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

Minutes
October 14, 2021

Attending: Cornelia Lang (chair), Roxanna Curto; Jennifer Eimers (staff), Eric Gidal, Alan Huckleberry; Erin Irish, Andrew Kitchen; Cinda Coggins Mosher; Jennifer Rogers; Christine Shea, Jan Wessel; Jenna Yang

1. The minutes from October 7, 2021, were approved as written.

2. The committee took up again the topic of double-counting courses/credits across majors and minors. After a brief discussion, the committee agreed that there is no need for the College to institute policies beyond what departments decide to do. The committee voted in favor of eliminating a College-wide policy that caps double counting at 6 s.h. for new programs of study.

3. Next, the committee discussed a proposal from the Department of Health and Human Physiology to revise and rename their current minor in Physical Activity and Nutrition Sciences to Lifestyle Medicine. The proposal was presented by Lucas Carr, Associate Professor, Erin Litton, Lecturer/Internship Director, and Alison Reichter, Lecturer. Some rationales shared for the changes are a) the original minor was created in 2013 in conjunction with the Obesity Research and Education Initiative. This initiative is no longer viable. b) Modifying the focus would allow HHP to align the minor more efficiently with HHP elective courses that are more consistently available to students. And c) this revised focus for the minor will appeal to a wide range of students across UI departments and Colleges. The department anticipates current enrollment of about 50 students will rise to about 80-90 students with these changes.

The changes to the minor are:

- Title change from Physical Activity and Nutrition Sciences to Lifestyle Medicine
- One of the three core courses required would change from HHP:3050 Obesity: Causes, Consequences, Prevention and Treatment to HHP:3030 Lifestyle Medicine.
- For the 6 s.h. of required electives to complete the minor, the options will be expanded to include HHP:3050 Obesity: Causes, Consequences, Prevention and Treatment; HHP:3200 Health Behavior and Health Promotion; HHP:3820 Guided Practicum: Community Wellness; and HHP:4365 Practicum in Health Coaching.
- HHP:4030 Policy, Environmental, and Social Determinants of Health; HHP:4310 Sport and Exercise Nutrition; and HHP:4440 Physiology of Nutrition would be removed from the electives options. These courses have strong enrollment from students in other HHP majors and minors.

In the following discussion, committee members commented that the proposal was well-thought out. The current minor is not allowed concurrently with the Human Physiology
BS, but students in this BS program would be able to take the revised minor. It is considered a complementary set of courses for Human Physiology BS students because in the courses required for that program, topics covered in the new minor do not frequently appear, yet could be useful for those pursuing careers in the medical profession. There is, however, significant overlap between the revised minor and the Exercise Science, Health Promotion, and Health Studies programs, so this minor could not be taken with those Health and Human Physiology programs.

The committee voted unanimously to approve the revisions and name change to the minor.

4. Brian Lai, Associate Professor and Chair in the Department of Political Science, discussed an opportunity for Political Science and International Relations majors to live in Washington D.C. while finishing their degree. Many UI students want to work in D.C. after graduation, and employers in D.C. often exclusively consider people who live there already. This program helps UI students overcome that challenge by offering some financial support, allowing them to spend their final year as a student in D.C. and providing a launch point for post-graduation job opportunities in D.C. They complete their remaining hours through a combination of online UI classes (that are already offered for UI online Political Science majors) and in person D.C. classes that are taught by UI alumni and others affiliated with the state of Iowa. The Department will provide a $1,000 scholarship for up to 10 students, guide selected students on finding housing and internships in D.C., advise them on classes, and help them assess their ability to complete this program and graduate on time. The program’s first cohort is being planned for Spring/Summer 2023.

5. Associate Dean Lang shared a link to the University of Minnesota’s career readiness initiative in the College of Liberal Arts. UMN has launched a concerted effort to help students connect what they are learning in the classroom to future careers and to the intrinsic value of a comprehensive education. Later this academic year, she hopes that GECC and UEPCC could discuss ways to continue to meaningfully promote the CLAS Core General Education curriculum: how can we more successfully tell the story of our CLAS Core curriculum so that students see its inherent value as well as its value for their future professional success? Many students could benefit from explicit connections being made between the learning outcomes of GE CLAS Core courses and their own foundational, professional, and personal growth.

6. Associate Dean Lang asked for a volunteer to attend the General Education Curriculum Committee for the remainder of this semester’s meetings. Erin Irish volunteered.

7. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Cinda Coggins Mosher
Associate Professor of Instruction, Rhetoric
Secretary of UEPCC