

**NOT FOR USE FOR CURRICULAR COURSE CHANGES
REQUEST FOR PROGRAM IMPROVEMENTS**

NOTE: Changes to programs may require course changes, which must be processed electronically. Any questions should be directed to Interim Curriculum Manager Nicolas Witschi at 7-4356 or nicolas.witschi@wmich.edu

DEPARTMENT: HPHE

COLLEGE: CEHD

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE FALL YEAR: 2022

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS: *Academic Program Proposed Improvements*

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> New degree* | <input type="checkbox"/> New minor* | <input type="checkbox"/> Admission requirements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New major* | <input type="checkbox"/> Deletion* | <input type="checkbox"/> Graduation requirements |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New curriculum* | <input type="checkbox"/> Revised major | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in Title |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New concentration* | <input type="checkbox"/> Revised minor | <input type="checkbox"/> Transfer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> New certificate* | | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (explain**) ** Other: New Accelerated Graduate Degree Program | | |

Title of degree, curriculum, major, minor, concentration, or certificate: Accelerated Degree Program MS Exercise Science

Chair, Department Curriculum Committee: *Carol Weideman*

Date 9/27/2021

CHECKLIST FOR DEPARTMENT CHAIRS/DIRECTORS

N/A For new programs and other changes that have resource implications, the dean has been consulted.

X When appropriate, letters of support from department faculty are attached.

N/A When appropriate, letters of support from other departments in the same college are attached.

N/A When appropriate, letters of support from other college deans, whose programs/courses may be affected by the change, are attached.

N/A The proposal has been reviewed by HIGE for possible implications for international student enrollment.

X The proposal is consistent with the departmental assessment plan, and identifies measurable learning outcomes for assessment.

N/A Detailed resource plan is attached where appropriate.

X All questions attached have been completed and supporting documents are attached.

X The proposal is written and complete as outlined in the Faculty Senate guidelines and the curriculum change guides.

Chair/Director: *Yuanlong Liu*

Date 9/27/2021

CHECKLIST FOR COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE☐ The academic quality of the proposal and the faculty involved has been reviewed.☐ Detailed resource plan is attached where appropriate.☐ Consistency between the proposal and the relevant catalog language has been confirmed.☐ The proposal has been reviewed for effect on students transferring from Michigan community colleges. Detailed information on transfer articulation must be included with undergraduate proposals.☐ Consistency between the proposal and the College and department assessment plans has been confirmed.☐ Consistency between the proposal and the College and department strategic plans has been confirmed.☐ All questions attached have been completed and supporting documents are attached.☐ The proposal is written and complete as outlined in the Faculty Senate guidelines and the curriculum change guides.

Chair, College Curriculum Committee:

Date

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CHECKLIST FOR COLLEGE DEANS

- ☐ For new programs and proposed program deletions, the provost has been consulted.
- ☐ For new programs, letter of support from University Libraries Dean indicating library resource requirements have been met.
- ☐ When appropriate, letters of support from other college faculty and/or chairs are attached.
- ☐ When appropriate, letters of support from other college deans, whose programs/courses may be affected by the change, are attached.
- ☐ The proposal has been reviewed for implications for accreditation, certification, or licensure.
- ☐ Detailed resource plan is attached where appropriate.
- ☐ All questions attached have been completed and supporting documents are attached.
- ☐ The proposal is written and complete as outlined in the Faculty Senate guidelines and the curriculum change guides.

Dean:	Date
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FOR PROPOSALS REQUIRING REVIEW BY:

GSC/USC; EPGC, GRADUATE COLLEGE, and/or FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE BOARD

<input type="checkbox"/> Return to Dean		
<input type="checkbox"/> Forward to:	Curriculum Manager:	Date:
<input type="checkbox"/> Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Disapprove	*needs review by Chair, GSC/USC:	Date
<input type="checkbox"/> Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Disapprove	Chair, EPGC:	Date
<input type="checkbox"/> Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Disapprove	Graduate College Dean:	Date:
<input type="checkbox"/> Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Disapprove	Faculty Senate President:	Date
<input type="checkbox"/> Approve <input type="checkbox"/> Disapprove	*needs review by Provost:	Date

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1. Explain briefly and clearly the proposed improvement:

We are proposing AGDP (Accelerated Graduate Degree Program) MS Exercise Science degree which will allow our undergraduate students to begin pursuing their graduate degree during their senior year. Additionally, this will be an option offered as a capstone for those undergraduates interested in pursuing an advanced degree and qualify for admission.

