



University Senate TRANSMITTAL FORM

Senate Document #:	13-14-08
PCC ID #:	13009
Title:	Establish a New Area of Concentration in Physical Activity for the Master of Public Health
Presenter:	Marilee Lindemann, Chair, Senate Programs, Curricula and Courses Committee
Date of SEC Review:	October 30, 2013
Date of Senate Review:	November 13, 2013
Voting (highlight one):	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On resolutions or recommendations one by one, or 2. In a single vote 3. To endorse entire report
Statement of Issue:	<p>The School of Public Health and the Department of Kinesiology propose to offer a new area of concentration in Physical Activity for the Master of Public Health (MPH) degree. All students in the Master of Public Health program take core courses in epidemiology, biostatistics, health systems, health behavior, and environmental health. This new area of concentration will allow MPH students to develop a specialty in understanding the impact of physical activity on public health. Students will emerge from this concentration with the ability to articulate how exercise impacts physical and mental health in a variety of populations. Students will also learn how to design, implement, and evaluate physical activity interventions for a variety of populations and community settings. This area of concentration will be attractive and relevant to health, education, business and governmental professionals who seek to integrate physical activity in their public health efforts.</p> <p>After taking the core courses for the MPH, students in the Physical Activity concentration will take a total of 28 credits that focus on physical activity. These credits include specific requirements in research, public health, epidemiology, and program planning, all in the context of physical activity. As with other MPH concentrations, students will be required to complete</p>

	<p>an internship and capstone project. Students will also take nine credits of electives, which they will choose in consultation with an advisor.</p> <p>This proposal received the unanimous support of the Graduate School Programs, Curricula, and Courses committee at its meeting on September 27, 2013. The proposal received the unanimous support of the Senate Programs, Curricula, and Courses committee at its meeting on October 4, 2013.</p>
Relevant Policy # & URL:	Not Applicable.
Recommendation:	The Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula, and Courses recommends that the Senate approve this new area of concentration.
Committee Work:	The committee considered this proposal at its meeting on October 4, 2013. Bradley Hatfield, chair of Kinesiology, and Coke Farmer, Assistant Dean of the School of Public Health, presented the proposal. After discussion, the committee voted unanimously to recommend the proposal.
Alternatives:	The Senate could decline to approve this new concentration.
Risks:	If the Senate declines to approve this new area of concentration, the University will lose an opportunity to become a leader in the increasingly important area of training public health professionals in the assessment and integration of physical activity programs within broader public health initiatives.
Financial Implications:	There are no significant financial implications with this proposal. The Department of Kinesiology and School of Public Health has the faculty, courses, and infrastructure needed to create this option.
Further Approvals Required:	If the Senate approves this proposal, it would still require further approval by the President, the Chancellor, and the Maryland Higher Education Commission.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK PROGRAM/CURRICULUM/UNIT PROPOSAL

- Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to pcc-submissions@umd.edu.

PCC LOG NO.

13009

- Please submit the signed form to the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.

College/School:

Please also add College/School Unit Code-First 8 digits: 01203300

Unit Codes can be found at: <https://hvpprod.umd.edu/Html/Reports/units.htm>

Department/Program:

Please also add Department/Program Unit Code-Last 7 digits: 1330501

Type of Action (choose one):

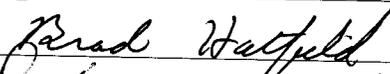
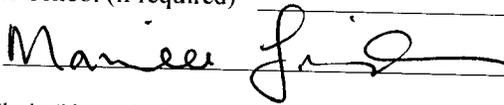
- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum change (including informal specializations) | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>New academic degree/award program</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Renaming of program or formal Area of Concentration</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> New Professional Studies award iteration |
| XX Addition/deletion of formal Area of Concentration | <input type="checkbox"/> New Minor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Suspend/delete program</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Italics indicate that the proposed program action must be presented to the full University Senate for consideration.

Summary of Proposed Action:

The Department of Kinesiology proposes the addition of a new degree concentration in the area of Physical Activity for the School of Public Health's accredited Masters of Public Health (MPH) degree. This will be the sixth such concentration in the school. As such, the core curriculum of the MPH degree is not different for this proposed concentration, but the specific required cognate courses and elective requirements are unique to physical activity. A total of four new courses are simultaneously submitted through VPAC as part of this proposal: two cognate courses (KNES601, KNES602); an internship course (KNES785); and a capstone project course (KNES786). The Dean of the school supports this new concentration and the SPH Graduate Programs Committee has discussed the proposal and confirmed that the approximately 20 students maximum per year can be accommodated in the existing core course offerings. One new faculty member will be hired in Kinesiology to assist with the administration of the program (see the Dean's letter of support); other course loads will be covered by existing faculty. No impact on library or other resources is anticipated.

