

Contact: Rachel Boon

**PROPOSED CURRICULUM CHANGES FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA**

**Action Requested:** Consider approval of the request for curriculum changes by the University of Northern Iowa for the 2017-2018 Catalog.

**Executive Summary:** The proposed changes include the curriculum changes resulting from collegiate and department review of existing courses. Changes in the 2017-2018 UNI curriculum package include 7 dropped courses and 43 new courses. The Board Office reviewed this request for the proposed curriculum changes and recommends approval.

**Background:** Curriculum change at UNI is an ongoing process of academic program innovation and improvement initiated by faculty. Academic departments are responsible for developing initial curriculum proposals. Changes to programs, and the addition or deletion of courses, are in response to workforce needs, student interest, requirements of accrediting bodies, laws and regulations, student outcomes assessments, academic program reviews, and advances in the fields. Additionally, the course catalog and curricula at UNI are particularly influenced by changes in the state's requirements for teacher licensure and endorsements, as well as accreditation. While this impact is typically seen across the university, changes are primarily seen in Colleges that add new programs. New programs and curriculum changes reflect new knowledge, new demands in professional fields, workforce development needs, student interests, program reorganization, and faculty expertise. While budgetary limitations may slow growth in the development of new programs, will continue reallocation of funds in strategic directions that support economic and workforce development initiatives across the state. The faculty thus ensure their curricula are up-to-date so as to best serve students and the state of Iowa.

**SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CURRICULUM CHANGES  
2016-2017**

College	New Courses	Dropped Courses	Net Change	Course Number Change	Credit Value Change	Title Change
Business Administration	14	0	+14	2	0	3
Education	8	0	-8	4	2	4
Humanities, Arts, and Sciences	14	5	+9	19	-6	9
Social and Behavioral Sciences	7	2	+5	9	0	8
Interdisciplinary Programs	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>+36</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>21</b>

**SUMMARY OF PROGRAM CHANGES**

**DEGREES AND MAJORS ADDED**

None

**MERGED PROGRAMS AND PROGRAM/DEPARTMENT NAME CHANGES (All effective summer 2017)**

- From School of Health, Physical Education & Leisure Services to *School of Kinesiology, Allied Health, and Human Services*
- From Earth Science to *Earth and Environmental Sciences*
- From Communication/Electronic Media to *Communication/Digital Media*
- From Manufacturing Technology to *Manufacturing Engineering Technology*
- From Middle/Junior High School Science to *Middle-Level Science Teaching Dual Major*
- From All Science Teaching to *Comprehensive Secondary Science Teaching*

**MAJORS SUSPENDED OR TERMINATED**

- Biotechnology (P.S.M.) (Effective Summer 2017)
- Ecosystem Management (P.S.M.) (Effective Summer 2017)
- Teacher of Students With Visual Impairments (M.A.E.) (Effective Summer 2017)
- Accelerated Master of Public Policy (MPP) (Effective Summer 2017)

**MINORS ADDED**

- Entrepreneurship (Effective Summer 2018)
- STEM Education (Effective Summer 2018)
- Mental Health (Effective Summer 2018)

**MINORS TERMINATED**

- Teacher of Students With Visual Impairments (TVIS) (Effective Summer 2018)

### CURRICULAR TRENDS BY COLLEGE

 **COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION:** Business has become authentically multi-cultural, responding to the ever-more complex global supply chain as well as growing international diversity of C-suites and Boards of Directors, and increasingly sensitive to consumer expectations for moral responsibility--and even proactive social contribution. To continue to meet the needs of students, both traditional and non-traditional, content and delivery changes have to adapt to reflect trends in macro-level changes in the global business environment as well as localized pragmatics of student access, affordability, and impact. At the practical programming level, working professionals face ever-more demanding schedules, work-loads, and community or family expectations. To adapt to these needs, efforts continue to provide a convenient "home town" face-to-face MBA program within the state of Iowa to areas underserved by Regents' programs. In that effort, a program in Mason City was approved this year. In addition, capitalizing on the already extensive international partnerships to expand faculty interaction with successful professionals in China, international expertise has been developed within the faculty, an important factor in keeping curriculum current and relevant.

At the undergraduate level, the College developed a new degree-completion program for students seeking to obtain a four-year degree. The purpose of the Bachelor of Applied Science in Managing Business and Organizations (BAS:MBO) is to offer an online Bachelor's degree option to those students who have completed an AAS degree and have several years of related work experience. The BA in Supply Chain Management, was offered initially in Fall 2016. The new major merges 'traditional' and 'Management Science' perspectives to offer a forward-looking program that recognizes the importance of analytics and quantitative analysis with a traditional supply chain management foundation (i.e. purchasing) with global linkages. Finally, the interdisciplinary Entrepreneurship Minor was added that allows students the opportunity to complement their major with this minor.

 **COLLEGE OF EDUCATION:** The UNI College of Education uses several indicators to assess quality of courses, changes to existing courses, and creation of new courses: program reviews, student outcomes assessment and accreditation mandates. The curricular revisions made in this cycle facilitate the College's mission of becoming the premier PreK-12 program in the state, region and nation. The College of Education continues to promote innovation, curricular efficiency and student learning.

The College is focused on revising existing courses, restating course and major/minor descriptions, and adding content to already existing courses in order to fulfill accreditation standards and mandates. There are changing trends in all areas represented by the College, and every effort is made to include changes in the curriculum that address these issues. Over the last year, two new graduate programs were introduced: the Masters in Athletic Training and the Master of Arts degree in Teacher Leadership for International Educators. These changes respond to emerging needs of educators and human service personnel throughout Iowa and the nation and are consistent with the mission of the College: to provide high quality undergraduate and graduate programs that prepare educational and human service professionals for a variety of direct service and leadership roles in school and non-school settings.

 **COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES, ARTS AND SCIENCES:** Review and revision of the curriculum is an important step in continual assessment processes such as Student Outcomes Assessment (SOA) and Academic Program Review (APR). Within the context of SOA and APR, curricular changes are initiated with the goal of developing and maintaining excellence in departments and programs by building on our reputation of commitment to learning and teaching.

Some revisions are merely housekeeping and routine updates, but others are designed to increase student success, notably by increasing and refining collaborative interdisciplinary offerings and addressing changes in state teaching endorsements. Two new majors and one minor are being added this year to address access and opportunity. The Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) in Technology is a degree completion program, primarily offered online. The Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Physics provides a flexible degree option for these students to complement a primary major. Finally, the STEM Education Minor provides additional credentialing to students who want to expand the areas in which they are able to teach in related STEM fields by allowing prospective teachers and teachers to complete a program in STEM for licensure.

 **COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES:** Departments and programs within the College employ a variety of assessment strategies (e.g., internal evaluations: Student Outcomes Assessment, Academic Program Review, and student demand and external evaluations: professional accreditation bodies) to maintain academic excellence and currency in each discipline. The College has made several types of changes (additions, deletions, edits) to courses and programs as a reflection of disciplinary change. Specific changes include the addition of two Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree programs. The BAS is a degree-completion program, primarily offered online, that allows AAS degree holders the opportunity to complete their 4-year degree. The students are usually place-bound and are already in the workforce but may be looking at opportunities to advance their careers. Many managerial and supervisory positions require a 4-year degree. To address this need, two BAS programs were developed and will be implemented in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences: the BAS in Criminal Justice and the BAS in Tactical Emergency Services with Vulnerable Populations. Additionally, to address need and the interests of students, a new interdisciplinary minor was introduced: a minor in Mental Health. For this minor, the departments of Psychology, Social Work, Sociology, Anthropology and Criminology as well as the School of Human Sciences all provide courses.