

**Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine**  
**Curriculum Committee Meeting**  
Reynolds Conference Room-2401  
September 7, 2022- 9:00am- 11:00am  
Zoom: <https://tulane.zoom.us/j/95434937094>

**Minutes**

**Committee Members in Attendance:**

Dr. Felicia Rabito (FR), Faculty Chair  
Dr. Yaozhong Liu (YZ), BIOS Rep  
Dr. Assafa Abdelghani (AG), ENHS Rep  
Dr. Amanda Anderson (AA), EPID Rep  
Dr. Charles Stoecker (CS), HPAM Rep  
Dr. Dominique Meekers (DM), IHSD Rep  
Dr. David Seal (DS), SBPS Rep  
Dr. Latha Rajan (LR), TRMD Rep  
Kimberly Wallace, SGA Rep

**Ex Officio and Advising Attendees:**

Dr. Christine Arcari (CA), Sr. Associate Dean Academic Affairs  
Susan Cantrell (SC), Sr. Academic Records Administrator  
Katherine Andrinopoulos (KA), Director of Doctoral Programs

**Other Faculty in Attendance:**

Mark Wilson  
Emily Harris  
Bernard Beyt

- I. **August 3, 2022, Curriculum Committee Meeting Minutes-**
  - i. The Committee took a vote, all in favor; motion carried unanimously.
  
- II. **Curriculum Review**
  - a) **ENHS 6030- Survey of Environmental Health submitted for standard review – Tabled from August 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting (Faculty, Mark Wilson and Assafa Abdelghani) the peer reviewers are Yaozhong Liu and Amanda Anderson.**
    - i. AA comments included she is received 2 sets of learning objectives. One set has 5 in which she believes intended to be the official learning objectives for the overall course, and the set of 11 or so reflects more of a class-by-class set of objectives. AA requested AG to provide specific information/detail for the signature assessments. In addition, a grading rubric was suggested for the research paper/report. AA added an important but unaddressed portion of the course review form is Online Course Evaluations – Section 6. Focusing on the most recent evaluation that had a greater number of respondents, it is evident that response and satisfaction with the course is mixed and polarized, with a

significant proportion/number of students voicing concerns and critiques of different aspects of the course including the format, recordings, and lack of live sessions. AA added it seems reasonable that a substantial response should be included either in the course review form or as a separate document. For the previously sent on-ground syllabus, it needs to be placed on the syllabus template to include all fields. Both syllabi should include the competency mapping table. On the course review form and syllabi, a brief description of the research paper/report should be included in the appropriate sections. The CC will need a final, revised version of the course review form and both syllabi (online and on-ground sections) reflecting all the changes. Also fulfilling the request of the course schedule table to include a column that lists the learning objective(s) addressed in each session.

- ii. AG commented he addressed the initial comments and have made recent updates which are not included in the September BOX folder. The (5) learning objectives is the correct list of learning objectives. In response to the student comments, AG added this course is a survey course which covers ALL principles of environmental health. It is a summary of more than 14 courses. It is intended to give the students information about the whole department. There are some topics that AG does not go in depth about. Some of the students might have a good background on a topic seeming basic to them. AG added he tries to update the lectures as frequently as he can, but there are certain things about a particular topic that will not change. This can vary especially since the Standards set by the Federal Government are not updated. Evaluations vary on the group that year.
- iii. FR added based on the student evaluations, there may not be enough context. The students complained about the (3) live lectures and AG commented he increased this to (5) but can provide more.
- iv. DM commented we should focus on the student's learning and not whether they "like" the course. Adding that SPHTM prepares students for the job market and to ensure they are learning skills for the job market.
- v. CA added we need to make a bigger move for the ENHS program to provide a synchronous experience to the students. Currently, we have live sessions online, but they are not mandatory live sessions. Students are not attending the lives sessions but are reviewed for the taped session instead. The idea is to move all the learning materials into the Canvas site. The lectures are broken up into chunks, and the live sessions are used for interaction with the instructor. This is an online course for an online program— if a student wants more live sessions, they should consider a residential offering.

- vi. The summary of suggested changes includes the on-ground syllabus needs to be on the correct template, the competency table is needed for the online syllabus, a grading rubric, providing a note that the student feedback has been addressed, providing a brief description of the research paper (Section 5 of the course review form), and providing revised materials to the CC.
- vii. YZ had no additional comments.

**AA made a motion to approve pending revision. YZ seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried unanimously.**

**b) ENHS 6540- Occupational Health submitted for standard course review -- Tabled from August 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting (Faculty, Douglas Swift) the peer reviewers are Charles Stoecker and Yaozhong Liu.**

- i. CS commented that the major missing piece of this review was the competency mapping table. This was added and everything is explained. No further comments were added.
- ii. YZ added his comments included filling out explanation of evaluation method in the course review form and to provide a rubric. All comments were addressed. No further comments were added.

**CS made a motion to approve, YZ seconded the motion. All in favor; Motion carried unanimously.**

**c) ENHS 6700- Principles of Safety submitted for standard review – Tabled from August 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting (Faculty, Lu Yuan) the peer reviewers are Yaozhong Liu and Latha Rajan.**

- i. This course was tabled and will be reviewed in the October meeting.

**d) HPAM 7250- Master of Medical Management Capstone submitted for initial review – (Faculty, Gene Beyt) the peer reviewers are Assaf Abdelghani and Dominique Meekers.**

- i. AG commented that this was a good course. The signature activities in the table were corrected. AG is fine with the updates. No further comments.
- ii. DM commented that this was a well-organized course but there were 2 minor comments. There was difficulty when reviewing the original signature assessments-- the learning objectives were numbered incorrectly. In addition, the grading rubric was based on tasks; this was clarified. All comments have been addressed and the materials are updated. No further comments.

**AG made a motion to approve. DM seconded the motion. All in favor; Motion carried unanimously.**

**e) SPHU 4260- Organizational Leadership and Management in Public Health submitted for standard course review by Faculty, Emily Harris. The peer reviewers are Assaf Abdelghani and David Seal.**

- i.** AG commented that this was a good course but had a minor comment about the guest speaker assessment. AG questioned the basis of the student grade when surveying a guest speaker.
- ii.** EH added the students get half of the credit if they are paying attention and the other half of credit includes engaging with the speaker, for example, discussion, questions, and feedback to guest speaker.
- iii.** DS added this was an excellent course. He was satisfied with the course review and the response to AG's question about the guest speaker assessment. No additional comments.

**AG made a motion to approve. DS seconded the motion. All in favor; Motion carried unanimously.**

**The next CC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 9am in Reynolds Board Room – 2401.**