APPROVAL SIGNATURES - Please print name, sign, and date. Use additional lines for multi-unit programs.

1. Department Committee Chair Stephen M. Roth  27 Mar 2013
2. Department Chair Bradley D. Hatfield  27 Mar 2013
3. College/School PCC Chair Amy P. Sapkota  4/25/13
4. Dean JANE E. CLARK  4/30/13
5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required) _____
6. Chair, Senate PCC Manicee Jones  10/4/13
7. University Senate Chair (if required) _____
8. Senior Vice President and Provost _____



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

School of Public Health

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March 26, 2013

To the Academic Curriculum Review Community:

As Dean of the School of Public Health, I support the creation of a new Masters of Public Health (MPH) concentration in Physical Activity sponsored by the Department of Kinesiology. The area of physical activity, including evaluation, intervention, and promotion, is of critical importance to the overall promotion of public health in Maryland, the nation, and around the world. Rates of physical inactivity and sedentary behavior are remarkably high in the developed world, and such inactivity contributes to a host of disease states and associated healthcare costs. This is an important concentration for our school to offer and leverages a unique strength our school contributes to the academic preparation of the public health practice community.

The MPH with a concentration in Physical Activity will be the sixth such MPH concentration in the school. I have approved a faculty hire for Kinesiology to assist with the administration and teaching requirements of the new program. This is not a new faculty line, but rather the redirection of an existing line vacated by a faculty departure, and will include a refocusing of the responsibilities and a new area of scholarship consistent with the needs of the Physical Activity concentration. Our school's Graduate Programs Committee has discussed the implications of the new concentration and confirmed that new students in this concentration can be accommodated in our existing course offerings. Moreover, our graduate admissions procedures for the MPH degree can accommodate the new applicants for this concentration. Thus, no impact on resources is anticipated. The Department of Kinesiology has confirmed that the new students will also not negatively impact their existing MA or PhD degree programs.

In summary, I fully support this new concentration and will work with the chair in the Department of Kinesiology to ensure smooth and successful implementation beginning in Fall 2014.

Sincerely,

Jane E. Clark, Ph.D.
Professor and Dean

PCC Proposal
Department of Kinesiology
School of Public Health
University of Maryland

Requesting a new degree concentration: Master of Public Health (MPH) with Concentration in Physical Activity

Proposal Overview: The following MPH degree concentration in Physical Activity was approved by unanimous vote of the KNES graduate faculty on 22 January 2013. The concentration was developed in collaboration with administrators in the School of Public Health to ensure that it meets all of the requirements of the existing MPH degree, including five required Core courses, two required Capstone courses, and required Cognate courses (with 9 elective credits), totaling 43 credit hours. The specific degree competencies for this concentration are listed at the end of this document, and include how each competency is mapped to a particular course(s). Assuming passage of the proposal, the concentration would be offered beginning Fall 2014.

A total of four new courses are submitted through VPAC as part of this proposal: two required cognate courses (KNES601, KNES602); an internship course (KNES785); and a capstone project course (KNES786). The Dean of the school supports this new concentration and the SPH Graduate Programs Committee has confirmed that the approximately 20 students maximum per year can be accommodated in the existing core course offerings. With regard to faculty resources, one faculty member will be hired in Kinesiology to assist with the administration of the program and the Dean has approved this hire (see letter of support). Of the four new courses, this new faculty hire along with the Kinesiology Graduate Director will share the administrative oversight of KNES785 and KNES786 (both are off-site courses with mostly administrative requirements for the instructor), and this faculty member will take on instructional leadership of KNES602; KNES601 will be taught by existing faculty members. No impact on library or other resources is anticipated, nor will the new students negatively impact on the existing MA and PhD programs in Kinesiology. A small number of students are expected to take elective courses outside of the school, but the anticipated number will be 1-2 per course per year, so no significant impact is anticipated for these programs.

