

New Programs & Program Revisions Committee New Graduate Program Proposal Submission Coversheet

Instructions: Please complete the information below. This should be a separate electronic document than the Dean’s memo and other required forms. The contact person listed below will be the one contacted with any questions or concerns regarding the proposal and will be notified of any meetings that s/he may need to attend where the proposal is being reviewed.

I. General Information

College/Division/Unit:	Division Of Health Sciences		
Department/School:	Schools Of Nursing And Allied Health Sciences		
New Degree Program:	Phd In Interdisciplinary Health Sciences		
Contact Person:	Merrill Landers		
Campus Phone:	51377	Mail Stop:	3029
E-Mail Address:	merrill.landerson@unlv.edu		
Total Required Credits:	60	Date of First Enrollment:	Fall 2015
Instructional Mode (check all that apply):	<input type="checkbox"/> In person only <input type="checkbox"/> Web-based only (all courses offered online) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hybrid (50% or more courses offered online)		

II. Documents Required for Submission to be Complete

- a. **This coversheet**
- b. **Dean’s Memo** - Deans, you must include an electronic memo (separate document from the electronic proposal) identifying strengths and weaknesses and showing the priority of this program within your College’s strategic plan.
- c. **New Program Summary & Proposal Board of Regents’ Form** – If letters of support are not electronic, they must be scanned and included as pages in the proposal as well as any other supporting information.
- d. **Resource Analysis Forms A,B, and C**
- e. **Proposed Degree Program Part II** – A sample proposed degree program form must be submitted
- f. **Program Assessment Plan** – Available from [UNLV Office of Academic Assessment](#)

III. Faculty Vote Information

- a. **Date faculty voted on proposal:** Yes
- b. **Result of vote** (Number of yes/no/abstention votes): School of Allied Health Sciences (vote tally: 24 in favor, 1 opposed, 2 abstaining votes), and School of Nursing (vote tally: 28 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstaining vote)

IV. Program will be effective (Enter semester and year OR date): Fall 2015

V. Graduate Catalog - The [Graduate Catalog](#) will need to be updated as a result of this proposal. Enter your catalog text below.

a. Program Description:

Overview

This Ph.D. in IHS will provide students from different disciplines an opportunity to learn how to approach complex healthcare problems. Team science will direct this activity and will prepare students to create functioning teams to solve problems that interface with a number of different disciplines. Understanding team science concepts will better position graduates as valuable and productive research and academic collaborators who will be able to answer broader and more important translational research questions. This team science concept will form the core of the coursework in this program. These core interdisciplinary courses will be the foundation of the Ph.D.; however, students will be able to select a track or sub-plan (i.e., Nursing, Rehabilitation Sciences, Health Physics, Kinesiology) which will also have a set of discipline-specific core classes. This will allow them to apply team science concepts while developing expertise in a specialized area of study.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the program, all Ph.D. in IHS students will meet the outcomes detailed below.

1. Research outcome: Independently produce sound translational research by generating innovative research questions, casting appropriate designs, implementing study protocols, analyzing data, and critiquing the results in written form.
2. Interdisciplinary outcome: Identify external funding sources that are relevant to the research focus area and generate an interdisciplinary grant proposal that is appropriate for that funding announcement.
3. Expertise outcome: Disseminate translational research findings orally and critique the scientific literature in area of specialty with sufficient depth to be considered an expert.

Program Delivery Description (online, face to face, hybrid; day and/or evening classes; weekday or weekends)

Hybrid

Program Assessment Overview

The primary assessment of the program objectives will be the deliverables of the aforementioned program objectives. Additionally, the assessment plan for this program will be the following:

1. The number of students graduating within 5 years of matriculation.
2. The percentage of students that gain employment within 1 year of graduation in a health research environment (e.g., academic, hospital, clinical, health technology), tracked using a one year post-graduate survey.
3. The number of presentations and publications per graduate from research during Ph.D. tenure, tracked using a one year post-graduate survey.
4. The competitiveness of our program will be assessed by the acceptance rate of the program (i.e., number of applicants who matriculate into the program divided by the number of total applicants who have met our minimum application criteria).

b. Admission Requirements:

