

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of Regents
From: Board Office
Subject: University of Iowa Proposed Course Changes
Date: July 8, 2002

Recommended Action: Approve the University of Iowa's proposed course changes.

Executive Summary:

The University of Iowa has submitted its list of proposed course changes for the approval of the Board of Regents. The proposed course offerings represent the continuing responses of the University to the changing educational needs of students, changing disciplinary emphases, and vitality of University faculty.

According to the University, the course changes do not include any new programs of study. Whereas programs contain an entire field of study, courses are specific units within a program; as such, course changes occur frequently to reflect changes in the occupation, changes in faculty specialties, developments in the field of study or discipline, changes in demand by students, or other needs determined by the University.

Proposed Course Changes

The proposed course changes include:

- 327 new courses;
- 110 department number changes;
- 54 course number changes;
- 156 title changes;
- 76 semester-hour changes; and
- 335 course eliminations.

The net result on active courses is a decrease of eight courses. The course changes are consistent with the need for on-going curricular review in order to provide the most relevant and logical educational experiences to students.

Link to Strategic Plan:

The following Key Result Area (KRA) and objective in the Board's Strategic Plan are addressed in this report:

KRA 1.0.0.0 Become the best public education enterprise in the United States.

Objective 1.1.0.0 Improve the quality of existing and newly created educational programs.

Background:

Each year, the University of Iowa submits a request to add and eliminate courses; and change department numbers, course numbers, titles, and semester hours. The analysis that the University undergoes to determine these changes is essential to the on-going health and vitality of programs, departments, and the University.

Analysis:

A summary of the proposed course changes by college is provided below and on the following pages.

College of Dentistry

The course changes are a continuation of moving from non-departmental integrated courses to departmental courses to identify student progress in the D.D.S. program in a more effective manner. There are also additional minor adjustments to complete the separation of the certificate program from the M.S. program.

Course Changes

The College of Dentistry is proposing three title changes, four semester-hour changes, and 16 course eliminations. The net result on active courses is a decrease of 16 courses.

College of Medicine

The goal of the medical curriculum is to educate students in the knowledge, skills, and professional attributes needed to enter any field of advanced training in medicine and to be excellent physicians who meet the needs of society. The curriculum integrates its core content both horizontally (interdisciplinary integration) and vertically (integration of the basic biomedical sciences and clinical practice) throughout all four years, and assists students to become adult, self-directed, life-long learners.

Curriculum Evaluation

This year, the Medical Education Committee undertook an evaluation of the teaching of the neurobehavioral sciences throughout the curriculum. Beginning in July 2002, the third year will be revised to include a 12-week coordinated ambulatory curriculum comprising the core clerkships in ambulatory internal medicine, community-based primary care, and family medicine.

Clinical
Experiences

Additional extramural clinical experiences continue to be an important dimension of the curriculum in the 3rd and 4th years, including the opportunity to take the required internal medicine, pediatrics, and obstetrics and gynecology clerkships at the Des Moines Medical Education Consortium.

Many students are also taking other off-campus clerkships, including the required selectives in emergency or critical care medicine, as well as a variety of specialty electives.

Another important source of enrichment is the Barry Freeman Memorial Fellowship, which enables students to participate in clinical experiences in underdeveloped countries around the world.

Licensing
Examination
Results

The Class of 2003 was very successful in Step 1 of the U.S. Medical Licensing Examination in Summer 2001. The exam mean score for SUI students rose from last year and is now six points above the national average, performance is above the national mean in 18 of the 19 disciplines and organ systems, and at the mean in one discipline. The Class of 2001 did well on Step 2, with a mean score two points above the national average and performance at or above the national mean in 18 of 22 subject areas.

Course Changes

The College of Medicine is proposing 16 new courses, three department number changes, six title changes, seven semester-hour changes, and 19 course eliminations. The net result on active courses is a decrease of three courses.

**College of
Nursing**

Nurse educators face a rapidly changing health care setting, shifting student and patient demographics, an explosion of technology, and the globalization of health care. Major socio-economic factors and professional issues unique to nursing are also driving transformations in nursing and nursing education. Furthermore, the current nursing shortage is creating pressure to produce nurses at a faster rate.