2. Rationale. Give your reason(s) for the proposed improvement.

Besides the potential increase in graduate enrollment in the MS degree, students in the undergraduate degree have been asking for this option as we have been increasing research opportunities for our most promising undergraduate students. Therefore, this opportunity to adopt and AGDP seems reasonable at this time.

3. Effect on other colleges, departments, or programs. If consultation with others is required, attach evidence of consultation and support. If objections have been raised, document the resolution. Demonstrate that the program you propose is not a duplication of an existing one.

The only programs that will be affected will be our graduate and undergraduate programs in Exercise Science. No other programs, departments or colleges will be affected by this change.

4. Effect on your department's programs. Show how the proposed change fits with other departmental offerings.

Our graduate and undergraduate programs in Exercise Science will be directly affected by this change as the undergraduate program will now have a capstone experience that will allow our undergraduate majors to pursue the graduate degree during their senior year. Our graduate program will be affected by an increase in enrollment.

5. Alignment with college's and department's strategic plan, mission, and vision.

This change is in alignment with our college and department's strategic plan, mission and vision as this change will potentially benefit research productivity, equity and inclusion, as well as enrollment.

6. Effects on enrolled students: Are program conflicts avoided? Will your proposal make it easier or harder for students to meet graduation requirements? Can students complete the program in a reasonable time? Show that you have considered scheduling needs and demands on students' time.

There should be no deleterious effects on enrolled students. Students will actually benefit from this opportunity to begin their graduate career during their senior year.

7. Student or external market demand. What is your anticipated student audience? What evidence of student or market demand or need exists? What is the estimated enrollment? What other factors make your proposal beneficial to students?

The current exercise science programs have been well enrolled for a number of years now, which indicates a certain level of demand. Additionally, recent Department of Labor statistics show that available jobs in exercise science areas will be "greater than average" over the next 10 years.

8. Effects on resources. Explain how your proposal would affect department and University resources, including faculty, equipment, space, technology, and library holdings. If proposing a new program, include a letter and/or email of support from the university libraries affirming that the library resource issues have been reviewed. Tell how you will staff additions to the program. If more advising will be needed, how will you provide for it? What will be the initial one-time costs and the ongoing base-funding costs for the proposed program? (Attach additional pages, as necessary.)

Depending on any potential increases in enrollment, there may be a need in the future for increased staffing.

9. List the learning outcomes for the revised or proposed major, minor, or concentration. The department will use these outcomes for future assessments of the program.

Students, upon completion of this program, will be able to:

- **Discuss and explain advanced concepts in Exercise science**
- **Assess and interpret data collected through laboratory experiences**

- **Analyze and interpret contemporary and historically significant research literature.**

10. Describe how this change is a response to assessment outcomes that are part of a department or college assessment plan or informal assessment activities.

Informally, undergraduate students have been asking about this possible opportunity and as faculty we have increased our involvement with undergraduate research opportunities which lends itself to offering these students a path to early graduate education.

11. (Undergraduate proposals only) Describe in detail how this change affects transfer articulation for Michigan community colleges. For new majors or minors, describe transfer guidelines to be developed with Michigan community colleges. For revisions to majors or minors, describe necessary revisions to Michigan community college guidelines. Department chairs should seek assistance from college advising directors or from the admissions office in completing this section.

NA

12. Please offer both “Current Catalog Language” and “Proposed Catalog Language” if there is to be a change in the catalog description for a given program. For the “current” language, please copy and paste relevant language from the most current catalog and for the “proposed” language, please share the exact proposed new catalog language. As possible, bold or otherwise note the key changes in the new proposed catalog language.

