

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

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 2012-2014 Catalog.

Executive Summary: In addition to the proposed course changes, UNI’s request includes one dropped minor. The proposed changes also include a proposal for a department name change submitted for Board approval as ESAC 4; and two proposals for program name changes submitted for Board approval as ESAC 5 and ESAC 6. The request for the proposed curriculum changes was reviewed by the Board Office and the Council of Provosts and is recommended for approval. This request addresses the Board of Regents Strategic Plan priority of “educational excellence and impact” as well as Goal # 8 – “Iowa’s public universities and special schools shall be increasingly efficient and productive.”

Background:

- ❖ Curriculum changes. Curriculum changes at UNI reflect new knowledge, new demands in various professions and settings, workforce development needs, program reorganization, student interests, program accreditation expectations, licensure requirements, developments in academic fields, and faculty expertise.
- ❖ Process. Development of course proposals began in Fall 2010. While some programs will undergo curricular restructuring during the next two years, it is necessary to propose new courses in anticipation of the restructuring because a delay until the 2014-2016 Catalog is developed will constrain the restructuring process. Curricular restructuring will involve a thorough review of course offerings, program requirements, student demand, and instructional resources and may result in dropped courses for the 2014-2016 Catalog.
- ❖ University Catalog. The proposed curriculum changes will be shown on the 2012-2014 University Catalog.
- ❖ Net changes. The proposed changes include an addition of 87 new courses and the elimination of 32 courses, resulting in a net increase of 55 courses.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED CURRICULUM CHANGES



| College | New Courses | Dropped Courses | Net Change | Course Number Change | Credit Value Change | Title Change |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Business Administration | 7 | 3 | +4 | 4 | 0 | 9 |
| Education | 11 | 1 | +10 | 12 | 11 | 35 |
| Humanities, Arts, and Sciences | 28 | 13 | +15 | 10 | 11 | 22 |
| Natural Sciences | 23 | 6 | +17 | 14 | 10 | 17 |
| Social and Behavioral Sciences | 18 | 9 | +9 | 16 | 8 | 11 |
| Interdisciplinary Programs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 87 | 32 | +55 | 56 | 40 | 94 |

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM CHANGES

PROGRAMS ADDED

 None.

MERGED PROGRAMS/PROGRAM NAME CHANGES

-  Master of Arts Program in Mental Health Counseling and Master of Arts in Education Program in School Counseling to Master of Arts Program in Counseling with two emphasis areas - Clinical Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling (Pending Board approval in June 2012 – ESAC 6)
-  Doctor of Education Program in Leisure, Youth, and Human Services and Doctor of Education Program in Rehabilitation Studies to Doctor of Education Program in Allied Health, Recreation, and Community Services (Pending Board approval in June 2012 – ESAC 5)

PROGRAMS TERMINATED

 None.

NEW MINORS

 None.

MINORS SUSPENDED

 None.

MINORS TERMINATED

 Youth Services Administration

CURRICULAR TRENDS BY COLLEGE

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

- ➔ The new Professional Readiness Program (PRP) addresses the gap between what contemporary employers demand and the perceived skill level of graduates. The full implementation of PRP has produced extensive assessment instruments to monitor how the College's objectives are being met.
- ➔ The proposed Organizational Leadership emphasis with a hands-on component will address skills-based leadership education.
- ➔ The new Human Resources Management course will cover practical, early career issues for new professionals.
- ➔ The new Digital Advertising course and the renamed Advertising and Digital Media emphasis will address the rapid dominance of digital advertising.
- ➔ The new Global Marketing emphasis will address growing student interest in international business.
- ➔ The new Sales Management course will create a two-course Sales Management emphasis and address hands-on sales education.
- ➔ To address growing demand for professionals to market financial and real estate products, the College has developed a new Certificate in Financial and Real Estate Sales in the Department of Marketing in consultation with the Department of Finance; the College has also upgraded the Personal Financial Planning course to junior level as the first step toward a new wealth management track within the Finance Program.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

- ➔ The College focused on fine-tuning existing courses, restating course and major/minor descriptions, and adding content to existing courses to fulfill accreditation standards and mandates. The proposed changes recognize the changing trends in all College areas.
- ➔ Curriculum changes responded to emerging needs of educators and human services personnel throughout Iowa and the nation and are consistent with the mission of the College of Education to provide high quality undergraduate and graduate programs that prepare educational and human services professionals for direct service and leadership roles in school and non-school settings.

COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES, ARTS AND SCIENCES

- ➔ The College's goal is to maintain up-to-date curricula and improve student retention and success in light of UNI's mission and the traditional values of a liberal arts education.
- ➔ The College's curricular review and revision processes were based on a number of assessment practices, including Academic Program Review, Academic Program Assessment, and Student Outcomes Assessment.

- Changes to teacher preparation programs are designed to increase enrollment and improve the ability of graduates to teach effectively in communication arts, fine arts, and STEM disciplines. Changes in these areas are in response to changes in teacher licensure and national recommendations.



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

- Curriculum changes stemming from the 2010-2011 curriculum cycle reflect changes in disciplinary trends, student demand, low enrollments, and faculty turnover. In addition to restatements of majors, minors or certificates (Social Work, School Counseling, and Political Communications), a number of courses were dropped or added.
- Eighteen courses were added to the College curriculum, including one-hour professional development courses, two variable topics courses, and a field placement course.
- All new courses have been offered on an experimental basis to ensure sufficient student demand and intellectual rigor. Most courses reflect disciplinary changes and/or new faculty with emerging interests.