population of majors. The impact on the undergraduate advisors would be minimal because the revisions only involve adjustments to course requirements rather than increases in student enrollment.

Guidelines for Undergraduate Education:

The proposed revisions to the undergraduate degree program in Kinesiology do not erode the quality of learning or jeopardize the guidelines for undergraduate education as defined by the University. KIN 122 requires students to demonstrate reading comprehension, effective writing, and critical thinking. CHLH 101 is a Social Science General Education course and will increase the number of general education hours taken by Kinesiology students because two required Kinesiology courses are also Social Science General Education courses. We predict that the inclusion of these new courses as a core requirement will ignite students' interests in health related issues.

Clearances:

 Les G. Carlton, Ph.D. Sponsor	 Wojtek Chodzko-Zajko, Ph.D. Head	 Tanya Gallagher, Ph.D. Dean
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Effective Date: August 1, 2008