

Education Committee

Thursday, 7/17

9:30am-11am

Attendees: Bill MacLeod, Sarah Lipson, Amanda Velez, Lisa Sullivan, Jessica Leibler, Candice Belanoff, Andrew Stokes, Megan Healey, Nikki Longe, Krupa Patel, Caitlin Brand

- Welcome new committee members!
 - Global Health: Bill MacLeod
 - HLPM: Sarah Lipson
- Course proposals
 - Considerations for discussion
 - Given the uncertainty around enrollment numbers and ongoing complexities with visa approvals, is now the appropriate time to approve additional course offerings?
 - Should special topics proposal submissions be put on pause?
 - If new courses are approved, are there courses that can be removed to strike balance?
 - Special topics to regular course proposal
 - Advanced Social Epidemiology: Theories of Disease Distribution and Health Inequity
 - Feedback/Questions
 - Consider intersection with other degree programs and potential impacts (MS in Epi, CHS PhD, Epi PhD)
 - Ensure that course sequencing works for all impacted programs
 - Consider designating course as an elective for MPH Epi/Bio functional certificate since EP775 already fulfills "study criticism" course requirement
 - Next steps
 - Determine when department plans to run course
 - Collect information to ensure course content and implementation works for all relevant degree programs
 - Epidemiology Excellence Research Methods Seminar
 - Feedback
 - What kind of culture does this create in terms of a competitive environment?
 - Will this conflict with MS in Epidemiology program since that is intended to be a research-centered pathway?
 - Is it possible to fully distinguish the top 10% in PH717 given grade distribution?

- Students have been requesting their ranking from instructors
 - Percentage would be broader cut-off, but ranking is less pressure on faculty
 - Concerns raised regarding circumventing traditional program approval process and setting precedent
 - Challenging for Education Committee to evaluate since pathway/proposal is not clearly defined
 - Suggestions
 - Context certificate w/faculty nominations
 - Potential topic for future retreat where department representatives discuss intended and unintended consequences of honors program implementation? What is the appropriate honors program model for SPH? (rank, application, nomination, etc.)
 - Marketing of program must explicitly distinguish that it is not an official program and intended as an advising pathway
 - Implement eligibility requirements for seminar to ensure students are set up to succeed
 - Requirement cannot be grade-based since that would distinguish it from an advising pathway
 - Intention is to create cohort experience that leads into ILE
 - Enrollment cap of 20 students could create challenges in the future due to size of Epi/Bio certificate
- Committee decision/next steps
 - Share feedback with department and request further clarification regarding the exact pathway is and how it is distinguished from a degree program
 - Invite Maria Glymour and Marcia Jimenez to next Education Committee meeting
 - Determine if official proposal submission should be required
 - Consider developing criteria and required materials for degree program vs advising pathway proposal
- Special topics course proposal
 - Health Misinformation
 - Feedback
 - Are there HLPN courses that cover this content?
 - Alumni survey results reflect a consistent desire to build communications skills and a need for additional tools

- Potential to develop professional development course for alumni
 - Are there ways to informally survey students to gauge interest?
- Committee decision/next steps
 - Course not approved