Program Overview: There is growing national demand for professionals who understand the physical and mental health benefits of physical activity, and can leverage this knowledge to combat major public health issues facing today's society. Sedentary behaviors underlie numerous chronic diseases and are considered a leading cause of morbidity and mortality. The expertise gained through the MPH in Physical Activity prepares students for careers that involve integrating physical activity into public health practice at various levels. To accommodate a variety of career pursuits, students have flexibility in designing their course structure. Once a foundational knowledge is acquired through the MPH program's core requirements,

students are encouraged to take electives across a range of disciplines. This 43-credit degree is adaptable to both a full and part-time student status.

Program Requirements:

	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS
CORE	EPIB 610 Foundations of Epidemiology	3
	EPIB 650 Biostatistics I	3
	HLSA 601 Introduction to Health Systems	3
	HLTH 665 Health Behavior I	3
	MIEH 600 Foundations of Environmental Health	3
COGNATE AREA (Required)	KNES 600 Kinesiology in Public Health	3
	KNES 601 Epidemiology of Physical Activity	3
	KNES 602 Physical Activity Program Planning and Evaluation	3
	EPIB 641/KNES 689Y Public Health and Research Ethics	1
	HLSA 775 Public Health Research Methods (or equivalent course approved by Graduate Director)	3
	Electives with Advisement (taken from the list below)	9
CAPSTONE	KNES 785 Internship in Physical Activity and Public Health	3
	KNES 786 Capstone Project in Physical Activity and Public Health	3
	TOTAL MPH PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PROGRAM	43

Recommended Elective Courses:

While there are many elective courses from which to choose, we advise students to work with Kinesiology faculty for recommendations about how certain elective courses will best support particular career destinations.

Possible Elective Courses (some courses may require pre-requisites or special permission, especially those offered outside the School of Public Health):

- KNES 603 Advanced Motor Development (3 credits)
- KNES 604 Development of Posture and Locomotion (3 credits)
- KNES 610 Methods and Techniques of Research (3 credits)
- KNES 612 Qualitative Research (3 credits)
- KNES 613 Theories Physical Culture (3 credits)
- KNES 614 Cultural Studies and Physical Culture (3 credits)
- KNES 615 The Body, Culture, and Physical Activity (3 credits)
- KNES 650 Mental and Emotional Aspects of Sports and Recreation (3 credits)
- KNES 670 Biomechanics Theory (3 credits)
- KNES 676 Multisensory Perception and Human Motor Control (3 credits)
- KNES 689X Exercise and Brain Health (3 credits)

KNES 691 Muscular Aspects of Exercise Physiology (3 credits)
KNES 692 Cardiovascular Aspects of Exercise Physiology (3 credits)
KNES 694 Metabolic Aspects of Exercise Physiology (3 credits)
KNES 695 Laboratory Techniques in Exercise Physiology (3 credits)
KNES 696 Genetic Aspects of Health and Fitness (3 credits)

EDPS614 Politics of Education (3 credits)
EDPS620 Education Policy Analysis (3 credits)

EPIB 611 Intermediate Epidemiology (3 credits)
EPIB 620 Chronic Disease Epidemiology (3 credits)
EPIB 622 Social Determinants of Health (3 credits)
EPIB 651 Biostatistics II (3 credits)
EPIB 652 Categorical Data Analysis (3 credits)
EPIB 653 Survival Data Analysis (3 credits)
EPIB 655 Longitudinal Data Analysis (3 credits)

FMSC 720 Study Design in Maternal Child Health Epidemiology (3 credits)

HLSA 702 Politics and Policy of Health (3 credits)
HLSA 710 Foundations of Healthcare Management (3 credits)
HLSA 711 Health Care Economics and Analysis (3 credits)
HLSA 720 Health Law and Ethics (3 credits)
HLSA 740 Strategic Planning and Marketing (2 credits)

HLTH 606 Foundations of Public Health Education and Policy (3 credits)
HLTH 665 Health Behavior I
HLTH 666 Health Behavior II
HLTH 670 Public Health Informatics & Communication (3 credits)
HLTH 710 Methods & Techniques of Research (3 credits)
HLTH 775 Health Education Program Planning and Evaluation (3 credits)
HLTH 780 Community Health (3 credits)

MIEH 740 Risk Assessment (3 credits)
MIEH 770 Law and Policy in Environmental Health (3 credits)

