

DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH DEGREE IN
THE COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES CHAPTER IN THE *UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG 2016-
2018***

Dean Linda Hicke in the College of Natural Sciences has filed with the secretary of the Faculty Council the following changes to the *Undergraduate Catalog, 2016-2018*. The secretary has classified this proposal as legislation of *general* interest to more than one college or school.

The Committee on Undergraduate Degree Program Review recommended approval of the changes on January 21, 2016, and forwarded the proposal to the Office of the General Faculty. The Faculty Council has the authority to approve this legislation on behalf of the General Faculty. The authority to grant final approval on this legislation resides with UT System.

If no objection is filed with the Office of the General Faculty by the date specified below, the legislation will be held to have been approved by the Faculty Council. If an objection is filed within the prescribed period, the legislation will be presented to the Faculty Council at its next meeting. The objection, with reasons, must be signed by a member of the Faculty Council.

To be counted, a protest must be received in the Office of the General Faculty by February 14, 2016.



Hillary Hart, Secretary
General Faculty and Faculty Council

Proposed classification ☐ Exclusive ☒ General ☐ Major

Rationale: Standard end note for students seeking Dean's Scholars degree options across the fields of study in Natural Sciences. Omitted in error when option was created.

Option III

Remove statement allowing simultaneous graduation with undergraduate and graduate degree.

Rationale: Students in the Master of Public Health program are required to provide proof of earning an undergraduate degree in order to enroll in the 2nd year of the master's program.

Reduction of total hours from 126 to 120.

Rationale: The 6 hours cut from the degree total represent general elective hours. Degree still contains some elective hours. However, students will no longer be required to take as much elective hours to reach a total above 120. This reduction is made in consideration of student debt and progress toward degree.

Move and clarify statement regarding 18 hours of public health coursework from the University of Texas Health Sciences Center.

Rationale: Students in option III will complete between 101 to 107 hours. Most students will be very close to 120 hour total by the time they apply to graduate. For those who are short of 120 hours, advanced public health hours may be applied as general elective hours. In practice, students have used 9 hours or less of UT Health Sciences Center at Houston coursework toward the Option III degree.

At end of degree, inclusion of Additional Requirements for Option III

Rationale: When option was created, no standards were codified for removal from Option III for students who did not persist or progress in the Master of Public Health program. These guidelines were developed in conjunction with program partners at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at Houston.

3. THIS PROPOSAL INVOLVES (Please check all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Courses in other colleges | <input type="checkbox"/> Courses in proposer's college that are frequently taken by students in other colleges | <input type="checkbox"/> Flags |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Course in the core curriculum | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in course sequencing for an existing program | <input type="checkbox"/> Courses that have to be added to the inventory: PBH 320, PBH 323 (was BIO 353), PBH 361P (was BIO 361P) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change in admission requirements (external or internal) | <input type="checkbox"/> Requirements not explicit in the catalog language (e.g., lists of acceptable courses maintained by department office) | |

4. SCOPE OF PROPOSED CHANGE

- a. Does this proposal impact other colleges/schools? Yes ☒ No ☐
If yes, then how? Addition of ADV 378 and SOC 322F.
- b. Do you anticipate a net change in the number of students in your college? Yes ☐ No ☒
If yes, how many more (or fewer) students do you expect?
- c. Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of students from outside of your college taking classes in your college? Yes ☐ No ☒
If yes, please indicate the number of students and/or class seats involved.
- d. Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of students from your college taking courses in other colleges? Yes ☒ No ☐
If yes, please indicate the number of students and/or class seats involved.
It is anticipated that no more than 5 public health majors per year will take ADV 378 and SOC 322F.

If 4 a, b, c, or d was answered with yes, please answer the following questions. If the proposal has potential budgetary impacts for another college/school, such as requiring new sections or a non-negligible increase in the number of seats offered, at least one contact must be at the college-level.

How many students do you expect to be impacted? 5 seats or fewer per academic year

Impacted schools must be contacted and their response(s) included: Department of Advertising and Public Relations

Person communicated with: Jay Bernhardt, Interim Dean, College of Communications

Date of communication: August 24, 2015

Response: Approved.

How many students do you expect to be impacted? 5 seats or fewer per academic year

Impacted schools must be contacted and their response(s) included: Department of Sociology

Person communicated with: Robert Crosnoe, Chair

Date of communication: September 9, 2015

Response: Approved.

- e. Does this proposal involve changes to the core curriculum or other basic education requirements (42-hour core, signature courses, flags)? If yes, explain: No.

If yes, undergraduate studies must be informed of the proposed changes and their response included:

Person communicated with:

Date of communication:

Response:

- f. Will this proposal change the number of hours required for degree completion? If yes, explain: Yes. Options I and III will reduce total hours needed from 126 to 120 hours.

