

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AT AMHERST
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
THE FACULTY SENATE

PROGRAM REVISION APPROVAL FORM

50 COPIES REQUIRED

PROGRAM TITLE: The Department of Kinesiology Pre-Major Program

PLEASE CHECK: GRADUATE _____ UNDERGRADUATE X

DEPARTMENT Kinesiology HEAD/CHAIR: Dr. Patty Freedson

SCHOOL OR COLLEGE Public Health & Health Sciences DEAN: Dr. Marjorie Aelion

Submission Date: July 25, 2011 Proposed Starting Date: Beginning of Spring Term 2011

I. PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Describe the Proposal.

The Department of Kinesiology proposes that Students who wish to enroll as majors take the following courses and earn the following minimum grades in order to be accepted into the major:

1. **KIN 100 - Introduction to Kinesiology = B;**
2. **KIN 110 - Human Performance & Nutrition = B;**
3. **Math 127 - Calculus I = C;**
4. **Math 128 - Calculus II = C;**
5. **Physics 131/133 = C;**
6. **Chemistry 111 = C.**

These courses were selected as they are pre-requisites for our upper level and core classes (see attachment). The motivation for this change is our desire to ensure students' academic success and retention at the University. The basis for these "Gateway Courses" criteria was determined by examining the performance in these classes of the 19 Majors on Academic Probation for the fall of 2010. These 19 students made 47 attempts at these requirements but only passed 7 classes successfully (15% success rate). It would appear that these students do not improve as in the spring of 2011 of the 19 students on Academic Probation from the fall of 2010, 4 left our program and of the remaining 15 students, 11 were placed on Academic Suspension. In contrast a randomly selected group of 20 Kinesiology junior level majors with a current cumulative grade point average of 3.0 had attempted these courses 161 times and earned 133 grades meeting these Gateway Course criteria (80.1%).

It would appear that students who meet the proposed course grade requirements stay at the University and are well on their way to achieving academic success while those who do not meet these grade minimums do not succeed in their goals. As a result, their academic futures are in jeopardy and they will have invested a great deal of time and energy in a non-productive academic experience.

We are requesting that a Pre-Major Program be established for Kinesiology in order to have students demonstrate that they are capable of achieving the grades that will keep them at the University and in the Department of Kinesiology.

This Pre-Major Program will also allow students to experience the rigors of this major before making a long-term commitment to pursuing it. A strong advising Support Staff will be in place to assist those students who do not meet the pre-major requirements. The Advising Support Staff will work with students to examine their options and decide on a course of action such as attempting a course again utilizing the University's

Repeat Course Policy or seeking a major where they can achieve academic success, stay at the University, and be well-prepared for their futures.

B. Provide a brief overview of the process for developing the Proposal.

The entire Faculty in the Department of Kinesiology contributed to this proposal through a series of faculty meetings and the editing of several drafts resulting in the final version. Information from peer and aspirant departments and institutions was collected and indicates that this set of student performance criteria is an effective model for helping students attain their academic goals.

II. PURPOSE AND GOALS

Describe the Proposal's purpose and the particular knowledge and skills to be acquired.

The Pre-Major Program is designed to detect new and interested students who indicate by their academic performance success in achieving grades that suggest both successful academic performance and long term retention in the Kinesiology major. Such early detection, coupled with sound advising for those who do not attain the academic minimums, should result in increased satisfaction and retention of students at the University and allow them to find academic success.

III. RESOURCES

The Kinesiology Department has recently received additional support for Undergraduate Student advising from The Dean of the School of Public Health and Health Sciences and the Chair of the Department of Kinesiology. The expanded Advising Support Staff is in place effective 7/1/11. As a result, the changes described in this Proposal should not require any additional resources.

REQUIREMENTS FOR A MAJOR IN KINESIOLOGY

REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS ENTERING THE MAJOR AS OF FALL 2009

Total Credits Required = 63 Credits

- I. Requisite Courses**
14 Credits of Requisite Courses
- II. Kinesiology Course Requirements**
34 Credits of Required Kinesiology Courses for All Majors
- III. Kinesiology Elective Course Requirements**
15 Credits of Kinesiology Electives

SPECIFIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS

I. COURSE REQUIREMENTS OUTSIDE OF KINESIOLOGY (14 CREDITS)

<u>COURSE #</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>CREDITS</u>
MATH 127	Calculus for the Life and Social Sciences I	3
MATH 128	Calculus for the Life and Social Sciences II	3
PHYSICS 131/133	Introductory Physics I	4
CHEMISTRY 111	General Chemistry for Science Majors	<u>4</u>
TOTAL CREDITS		14

The following pertains to the above courses:

- 1. A grade of C- (1.7) or better is required for all of the above courses.**
- 2. All of these courses must be completed by the end of the second full year in the major.**
- 3. Students who must take prerequisite(s) before being able to enroll in Math 127 are given an additional semester to complete the two Department Math requirements.**
- 4. Students may make the following course substitutions: Physics 151/153 for Physics 131/133, Math 131 for Math 127, and MATH 132 for MATH 128. A grade of C- (1.7) is required for these course substitutions.**

**II. All Kinesiology majors must complete the following 12 core courses*
(34 CREDITS):**

<u>Course #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Credits</u>
KIN 100	Introduction to Kinesiology*	4
KIN 110	Human Performance and Nutrition*	4
KIN 270 (Lecture)	Anatomy & Physiology I	3
KIN 271 (Lab)	Anatomy & Physiology I – Lab I	1
KIN 272 (Lecture)	Anatomy & Physiology II	3
KIN 273 (Lab)	Anatomy & Physiology II – Lab II	1
KIN 350	Statistics and Measurement in Kinesiology*	3
KIN 355	Writing Seminar in Kinesiology*	3
KIN 430	Biomechanics*	3
KIN 440	Wellness for All*	3
KIN 460	Motor Control*	3
KIN 470	Exercise Physiology*	3
	TOTAL CREDITS	34

A grade of C- (1.7) or better is required for all of the above courses.

Kinesiology 100 must be completed by the end of the first full calendar year in the major.

COURSES MARKED WITH * MUST BE TAKEN IN RESIDENCE!

III. KINESIOLOGY ELECTIVES - Students must select 15 credits from the courses listed below.

<u>Course #</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Credits</u>
KIN 215	Prevention and Care of Athletic Injury	3
KIN 297G	Neuromechanics of Human Motion	3
KIN 297 WP	Wellness Programming	3
KIN 311	Anatomy of Human Motion	3
KIN 340	Exercise Testing and Programming	3
KIN 380	Diet, Supplements and Athletic Performance	3
KIN 390T	Introduction to Therapeutic Exercise	3
KIN 397A	Principles and Practice of Personal Training	3
KIN 397B	Principles and Practice of Strength & Conditioning	3
KIN 397S	Clinical & Public Health Implications of Obesity	3
KIN 196 - 496	Independent Study* (See Below)	1-6
KIN 498F/G	Teaching Practicum* (See Below)	1-3
KIN 398 - 498	Internship/Practicum* (See Below)	1-15
KIN 530	Mechanical Analysis of Human Motion	3
KIN 535	Muscle Mechanics and Modeling	3
KIN 560	Exercise Neuroscience	3
KIN 565	Movement Coordination and Perception	3
KIN 570	Pediatric Exercise Physiology	3
KIN 571	Physical Activity and Women's Health	3
KIN 580	Muscle Structure and Function	3
KIN 585	Energy Metabolism	3
KIN 597 M	Exercise Psychology	3

A grade of C- (1.7) or better is required for all of these Elective Courses