Students will be admitted into the program by the program director of the sub-plan or sub-plan Ph.D. admissions committee to which they are applying. However, the minimum requirements of the Ph.D. in IHS is an overall undergraduate/graduate GPA >3.25, >50th average percentile on the quantitative, verbal, and analytic portions of the GRE (taken within the last 5 years), three letters of recommendation, interview with two core faculty members, curriculum vitae, and personal statement. If the applicant is from a country where English is not an official language, then the

applicant must demonstrate English proficiency by scoring 80 or higher on the Test of English as a Foreign Language, by scoring 7.0 or higher on the International English Language Testing System, by earning a score of greater than the 70th percentile on the GRE-verbal, or by earning a baccalaureate or higher at a regionally accredited institution in the U.S. or in a university where English is the language of instruction.

Specific sub-plan requirements include the following:

1. Nursing: must have a BSN or MSN from an accredited School of Nursing. A Master's degree in a health-related discipline and a BSN from an accredited institution would also meet this requirement. Applicants must have a current RN license in the U.S. or country of residence.
2. Rehabilitation: must have graduated from an accredited rehabilitation clinical sciences profession (e.g., physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, athletic training) at either the Master's or first-professional clinical doctoral level. If the applicant has a professional Bachelor's degree only, then 30 additional credits of elective coursework (determined by the sub-plan committee) will be required.
3. Health Physics: must have graduated with a Master's degree from a regionally accredited institution in the field of health physics, physics, chemistry, engineering or other related field. Applicants with Bachelor degrees may be admitted to the program but are required to take an additional 30 credits of elective coursework (determined by the Health Physics Graduate Committee).
- 4: Kinesiology: must have graduated with a Master's degree from a regionally accredited institution in the field of kinesiology/exercise science, biology, chemistry, computer science, engineering, psychology or other related field.

c. Degree Requirements:

Students must complete 24 credits in the interdisciplinary health sciences core (12 of which are dissertation credits) and must complete 36 credits in the sub-plan core. The minimum credit total in the program is 60 credits. Completion of the interdisciplinary and sub-plan cores must occur within 8 years of enrollment and with a cumulative GPA >3.0. Grades below B will not be acceptable. If the grade was received in a core class, then the student must retake the class. If a core class was not satisfactorily passed on two attempts, the student will be dismissed from the program. If the grade was in an elective class, then the class can be retaken or replaced with another elective class.

Students will complete a comprehensive examination which will be an interdisciplinary grant application. That is, this extramural grant proposal will have to have an interdisciplinary team science approach to answer a focused and important health science question. If a student fails the comprehensive examination they will be able to retake it again after a minimum of three months. If they fail a second time they will be separated from the program.

Students will also be required to complete a prospectus prior to dissertation in a focused research area. The dissertation committee will have an interdisciplinary element as two of the committee members will be from the chosen sub-plan but the other two committee members will be from outside the sub-plan discipline (one will be the Graduate College Representative). Thus, the committee will have an interdisciplinary membership and will have a stronger voice for a team science approach.

Students will complete at least one national/international presentation as a platform or a poster from research generated during their Ph.D. program.

d. Culminating Experience and Graduation Requirements:

The culminating experience will be a dissertation. See above.

Routing and Approval Process

PLEASE NOTE: Forwarding this form as an e-mail attachment **constitutes approval** of the course as described. Please forward this form and email to the person below you on this chart. When forwarding, be sure to leave all previous comments in place, as this represents prior approvals. **Requests for changes** or revisions must be routed back to the proposer to make the necessary changes and begin the routing process again.

	NAME	E-MAIL ADDRESS	CAMPUS PHONE	DATE
Proposer/Contact Person:	Merrill Landers	merrill.landerson@unlv.edu	51377	10/17/2014
Dept. Chair or Grad. Coordinator:	Merrill Landers	merrill.landerson@unlv.edu	51377	10/17/2014
College New Programs Chair:	NA			
Academic Dean:	Carolyn Yucha	carolyn.yucha@unlv.edu	53906	10/17/14
Graduate College New Programs Chair:	Kathy Robins	GCNewPrograms@unlv.edu	5-4304	
Graduate College Interim Dean:	Kate Korgan	GCNewPrograms@unlv.edu	5-5950	

Graduate College Comments:

- Approved**
- Approved with Minor Changes**
- Approved with Major Changes**
- Not approved**