5. COLLEGE/SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS

Department approval date: August 12, 2015; September 25, 2015 Approver: Michele Forman, Director

College approval date: September 23, 2015; September 28, 2015 Approver: Course & Curriculum Committee

Dean approval date: September 28, 2015; September 28, 2015 Approver: David Vanden Bout, Associate Dean

PROPOSED NEW CATALOG TEXT:

Bachelor of Science in Public Health

The Bachelor of Science in Public Health prepares graduates for entry-level positions in public health and equips them to pursue certificate and graduate degrees in the field. All of the options offer broad-based training in the five core areas of public health. Option I offers a choice of six areas of specialization.

Students for whom the degree is appropriate include those interested in health careers and in dual graduate degree programs in medicine and public health. The degree is administered by the School of Human Ecology ~~Department of Molecular Biosciences~~.

Students who plan to follow option I must be admitted. Students who plan to follow option III must first gain admission to option I, and then apply for admission to option III. Students who plan to follow option II must be admitted to the Dean's Scholars Honors Program. Admission requirements for option I and II are given in The Major in Public Health.

Prescribed Work Common to All Options

All students pursuing an undergraduate degree must complete the University's Core Curriculum.

In addition, students seeking the Bachelor of Science in Public Health must complete the following degree-level requirements. In some cases, courses that fulfill degree-level requirements also meet the requirements of the core.

1. Foundation courses:
 - a. Public health: Public Health 317.
 - b. Microbiology: Biology 326M and 226L.
 - c. Nutrition and physiology: Nutrition 312 or 312H and Biology 365S.

- d. Social and behavioral sciences: One of the following: Economics 304K, 304L, Psychology 301, Sociology 319, 354K.
- e. Political science/government: Government 358 or Management 320F.
- 2. Public health core*:
 - a. Biostatistics: Statistics and Data Sciences 328M.
 - b. Environmental health sciences: Public Health 338.
 - c. Epidemiology: Public Health 354.
 - d. Global health: Public Health 334.
 - e. Health policy and health systems ~~management~~: Public Health 358D.
 - f. ~~Social and behavioral sciences~~ Health behavior theory and practice: Public Health 368D.
- 3. Two courses with a writing flag. One of these courses must be upper-division.
- 4. One course with a quantitative reasoning flag.

Courses with flags are identified in the *Course Schedule*. They may be used simultaneously to fulfill other requirements, unless otherwise specified.

- 5. At least twenty-one semester hours of upper-division coursework must be completed in residence at the University. All students must complete at least thirty-six semester hours of upper-division coursework.

Additional Prescribed Work for Each Option

Option I: Public Health

- 6. Mathematics 408C or 408N.
- 7. Biology 311C, 311D, and 325 or Biology 315H and 325H. These courses must be completed before the student progresses to other upper-division biology and upper-division public health courses.
- 8. Chemistry 301 or 301H, 302 or 302H, 204, 320M, and Biochemistry 369.
- 9. At least nine hours from one of the following areas of specialization; courses counted toward requirement 1 may not be used to fulfill this requirement.
 - a. Biostatistics and public health informatics: Biology 321G, ~~353, 337 (Topic: *Fundamentals of Health Information Technology*)~~, Computer Science 303E, 313E, 327E, ~~329E (Topic: *Elements of Computing in Society*)~~, Geography 360G, Mathematics 408D, 408M, 408S, 340L, 358K, 362K, 362M, 378K, Public Health 320, 323, 341R, Statistics and Data Sciences 332.
 - b. Environmental health sciences: Biology 373, 373L, 375, Civil Engineering 341, 342, 346, 369L, Geological Sciences 302C, 346C, 476K, 476M, Geography 307C, 334C, 339K, 344K, 357, 360G, Marine Science 307, 320, 354Q, Public Health 341R, Urban Studies 315.
 - c. Health policy and management: Economics 304K, 304L, Government 357M (Topic 3: *Supreme Court and Public Policy*; Topic 4: *Civil Liberties*; Topic 7: *Constitutional Structure of Power*; Topic 8: *Structure of Individual Liberties*), 358, 360N (Topic 10: *Introduction to International Relations*), 370L (Topic 23: *Politics of Health Care*), Health and Society 320, 330, Human Development and Family Sciences 362, Management 320F, Philosophy 325L or 325M, 347, Public Affairs 325 (Topic 1: *Advanced Seminar in Ethical Leadership*), Public Health 341R, Sociology 354K.

Economics 304K and 304L may not count toward both requirement 1d and requirement 8c. Government 358 may not count toward both requirement 1e and requirement 8c. Management 320F may not count toward both requirement 1e and requirement 8c. Sociology 354K may not count toward both requirement 1d and 8c.

