

**Graduate School of Public Health
Educational Policies and Curriculum Committee
Meeting Minutes | March 7, 2019**

Present: Jessica Burke, Mary Derkach, Ying Ding, Patricia Documet, Julia Driessen (phone), Jim Fabisiak, David Finegold, Nancy Glynn, Summer-Rae Haston, Robin Leaf, Kimberly Rehak, John Shaffer.

The meeting was called to order at 1:30pm by Dr. Patricia Documet, chair.

Modified course: EPIDEM 2602: *Application of Molecular Biomarkers in Epidemiology* | Jennifer Adibi (EPIDEM)

Dr. Jennifer Adibi presented an application for a modified course that that the committee approved February 2, 2017 as EPIDEM 2610: *Molecular epidemiology – tools and techniques*. Changes include a course number & name change as well as an increase in credits from 1 to 2 meant to provide students with more lab time to work on their project(s).

Dr. Adibi questioned about grading scale and whether the course should be pass/fail or have a letter grade. The committee members explained that a good grade in the course could boost students' GPA, but that if the course did become graded, assignments, rubrics, etc. would need to be added to the syllabus. Dr. Nancy Glynn questioned whether students could choose to take the course for a letter grade or pass/fail, which is possible. No decision was made about the letter grade at this meeting.

Dr. Josh Mattila raised the issue of having required research modules added to the syllabus, such as chemical hygiene, blood-borne pathogens, etc. Dr. Adibi would look into this issue, as well.

In terms of offering this class to students in other departments, Dr. John Shaffer said that Human Genetics students would probably consider taking this course and that it had potential as a possible elective for the Public Health Genetics certificate, an issue for future consideration.

ACTION: The committee recommended conditional approval of this course, provided that Dr. Abidi provide an explanation of how attendance and participation will be calculated and remove the text "and learn how to" from Learning Objective #2. Additionally, the committee voted to have Dr. Adibi return to the April 11, 2019 EPCC meeting to provide an explanation behind the decision of

New course: IDM XXXX: *Infection Prevention and Control for Healthcare Settings* [2 credits], Linda Frank (IDM) and Mohamed Yassin, MD (Medicine)

New course: IDM XXXX: *Infection Prevention and Control Practicum/ Preceptorship* [3 credits], Linda Frank (IDM) and Mohamed Yassin, MD (Medicine)

Drs. Linda Frank and Mohamed Yassin presented two proposals for new courses for students who are interested in infection prevention. The 2-credit *Infection Prevention and Control for Healthcare Settings* course is meant to be a didactic course that will provide an introduction to the field of infection prevention and *Infection Prevention and Control Practicum/ Preceptorship* is a practical 3-credit course.

The committee questioned if practica would be limited to hospital settings, and the presenters said that it would be a good to provide opportunities to do research in resource poor settings like nursing homes. Committee members were excited about the potential that this sequence of courses could be the groundwork for an infection prevention certificate program. objectives need to apply to the course but current LOs can be integrated into the syllabus

ACTION: The committee voted to approve these two courses provided that the following changes were made: resubmitting the proposal so that there is one application for each course, changing the course time to 1 hour and 50 minutes per meeting time for 15 weeks on the syllabus for the didactic course, listing the teaching percentages in question 5a of the applications, completing question 11b on the applications describing how this course will address public health issues involving diversity, and determining if the practicum experience will satisfy CEPH practicum competency requirements.

Preliminary discussion of new BIOST MS areas of concentration: *Health Data Science and Computational Genomics*, Ada Youk, (BIOST) | Ada Youk and Jenna Carlson (computational)

Drs. Ada Youk and Jenna Carlson informed the committee of two Areas of Concentration that the Department of Biostatistics is adding to their curriculum. These changes are a response to changes in the field of Biostatistics and intend to provide students with more specialized plans of study. Students in the Biostatistics' Master of Science program will now have three options: 1) the traditional MS degree (no track), 2) a Health Data Science track, and 3) a Computational Genomics track.

Their plan is to have all students take the same course in their first year of study and start taking elections for their second semester. They will provide more information about the course sequencing plan and their process for switching into or out of the areas of concentrations in their forthcoming official proposal.

They decided to add Areas of Concentration instead of new Master's degree programs as the approval process is faster.

ACTION: No action necessary.

Revised program: BCHS MPH, Martha Terry (BCHS)

Dr. Martha Terry presented an application for a revised program that contained the changes made to the Behavioral and Community Health Science's Master of Public Health curriculum in response to both the changes in the CEPH competencies and student feedback asking for more latitude in course choice. Major changes include a change in theory requirement. What was once a 3-credit course is now a "theory series" of 3 5-week long 1-credit course modules, including: BCHS 2520: Theories of Health Education and Health Promotion, BCHS 2992: Systems Theories and Approaches, and BCHS 2990: Social Dynamics. The changes made to the curriculum in the number of required credits allows students to select more elective courses.

ACTION: The committee discussed and reviewed the proposal and recognized that the changes to the program were minor and did not require official approval.

Vote on two new courses: HPM XXXX: *HPM Professional Development Seminar*, presented by Kevin Broom in February

The committee voted on two new courses that Dr. Kevin Broom presented at the February 7, 2019 EPCC meeting. The original course applications were for 0 credit courses, however the Provost is no longer accepting new 0 credit courses. The HPM program director were reshuffling the credits so that these two courses could be 1-credit but the overall number of credits required for the programs remained the same.

The committee members discussed whether it was possible to have the same learning objectives for two different syllabi and decided that it was acceptable if an explanation was provided before the learning objectives that explained the distinction between the two courses.

ACTION: The committee voted to approve the courses provided that they make the following changes: resubmit the application documents so that there is one application, one syllabus, and one course name for each course, separate the schedule by term in the syllabi, change the number of credits from 0 to 1 in both the application and syllabus, and include a paragraph before the Learning Objectives specifying that the spring course will fulfill the Learning Objectives at a more advanced level.

Modified course: EPIDEM 2602: *Epidemiological Methods 2*, Ashley Naimi (EPIDEM)

Dr. Ashley Naimi presented an application for a modified course being updated and modernized. The course covers different topics, such as how to analyze data with causality in mind and machine learning. Students will learn how to apply these methods using R. Committee members addressed the answer to question 12b in the application and asked for an answer to be provided.

ACTION: The committee voted to approve the course provided that Dr. Naimi resubmit the EPCC application and provide an answer to question 12b and change Learning Objective #13 in the syllabus to a measurable statement using Bloom's Taxonomy, such as "Critically assess how to (and how not to) analyze data."

Approval of February Meeting Minutes, All

ACTION: The committee approved the February minutes provided that we the C from John Shaffer's last name and remove "was" form the verb phrase "was expressed" in the third paragraph of the HPM XXXX section of the minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:33pm.