

: EPIDEMIOLOGY

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New Program Proposal

Changes saved but not submitted

Viewing: : Epidemiology

Last edit: Thu, 15 Aug 2019 19:48:49 GMT

Final Catalog

2020-2021

Rationale for Inactivation

%deletejustification.eshtml%

Effect on current students or other departments.

Proposed Action

Active

Contact Person

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Term of Implementation

2020-2021

Program Reference Number

Program Type

Certificate

Degree Types

Program Name (eg. Biology)

Epidemiology

Will this program have concentrations?

No

Concentrations

Department

Public Health

Program Coordinator

Xiuhua Ding

CIP Code

26.1309 - Epidemiology.

Will this program lead to teacher certification?

No

Graduate Catalog

Program Overview (Graduate Catalog field: Overview tab)

Epidemiology is the study of the distribution and determinants of health-related states or events in specified populations, and the application of this study to the control of health problems (WHO). This graduate certificate develops competencies in epidemiology, including those related to disease measurement and distribution, outbreak investigations, prevention and control, and applied analytical methods in public health.

Clearly state the admission, retention, and completion standards designed to encourage high quality. In addition, include a numerical list of materials to be cons for program admission. (Graduate Catalog Field: Program Admissions)

The graduate certificate in epidemiology is available to all students admitted to Western Kentucky University's Graduate School. Students enrolled in the certificate must abide to their requirements.

Cons for program admission

1. Dismissal from a previous Graduate program/certificate at WKU within the prior 12 months.

Clearly state the curriculum and completion requirements for the program (Graduate Catalog field: Program Requirements)

Credit Hours Required: 12

Required Courses (9 cr. hrs.)

PH 581: Applied Methods in Public Health Practice: Field Epidemiology

PH 582: Epidemiology

PH 630: Advanced Epidemiology

Elective Courses (3 cr. hrs.)

EOHS 572: Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology

PH 620: Advanced Biostatistics

Other electives, as approved by certificate advisor

Will this program be interdisciplinary?

No

Interdisciplinary Departments

Mission: Centrality to the Institution's Mission and Consistency with State's Goals

List the objectives of the proposed program. These objectives should deal with the specific institutional and societal needs that this program will address.

The online Certificate in Epidemiology, available as a standalone graduate certificate or as a set of electives within the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) accredited Master of Public Health (MPH) program, equips students to apply epidemiological methods to uncover the patterns, causes and effects of disease, and, ultimately to help solve public health issues. Through research, education and policy, epidemiologists take on the task of uncovering trends and minimizing the risk and incidence of negative health outcomes. The skills required cross many disciplines from communication to the sciences.

Explain how the proposed program relates to the institutional mission and academic strategic plan.

Explain how the proposed program addresses the state's postsecondary education strategic agenda

This certificate program has direct applicability to several KY Council on Post-secondary Education Strategic Objective and Strategies:

1. CPE Objective 9. Improve the career readiness and employ-ability of post-secondary education graduates.
2. CPE Strategy 9.5. Identify current and emerging workforce demands, entrepreneurial business opportunities, and stackable credentials that can lead to additional education/training.
3. CPE Strategy 9.6. Advance Kentucky's STEM and health agendas through ongoing leadership, advocacy, and collaboration.
4. CPE 3. Objective 11. Expand regional partnerships, outreach and public service that improve the health and quality of life of Kentucky communities.
5. CPE Objective 11. Expand regional partnerships, outreach and public service that improve the health and quality of life of Kentucky communities.

Explain how the proposed program furthers the statewide implementation plan.

This program furthers the statewide plan by:

- 1) Preparing students to address critical needs for epidemiologists in local health departments and districts.
- 2) Attracting additional adult learners to WKU from the public health workforce and related fields.
- 3) Enhancing career readiness of students through applied learning approaches.

Quality: Program Quality and Student Success

Learning Outcomes

List all student learning outcomes of the program.	
SLO 1	Apply epidemiological methods to describe public health problems.
SLO 2	Apply epidemiological methods to assess and analyze impact of public health problems.
SLO 3	Interpret epidemiological findings, including relevance to public health practice.
SLO 4	Communicate epidemiological findings to professional and lay audiences.