See below.

Accelerated Graduate Degree Program MS Exercise Science

The AGDP allows qualifying students to begin accumulating credits toward completion of a Master of Science degree in Exercise Science while still enrolled as undergraduates in the Exercise Science major. Undergraduate students admitted to the MS in Exercise Science AGDP, with senior standing, may take up to 12 credit hours of designated 6000-level courses for graduate credit. These designated courses may be used in completion of both the bachelor's degree and the master's degree.

Degree hours

The Master of Science in Exercise Science requires a total of 36 credit hours. An undergraduate degree in the Exercise Science major requires a total of 122 credit hours. Students enrolling in the AGDP for the maximum 12 graduate credits would earn 122 total undergraduate and graduate credits in contrast to the typical combined 134 undergraduate and graduate credit hours under the usual progression to degree(s).

Students will pay undergraduate tuition for the designated AGDP 6000-level courses as undergraduates, and the courses will be included in the flat tuition rate. On completion of the undergraduate degree, the student will be re-classified as a graduate student and then will pay graduate tuition rates.

Students who have received their baccalaureate degrees will be ineligible to apply for this program and retroactively claim credits toward the M.S. degree.

Admission criteria

1. Students must have a declared major in Exercise Science, and have a minimum accumulated grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 (based on at least 45 earned credit hours, 15 of which shall be earned at Western Michigan University) and 3.5 GPA in the major (based on at least 12 earned credit hours).

2. The student completes the online graduation application (<http://www.wmich.edu/apply>) and within the application selects the application type “Accelerated degree seeking - only available to current WMU undergraduate student.”
3. International students must clarify their visa status with the Office of International Students and Scholar Services before submitting an application for the AGDP.

Admission procedure

1. As early as possible in the academic junior year, the student contacts the graduate program advisor to discuss this AGDP option and review the requirements, timelines, and application procedures.
2. The student completes the online graduate application.
3. Upon acceptance into the AGDP, the student meets together with the graduate advisor and an undergraduate academic advisor to prepare an appropriate program of study that meets the requirements for the undergraduate and graduate degrees.
4. The AGDP Course Approval Form that lists the graduate courses to be counted in both degrees will be sent to the student and to the registrar. A copy of this form will also be included in the student’s graduate file.

Requirements for continuing eligibility and graduation

1. Students must complete the requirements for the M.S. degree within 24 months from the completion of the bachelor’s degree. Students unable to meet this requirement must apply for an extension with the director of the Exercise Science graduate program.
2. In order to progress automatically into the graduate program, students must achieve a grade of “B” or better in each of the graduate courses being counted for the undergraduate degree, as well as maintain a 3.0 GPA overall and a 3.5 GPA in their major. Students will be admitted as graduate students (with the relevant graduate credit) in the next semester or session after receiving the bachelor’s degree. Students who do not meet these requirements will have the earned grade applied to their undergraduate degree only and must apply for readmission into the graduate program.
3. Students in the AGDP must follow the program of study developed with the graduate director and the undergraduate advisor. Failure to follow this program of study may result in ineligibility for the AGDP.
4. Both undergraduate and graduate transcripts will show that the student completed the Accelerated Graduate Degree Program.

Withdrawal

A student may withdraw from an approved AGDP at any time by informing the director of the undergraduate program and the graduate advisor in writing. A copy of this withdrawal statement will be forwarded to the Graduate College and the Registrar’s Office.

Designated Accelerated Degree Program Exercise Science Courses

- HPHE 6700 Exercise Metabolism
- HPHE 6710 Cardiovascular and Environmental Exercise Physiology
- HPHE 6730 Biomechanics
- HPHE 6740 Neuromuscular Control
- HPHE 6760 Exercise Science Seminar
- HPHE 6720 Laboratory in Exercise Physiology
- HPHE 6750 Laboratory in Biomechanics