

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
The Undergraduate Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee

**Minutes**

240 SH

September 29, 2022

*Attending:* Cornelia Lang (chair), Melissa Bates, Jill Beckman, Asha Bhandary, Roxanna Curto, Jennifer Eimers (staff), Alan Huckleberry, Cinda Coggins Mosher, Christine Shea, Jenna Yang

*Not attending:* Erin Irish, Jan Wessel

1. The minutes from September 22 were approved with a minor amendment.
2. Kathy Mellen, Associate Professor of Instruction, Health and Human Physiology and Laurie Kroymann, Director, Master of Clinical Nutrition Program, Department of Food and Nutrition Services, presented a proposal for a new pre-dietetics program of study.

**Background:** Beginning January 1, 2024, the requirement to take the registered dietitian exam will be a master's degree rather than an undergraduate degree in nutrition and dietetics. Carver College of Medicine established a master's degree in clinical nutrition in Fall 2019. Students from any major can apply to this or other graduate dietetics programs as long as they have completed certain pre-requisite undergraduate courses. Throughout the nation, there are currently 68 accredited graduate dietetic programs, and additional programs are being accredited each year.

Like other pre-health programs of study, pre-dietetics is not intended as a degree granting major, but rather a program that guides the preparation of students who plan to attend a graduate program in dietetics.

**Goals of Establishing Pre-Dietetics Program of Study:**

- 1) Provide a program for undergraduate students to enter a graduate program to become a registered dietitian (RD)
- 2) Provide consistent messaging to students on the requirements to enter a post-graduate dietetics program
- 3) Reduce the workload on undergraduate and graduate academic advisors
- 4) Increase the number of applicants to the University's [Master of Clinical Nutrition](#) program

The proposal outlines required and recommended coursework and offers a sample graduation plan for Health Promotion BS and Biology BA majors. Both the Department of Health and Human Physiology and the Academic Advising Center provided letters of strong support for the proposed program of study. Students majoring in Department of Health and Human Physiology (HHP) programs would be advised for pre-dietetics by the Academic Advising Center for their first 29 hours, then by their HHP academic advisor.

Students in all other undergraduate majors who add pre-dietetics would be assigned an advisor in the Academic Advising Center through graduation.

UEPCC members expressed support for the proposal. The University has many internship opportunities and other activities to make students competitive for master’s programs, and having a way to identify students who would be interested in these opportunities would benefit both the students and the internship providers. The committee will continue to discuss this proposal at next week’s meeting.

3. David Bennett, Professor and DEO, Geographical and Sustainability Sciences (GSS), presented a proposal for revisions to the Geographic Information Science certificate.

**Background:** The certificate was originally conceived as an online program and began in Fall 2018. The focus changed to on campus students in part because of resources. Two new GIS specialists have recently joined the department and have redesigned the certificate with an effort to reinvigorate interest. This certificate is designed to provide the basic knowledge and skills students will need to be familiar and work with geographic information and prepare individuals to work in this rapidly growing profession.

To better represent the workload and current content of GEOG:1050 Foundations of GIS, the department intends to renumber this course to GEOG:2050. GEOG:2050 will be the required initial GIS course for students in programs GSS administers, and it will not have a prerequisite. GEOG:1030 will be redesigned as a truly introductory course that will expose students to geospatial technologies in the context of sustainability.

<b>Current Requirements</b>	<b>Proposed Changes</b>
<b>Core</b>	<b>Core—all required</b>
GEOG:1030 Digital Earth (3) OR GEOG:1050 Foundations of GIS (4)	GEOG:1050 Foundations of GIS (4)
GEOG:1065 Introduction to Spatial Analysis: Patterns and Processes (3) AND	GEOG:3500 Environmental Remote Sensing (3)
GEOG:3540 Geographic Visualization (3)	GEOG:3540 Geographic Visualization (3)
<b>Electives</b>	<b>Electives</b>
<b>Geographic Analysis Electives (2 of these)</b>	<b>Geographic Analysis Electives (Choose 1 of the following)</b>
GEOG:3500 Environmental Remote Sensing (3) GEOG:3520 GIS for Environmental Studies (3) GEOG:3570 LiDAR: Principles & Applications (3) GEOG:4020 Field Methods: Mapping and Mobile Computing (3)	GEOG:3050 Geospatial Programming (3) GEOG:4500 Advanced Remote Sensing (4) GEOG:4580 Geographic Databases (3)

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<b>Capstone Course (Choose one of these)</b>	<b>Application Electives (Choose 2 of the following)</b>
GEOG:4150 Health & Environment GIS App. (3) GEOG:4500 Applications in Environmental Remote Sensing (4) GEOG:4520 GIS for Environmental Studies: Applications (3)	GEOG:1030 Digital Earth (3) GEOG:3570 LiDAR: Principles & Applications (3) GEOG:3520 GIS for Environmental Studies (3) GEOG:4150 Health & Environment GIS App. (3)
<b>18-20 hours</b>	<b>19-20 hours</b>

After discussion, committee members approved the changes to the GIS Certificate.

4. Adjournment of meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Bates  
Associate Professor, Health and Human Physiology  
Secretary pro tem