

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**PROPOSED REVISIONS FOR THE IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**2016-2017 GENERAL CATALOG**

**Action Requested:** Consider approval of the proposed revisions for the 2016-2017 General Catalog at Iowa State University.

**Executive Summary:** The new courses represent additions due to new knowledge as well as restructuring in some areas. In addition to the proposed course changes, ISU's request describes two new programs approved by prior action of the Board (ESAC 4b, February 2015, ESAC 5, March 2015), three new minors, and three new certificates. The request for the proposed revisions was reviewed by the Board Office and is recommended for approval. This report addresses the Board of Regents Strategic Plan priority to provide "educational excellence and impact" and Goal #8 "Iowa's public universities and special schools shall be increasingly efficient and productive."

**Background:**

- ◇ The ISU Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee requires that, with few exceptions, new courses must be offered experimentally to determine if a department or program is able to staff them and if sufficient interest exists to justify adding them to the Catalog.
- ◇ Courses in the 2015-2016 Catalog that have not been taught in some time will be dropped.
- ◇ The proposed revisions include an addition of 128 new courses and the elimination of 191 courses, which resulted in a net decrease of 63 courses. The new courses are primarily due to new program and certificate offerings.
- ◇ The catalog revision process is designed to allow departments and programs within the university to become informed about and comment on changes proposed by other units. At the end of this review, an annual electronic Catalog is made available to current and prospective students.

**SUMMARY OF PROGRAM CHANGES**

**PROGRAMS ADDED BY PRIOR BOARD ACTION**

- 📁 Master in Business Analytics (February 2015, ESAC 4b)
- 📁 Bachelor of Science in Early Childcare Education and Programming (March 2015, ESAC 5)

**NEW MINORS**

- 📁 Education for Social Justice
- 📁 Health Coach

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED REVISIONS  
2016-2017 GENERAL CATALOG

College	New Courses	Dropped Courses	Net Change	Course Number Change	Credit Value Change	Title Change
Agriculture & Life Sciences	14	12	+2	0	2	2
Business	0	0	0	0	0	0
Design	9	8	+1	1	2	7
Engineering	12	4	+8	1	1	3
Human Sciences	43	107	-64	2	4	38
Liberal Arts and Sciences	45	50	-5	12	4	20
Veterinary Medicine	3	7	-4	0	2	0
Interdisciplinary Programs	2	3	-1	1	0	0
TOTAL	128	191	-63	17	15	70

The following summary describes trends that underscored the proposed course changes in the colleges:

- ◆ The **College of Agriculture and Life Sciences** did not have any significant changes to the college curricula. There were minor adjustments in course offerings. The college continues the process for assessment of college level student outcomes.
- ◆ The **College of Business** implemented the Master of Business Analytics Program which was approved by the Board of Regents in February 2015.
- ◆ The **College of Design** implemented an Urban Studies minor proposed by the Department of Community and Regional Planning (CRP). The new interdisciplinary minor will emphasize urban life, and the processes of urban growth and change, in a variety of settings and from different disciplinary and methodological approaches. Open to undergraduate students in all majors except CRP, the minor requires 15 credit hours of coursework and students will be able to add it at any point in their program of study.

A Geographic Information Science minor will be implemented. The new interdisciplinary minor, administered by CRP will focus on theory, processes, techniques and tools that use spatial data and computational technology to create cutting edge analysis and mapping approaches for urban planning, architecture, landscape architecture, design and community development.

The Master of Landscape Architecture program made major curricular revisions in response to its accreditation report. The MLA program will increase its enrollment; the curriculum will distinguish the graduate courses from the undergraduate course curriculum.

The Bachelor of Fine Arts and Master of Fine Arts in Graphic Design and Master of Arts in Graphic Design with a specialization in Environmental Graphic Design are undergoing major curricular revisions. The goal is to finalize and approve the changes for inclusion in the next Catalog.

An interdisciplinary committee is developing an undergraduate and graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation which will be presented to departments in Spring 2016.

- ◆ The **College of Engineering** continues to add courses which reflect changes in the discipline.
- ◆ The **College of Human Sciences** added one new online undergraduate program – Early Childcare Education and Programming – and a new undergraduate Health Coach certificate during the past year. Numerous curricular modifications are planned to align programs with emerging disciplines and societal needs. The Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition anticipates significant changes in the undergraduate dietetics didactic program and the Dietetic Internship graduate certificate.
- ◆ The **College of Liberal Arts and Sciences** continued refining and updating curricula in response to faculty hiring and retirements, advances in the disciplines, and the needs of students identified through assessment, employer feedback, and analysis of student demand. Strong growth of student interest in the Interdisciplinary Studies Major Criminal Justice track resulted in the development of a program proposal submitted for Board approval. In 2015-2016, departments and programs were required to provide sustained justification to keep courses in the catalog that had not been offered during the past three years.

During the past year, the LAS Curriculum Committee continued to examine pre-requisite for experimental courses because there has been an increase in the number of students entering with significant “early credit.” The committee has examined three aspects of experimental course proposals more diligently – (a) justification of the new course to the overall curriculum of the program; (b) learning outcomes expected of students who complete the new course; and (c) consultation with other departments in the college and throughout the university. The committee has also begun inviting department and program representatives to discuss curricula, vision, and challenges.

During the past year, the Departments of Anthropology and World Languages and Cultures continued their discussion about merging the two departments and developed a proposal that is currently being reviewed. Although there will likely be no short-term impact on curriculum, there will need to be changes to the catalog if the merger occurs.

- ◆ The **College of Veterinary Medicine** did not implement significant changes to the curriculum or to curricular process during the past year. Efforts have focused on improving clinical competency assessment processes and curricular management processes. The College is completing an update of curricular mapping (Years One-Three) and has initiated a new process for identifying students who may have deficiencies in clinical competency assessment throughout the fourth year. Student scores are reviewed on a monthly basis and students showing a deficiency are provided remediation. In addition, given assessment information, a financial literacy module was implemented as part of the “Careers” core course.

- ◇ ***The Graduate College*** interdisciplinary programs continue to bring together faculty from various departments and colleges to develop cutting edge programs which will prepare graduates for careers in industry, academia, and government. The ability to draw on faculty resources across disciplines strengthens the programs and allows them to adapt to current industry needs.