NFSC611 Molecular Nutrition: Genomic, Metabolic, and Health Aspects (2 credits)
NFSC630 Nutritional Aspects of Energy Balance (3 credits)
NFSC690 Nutrition and Aging (3 credits)

PSYC604 Fundamentals of Social Psychology (3 credits)
PSYC611 Advanced Developmental Psychology (3 credits)

PUAF610 Quantitative Aspects of Public Policy (3 credits)
PUAF650 Moral Dimensions of Public Policy (3 credits)
PUAF732 Policy and Politics of Education Reform (3 credits)

SOCY626 Demography of Aging (3 credits)
SOCY661 Social Stratification (3 credits)

SPHL600 Fundamentals of Global Health (3 credits)
SPHL610 Global Health Program Planning and Evaluation (3 credits)

MPH Concentration-Specific Degree Competencies:

- **Explain how physical activity integrates within the core areas of public health.** Students will be able to describe how the promotion of an active lifestyle can be accomplished within the various disciplines of public health. [KNES600, KNES601]
- **Apply evidence-based knowledge and understanding of the relation of physical activity to health and function across the life-span.** Students will be able to explain how exercise impacts physical and mental health in both healthy and diseased populations. This understanding will include the physiological, psychosomatic, and psychosocial dimensions that underlie these relationships. [KNES600, KNES601]
- **Design, implement, and evaluate physical activity interventions in a variety of populations and community settings.** Students should be able to identify benefits and risks of physical activity interventions and formulate appropriate and measurable program objectives. Students will apply their knowledge of the built environment, as well as their skills in biostatistics and epidemiology, to evaluate the success of interventions. [KNES 600; KNES 602; KNES785]
- **Utilize a conceptual understanding of social, behavioral, and cultural theories to promote and implement physical activity programs and policies.** Students will be able to describe how these theories impact participation in physical activity and apply them to optimize physical activity adoption and maintenance. [KNES600; KNES 602]
- **Evaluate the impact of physical activity and sedentary behavior at the community level.** Students will be able to use ecological methods to evaluate the association between patterns of physical activity and sedentary living within a community and various pediatric and adult indicators of health in that same community. Students will be able to describe ways of altering the built environment of a given community in order to promote more active living. [KNES601; KNES602]
- **Develop and utilize the ability to collaborate with public health professionals at local and/or federal levels to promote physical activity research, practice, and policy.** [KNES785]

How to Apply:

Completed applications for admissions to the MPH program with a concentration in Physical Activity must be received by January 15 for consideration for Fall admission. We only accept applications for fall admissions. Read carefully and follow instructions by the Graduate School for Graduate Applications:

<http://www.gradschool.umd.edu/gss/admission.htm>

When applying, select the 4-letter KNES program code from the drop down menu of Program Codes.

Admission Criteria:

MPH applications are reviewed with consideration to the following criteria:

- Minimum 3.0 undergraduate GPA
- GRE scores taken within the past 5 years (Submit electronically to the University of Maryland, code 5814). Prospective graduate students should perform minimally at the 50th percentile or higher on all parts of the GRE.
- 3 letters of recommendation that address your academic capabilities
- Statement of goals and interests
- Relevant academic/work experience, including previous coursework in kinesiology or related fields.

**Master of Public Health program with Concentration in Physical Activity
MPH Concentration-Specific Degree Competencies:**

- **Explain how physical activity integrates within the core areas of public health.** ☑Students will be able to describe how the promotion of an active lifestyle can be accomplished within the various disciplines of public health. [KNES600, KNES601]

Assessment: Evaluation of the “integrated kinesiology essay” as part of KNES600. We have an established rubric in place to evaluate student performance on this essay, which requires students to speak to this outcome. Evaluation of a “physical activity and health outcomes” paper in KNES601 that will review literature regarding physical activity and a health outcome of their choosing. A rubric will be established for this component.

- **Apply evidence-based knowledge and understanding of the relation of physical activity to health and function across the life-span.** Students will be able to explain how exercise impacts physical and mental health in both healthy and diseased populations. This understanding will include the physiological, psychosomatic, and psychosocial dimensions that underlie these relationships. [KNES600, KNES601]

Assessment: Evaluation of the “integrated kinesiology essay” as part of KNES600. Evaluation of a “physical activity and health outcomes” paper in KNES601 that will review literature regarding physical activity and a health outcome of their choosing. Rubrics have been or will be established for these components of this outcome.