Trends in Nursing
Education

The changes proposed by the College of Nursing are in response to several trends in health care and nursing education:

- increasing demand for flexibility in undergraduate education;
- increasing demand for an international nursing focus whereby knowledge transfer between cultures and health care systems can occur;
- increasing demand for distance education;
- increasing emphasis on nursing informatics; and
- continual assessment of doctoral programs.

Course Changes The College of Nursing is proposing 17 new courses, most of which are associated with the new Master's in Nursing and Healthcare Practice program, and four title changes. The net result on active courses is an increase of 17 courses.

College of Pharmacy The first major revision to the Doctor of Pharmacy program was approved in November 2000, resulting in the addition of 18 hours of professional elective courses. These changes will make the College of Pharmacy compliant with the new accreditation standards of the American Council for Pharmaceutical Education, especially in the areas of introductory practice experiences, outcomes assessment, and program evaluation.

Practice Experiences The new curriculum enhances the use of early practice experiences. The six-semester laboratory series introduces the students to structured and simulated patient situations. It also provides limited, unstructured experiences with patients. During the first professional year, students participate in a service-learning project that is monitored and evaluated. Students also will be undertaking early community-based pharmacy practice experiences after the second professional year and role shadowing in the third professional year.

Course Changes The College of Pharmacy is proposing 15 new courses, 20 title changes, one semester-hour change, and 16 course eliminations. The net result on active courses is a decrease of one course.

College of Public Health Curricular activities during 2001-2002 included further development of the Master of Public Health, development of a College of Public Health/College of Medicine Summer Institute to be implemented in July 2002, additional courses offered through distance education, and development of new academic programs.

2002-2003 Academic Year Activities Anticipated activities for the 2002-2003 academic year include development of cooperative degree programs with the University of Northern Iowa, development of a Master of Science in Community and Behavioral Health, delivery of a Public Health Certificate, and continued development and delivery of distance education coursework.

Course Changes The College of Public Health is proposing 13 new courses, two course number changes, eight title changes, six semester-hour changes, and one course elimination. The net result on active courses is an increase of 12 courses.

**College of
Liberal Arts and
Sciences**

The College encourages every department to keep only those courses that can be offered at least once every two years; special effort is made to remove courses that have not been offered at least once in four years. Departments often drop courses because resources cannot be stretched to offer them rather than because the courses are not needed.

Course Changes

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is proposing 165 new courses, seven department number changes, 32 course number changes, 68 title changes, 31 semester-hour changes, and 182 course eliminations. The net result on active courses is a decrease of 17 courses.

**Henry B. Tippie
College of
Business**

Enrollment of undergraduate business majors increased by 8% to 1,539 in Fall 2001. The number of pre-business students rose by 5% to 2,260. The increase in grade point criterion for admission to the College recently went into effect and is likely to result in scaling back the enrollment to the targeted level of 1,400 business majors.

2001-2002
Academic Year
Activities

The third intersession program in London was offered during the winter break. The Business Communications Center now includes a peer tutor training program; oral communications training; and a groups and team initiative. Last year, an Academic Success in Business course, specifically designed for students whose G.P.A. fell below 2.0, was implemented.

Students in the on-campus executive MBA program and the dual degree program (with the College of Engineering at ISU) completed their first international trip to Brazil in March 2002 to experience first hand the opportunities of doing business in Latin America. Admissions to the M.A. program in Management Information Systems were discontinued in Spring 2002 in order to direct resources toward more strategic programs.

Course Changes

The College is proposing 17 new courses, 16 course number changes, two title changes, seven semester-hour changes, and nine course eliminations. The net result on active courses is an increase of eight courses.

**College of
Education**

The major change in the College's course offerings for the 2002-2003 academic year relates to the merging of program areas in the Division of Educational Planning and Leadership Studies and the consolidation of all courses under a new course number.

- Curriculum Changes in Divisions
- In the Division of Counseling, Rehabilitation, and Student Development, the substance abuse program has been absorbed by the rehabilitation counseling program; and courses in the field of assistive technology have been added.
 - Primary changes in the Division of Curriculum and Instruction involve course revisions in the music education program, addition of coursework for the gifted and talented endorsement, and continued refinement of special education courses.
 - In the Division of Psychological and Quantitative Foundations, changes were made in the instructional design program.