- d. Infectious diseases and public health microbiology: Biology 330, 230L, ~~327D~~, 336, 347 or 360K, 160L, 361, 361L, ~~361P~~, Public Health 341R, 361P.
- e. Nutrition: Nutrition 312R, 315, 321, 331, 337, 338W or 338H, 342, 365 (Topic 1: *Vitamins and Minerals*; Topic 4: *Obesity and Metabolic Health*), Public Health 341R.
- f. Social and behavioral sciences: Only one advertising, communication, or public relations course may be counted: Advertising 305, 319, 334, 378, Communication Studies 306M, 315M, 332, 332K, 355K, Health Education 329K, 335, 352K (Topic 2: *Psychological Issues*

in Women's Health), 370K (Topic 1: Foundations of Health Promotion I; Topic 2: Adolescent Health Risk Behavior), 371K, 373, Health and Society 301, 320, Marketing 320F, Pharmacy 350K, Public Health 341R, Public Relations 305, Social Work 310, Sociology 319, ~~321K~~ (Topic: Global Health; Topic: Sociology of HIV/AIDS), ~~322F~~, 329, 336D, 354K, 369K. Sociology 319 and 354K may not count toward both requirement 1d and requirement 8f.

10. One of the following foreign language/culture choices:
 - a. Second-semester-level proficiency, or the equivalent, in a foreign language.
 - b. First-semester-level proficiency, or the equivalent, in a foreign language and a three-semester-hour course in the culture of the same language area.
 - c. Two three-semester-hour courses in one foreign culture area; the courses must be chosen from an approved list available in the dean's office and the college advising centers.
11. Enough additional coursework to make a total of ~~126~~ 120 semester hours.

Option II: Public Health Honors

6. Breadth requirement: An honors mathematics course; Biology 315H and 325H; Chemistry 301H and 302H; credit by examination may not count toward this requirement.
7. In fulfilling requirement 2a, students must complete an honors statistics course.
8. Chemistry 204, 320M, and Biochemistry 369.
9. A section of Undergraduate Studies 302 or 303 that is approved by the program honors adviser.
10. A section of Rhetoric and Writing 309S that is restricted to students in the Dean's Scholars Honors Program.
11. Two semesters of Public Health Biology 379H.
12. Nine additional hours of coursework approved by the departmental honors adviser.
13. Six semester hours of coursework in the College of Liberal Arts or the College of Fine Arts.
14. Enough additional coursework to make a total of 120 semester hours.

Option III: Advanced Program

This program provides students with a foundation in the natural sciences applied to public health and advanced specialist training in preparation for a leadership position in public health practice. This program leads to the completion of the Bachelor of Science in Public Health and the Master of Public Health, awarded by the School of Public Health at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at Houston. During the senior year, students complete the first year of the Master of Public Health at the Austin Regional Campus. The second year of the Master of Public Health is completed at one of the five regional campuses in Austin, Brownsville, Dallas, El Paso, Houston, and San Antonio. Upon completion of the first year of the Master of Public Health, coursework ~~is may be~~ applied toward option III requirements. Option III students may apply to graduate upon completion of the undergraduate degree requirements and prior to the completion of the Master of Public Health, ~~or may apply to graduate to receive both degrees in the same semester.~~

6. Mathematics 408C or 408N.
7. Biology 311C, 311D, and 325; or 315H and 325H; these courses must be completed before the student progresses to other upper-division biology and upper-division public health courses.
8. Chemistry 301 or 301H, 302 or 302H, 204, 320M, and Biochemistry 369.
9. ~~Eighteen hours of approved upper-division elective coursework in public health; graduate coursework completed at the School of Public Health at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center may be applied toward this requirement*~~
9. ~~40.~~ One of the following foreign language/culture choices:
 - a. Second-semester-level proficiency, or the equivalent, in a foreign language.
 - b. First-semester-level proficiency, or the equivalent, in a foreign language and a three-semester-hour course in the culture of the same language area.
 - c. Two three-semester-hour courses in one foreign culture area. The courses must be chosen from an approved list available in the dean's office and the college advising centers.
10. ~~44.~~ Enough additional coursework to make a total of ~~126~~ 120 semester hours. A maximum of eighteen hours of graduate coursework completed at the School of Public Health at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center may be applied as elective hours toward the Bachelor of Science in Public Health, Option III: Advanced Program, if needed to reach a total of 120 hours.

- * Graduate coursework may not be applied toward the public health core requirements 2a through 2f.

Special Requirements

[no changes]

Additional Requirements for Option II

To graduate under option II, students must remain in good academic standing in the Dean's Scholars Program, must earn grades of at least A- in the departmental research and thesis courses described in requirement 11 above, and must present their research in an approved public forum, such as the college's annual Undergraduate Research Forum. More information about the Undergraduate Research Forum is available at <https://cns.utexas.edu/>.

Additional Requirements for Option III

Students admitted to option III are required to follow the admission schedule and policies of the Master of Public Health program at the School of Public Health at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at Houston. Students are expected to make continuous progress toward the undergraduate and graduate degrees by completing required undergraduate and graduate public health coursework each semester of the fourth year. Students who fail to complete graduate coursework two long-session semesters in a row will be removed from the program and must re-enroll at the University of Texas at Austin to complete the Bachelor of Science in Public Health option I. Students will be notified prior to removal from the graduate program. Students must earn the Bachelor of Science in Public Health in their fourth year to be eligible to continue in the Master of Public Health program in their fifth year.