- **Design, implement, and evaluate physical activity interventions in a variety of populations and community settings.** ☑Students should be able to identify benefits and risks of physical activity interventions and formulate appropriate and measurable program objectives. Students will apply their knowledge of the built environment, as well as their skills in biostatistics and epidemiology, to evaluate the success of interventions. [KNES 600; KNES 602; KNES785]

Assessment: Evaluation of the “integrated kinesiology essay” as part of KNES600. In KNES602, students will design physical activity interventions, including outlining plans for needs assessment, formative research, intervention plans, sample materials, and an evaluation plan. Specific rubrics will be established for these intervention plans. Finally, evaluation of the required Internship Portfolio and Presentation required as part of KNES785.

- **Utilize a conceptual understanding of social, behavioral, and cultural theories to promote and implement physical activity programs and policies.**

Students will be able to describe how these theories impact participation in physical activity and apply them to optimize physical activity adoption and maintenance. [KNES600; KNES 602; KNES786]

Assessment: Evaluation of the “integrated kinesiology essay” as part of KNES600. In KNES602, students will design physical activity interventions, including outlining plans for needs assessment, formative research, intervention plans, sample materials, and an evaluation plan. Specific rubrics will be established for these intervention plans. Finally, evaluation of the final research practicum project, which is the culminating experience of KNES786 and the degree concentration itself. Rubrics are either in place or will be developed for each of these components.

- **Evaluate the impact of physical activity and sedentary behavior at the community level.** ☑Students will be able to use ecological methods to evaluate the association between patterns of physical activity and sedentary living within a community and various pediatric and adult indicators of health in that same community. Students will be able to describe ways of altering the built environment of a given community in order to promote more active living. [KNES601; KNES602]

Assessment: Evaluation of student projects required in both KNES601 and KNES602. In KNES601, students will complete a “physical activity and health outcomes” paper that will review literature regarding physical activity and a health outcome of their choosing. In KNES602, students will design physical activity interventions, including outlining plans for needs assessment, formative research, intervention plans, sample materials, and an evaluation plan. Specific rubrics will be established for all of these projects and assessment of this outcome will be based on performance across the suite of projects.

- **Develop and utilize the ability to collaborate with public health professionals at local and/or federal levels to promote physical activity research, practice, and policy.** [KNES785]

Assessment: Evaluation of the required Internship Portfolio and Presentation required as part of KNES785. An assessment rubric will be developed for this component.



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

School of Public Health

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October 1, 2013

To the Academic Curriculum Review Community:

In March of 2013, it was my pleasure to give full support to the new Master of Public Health (MPH) concentration in Physical Activity sponsored by the Department of Kinesiology. As the Dean of the School of Public Health, I continue to express our enthusiastic support and also wish to briefly address items related to our relationship with Baltimore and the formal and informal collaborative efforts between the two schools.

As we move forward in our collaborative relationship with the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB), the new concentration in Physical Activity offers an excellent educational opportunity for students in both schools. The new concentration in Physical Activity will fit well with existing programs as well as with the emphasis at UMB on interprofessional education (IPE) where graduate students frequently complete dual degrees. Those completing a degree in medicine, nursing or social work, for example, may well find the course offerings in the Physical Activity concentration that address medical, scientific, economic, social, and policy implications of increasing physical activity in the population an important complement to their studies.

Overlap will not be an issue as this program fills a long-time gap within the realm of public health education and will assist all our graduates in making an even larger impact on local, state and national health. At both campuses, students enrolled in other MPH concentrations may well appreciate the complementary educational perspective offered by this concentration in physical activity, and where they have the opportunity for electives, may find the course offerings of interest.

Finally, given our home at the state's land-grant institution, the School of Public Health is focused on addressing the public health needs of the state. The relationship between physical activity and many of the most significant and costly health issues in our state and our county is well documented in the scientific literature. Thus, the concentration in Physical Activity not only complements the existing public health and other health professions training options available between the University of Maryland College Park and the University of Maryland, Baltimore, but it is directly aligned with our goal of preparing public health practitioners equipped to meet the public health needs of our state.

Please be assured that the Physical Activity MPH concentration has the full support of the School of Public Health faculty. We expect that this new venture will serve to further strengthen the bonds among students and faculty from both institutions, providing excellent opportunities to collaborate within the classroom, the community and the research laboratories.

Sincerely,

Jane E. Clark, Ph.D.
Professor and Dean