Course Changes

The College of Education is proposing 16 new courses, 95 department number changes, three course number changes, 19 title changes, one semester-hour change, and 31 course eliminations. The net result on active courses is a decrease of 15 courses.

College of Engineering

The course changes reflect the implementation of the new engineering curriculum beginning in Fall 2002. Entering students in Fall 2002 will follow the new curriculum, including the revised introductory course, Engineering Problem Solving.

The purpose of eliminating many required courses is to provide a greater number of elective hours so that students can either deepen their education in a technical area or pursue a minor, certificate, or other focused program of study, consistent with the College's mission to educate "engineers and more."

Outreach Offerings

The College continues to investigate course offerings that can extend outreach through the ICN and through new web-based courses. The College has also continued to expand involvement of its regional industrial partners in the Practice Engineering Design Experience (PEDE) program and to continue to encourage students to take engineering courses abroad.

Course Changes

The College of Engineering is proposing 28 new courses, four department number changes, 15 title changes, three semester-hour changes, and 32 course eliminations. The net result on active courses is a decrease of four courses.

College of Law Four major curricular trends are reflected in the proposed course changes:

- greater use of short courses and intersessions;
- expanded opportunities for study in the international and comparative law fields;
- increased emphasis on practical skills training in essential lawyer skills and related ethics issues; and
- greater student opportunities for specialization and advanced training.

Course Changes The College of Law is proposing 21 new courses, six title changes, eight semester-hour changes, and 11 course eliminations. The net result on active courses is an increase of 10 courses.

**Provost's Office
(Known as
"University
College")** The "University College," under the auspices of the Office of the Provost, manages special programs that do not fit standard collegiate designations. Many of these programs are interdisciplinary, available to students in multiple colleges, or offered to special populations, such as high school students.

"University College"
Programs The "University College" includes the following programs:

- Lakeside Laboratory;
- Honors Program;
- Study Abroad;
- Belin Blank Gifted Education Center;
- Howard Hughes Outreach Program;
- Upward Bound Project;
- Secondary Student Training Program;
- Undergraduate Research Fellow Program;
- Summer Undergraduate Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) Research;
- Iowa Young Writers Studio;
- Undergraduate Initiatives;
- Intercollegiate Athletic Participation; and
- Washington Center Program.

Course Changes The "University College" is proposing 15 new courses, most of which are in the Study Abroad Program; one department number change; one course number change; four title changes; and nine course eliminations. The net result on active courses is an increase of six courses.

Graduate College Most of the course changes in the School of Library and Information Science are the result of fine tuning; instead of presenting course material in a modular format consisting of many one semester-hour classes, the contents of the modular courses will be integrated into existing courses. The changes in Urban and Regional Planning reflect an expansion of the Geographic Information Systems offerings required by advances in technology and a realignment of emphases based on the expertise of new faculty members.

Course Changes The Graduate College is proposing four new courses, one title change, eight semester-hour changes, and nine course eliminations. The net result on active courses is a decrease of five courses.

Recommendation Approve the University of Iowa's proposed course changes.

Table Summary The following table provides an analysis of the college totals.

**TABLE 1
SUMMARY OF COURSE CHANGES
SPRING 2002**

College	New Courses	Department Number Changes	Course Number Changes	Title Changes	Semester Hour Changes	Dropped Courses	Net Result on Active Courses
Health							
Dentistry	0	0	0	3	4	16	-16
Medicine	16	3	0	6	7	19	-3
Nursing	17	0	0	4	0	0	+17
Pharmacy	15	0	0	20	1	16	-1
Public Health	13	0	2	8	6	1	+12
Total	61	3	2	41	18	52	+9
Others							
Liberal Arts & Sciences	165	7	32	68	31	182	-17
Business	17	0	16	2	7	9	+8
Education	16	95	3	19	1	31	-15
Engineering	28	4	0	15	3	32	-4
Law	21	0	0	6	8	11	+10
Provost's Office	15	1	1	4	0	9	+6
Graduate	4	0	0	1	8	9	-5
Total	266	107	52	115	58	283	-17
Grand Total	327	110	54	156	76	335	-8


Diana Gonzalez

Approved: 
Gregory S. Nichols