Explain how the curriculum achieves the program-level student learning outcomes by describing the relationship between the overall curriculum or the major curricular components and the program objectives.

Highlight any distinctive qualities of this proposed program.

Will this program replace or enhance any existing program(s) or concentration(s) within an existing program?

No

Please specify the existing program

Include the projected faculty/student in major ratio.

Is there a specialized accrediting agency related to this program?

Please identify the agency

Do you plan to seek accreditation?

Please explain your plans for accreditation.

Attach the SACSCOC Faculty Roster Form

Describe the library resources available to support this program. You may attach any documentation provided to SACSCOC.

Library resources provided to SACSCOC

Describe the physical facilities and instructional equipment available to support this program.

Describe how the proposed program will articulate with related programs in the state.

Attach all draft articulation agreements related to this proposed program.

List courses under the appropriate curricular headings

Will this program utilize alternative learning formats?

Please describe planned alternative learning formats and/or methods of program delivery

Demand: Program Demand/Unnecessary Duplication

Student Demand:

Provide evidence of student demand at the regional, state and national levels.

No universities in the Commonwealth of Kentucky have an epidemiology graduate certificate program. The University of Kentucky and University of Louisville both have certificates in Biostatistics, but neither certificate incorporates epidemiology.

Similar certificate programs, combining the principles of epidemiology and biostatistics, exist at prominent universities across the United States, demonstrating the value of such a certificate on a national level:

- Columbia University (<https://www.mailman.columbia.edu/academics/degrees/master-public-health/certificates/public-health-research-methods>)
- John Hopkins University (<https://www.jhsph.edu/academics/certificate-programs/certificates-open-to-non-degree-students-only/training-certificate-in-quantitative-methods-in-public-health.html>)
- IUPUI (<https://fsph.iupui.edu/academics/certificates/public-health.html>)
- Tulane University (<https://sph.tulane.edu/certificate-program-epidemiologic-methods>)
- SUNY-Albany (https://www.albany.edu/graduatebulletin/public_health_fundamentals_principles_certificate.htm)

Anecdotally, applicants and students express a desire for an epidemiology certificate.

Identify the applicant pool and how they will be reached.

Describe the student recruitment and selection process.

Identify the primary feeders for the program.

Provide any evidence of a projected net increase in total student enrollments to the campus as a result of the proposed program.

Project estimated student demand for the first five years of the program

Employer Demand:

Describe the types of jobs available for graduates, average wages for these jobs, and the number of anticipated openings for each type of jobs at the regional, state and national levels

Academic Disciplinary Needs:

Clearly describe all evidence justifying a new program based on changes in the academic discipline or other academic reasons.

Is the proposed program an advanced practice doctorate?

No

Explain the new practice or licensure requirements in the profession and/or requirements by specialized accrediting agencies that necessitate a new doctoral program.

Similar programs:

Are there similar programs in other Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) states and in the nation?

No

Please Identify similar programs in other SREB states and in the nation.

Cost: Cost and Funding of the Proposed Program

Will this program require additional resources?

No

Provide a brief summary of resources that will be needed to implement this program over the next five years.

Courses in the certificate are currently offered as core MPH courses and electives.

Will this program impact existing programs and/or organizational units within your institution?

Yes

Please describe the impact

The epidemiology certificate will positively affect the MPH program, insomuch as epidemiology is a desired area of study.

Provide adequate documentation to demonstrate sufficient return on investment to the state to offset new costs and justify approval for the proposed program.

Funding Sources, by year of program

Breakdown of Budget Expenses/Requirements

Assess: Program Review and Assessment

For each assessment method, please provide direct indicators of achievement of program-level student learning outcomes and frequency of data collection:

Which components will be evaluated?

When will the components be evaluated?

When will the data be collected?

How will the data be collected?

What will be the benchmarks and/or targets to be achieved?

What individual or groups will be responsible for data collection?

How will the data and findings be shared with faculty?

How will the data be used for making programmatic improvements?

What are the Measures of teaching effectiveness?

What efforts to improve teaching effectiveness will be pursued based on these measures?

What are the plans to evaluate students' post-graduate success?

Attach the Council for Post-Secondary Education Pre-Proposal

Reason for changing this program

Additional Information

Reviewer Comments

Key: 130