

**From:** Iva Obrusnikova [<mailto:obrusnik@udel.edu>]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 27, 2015 12:20 AM  
**To:** Hastings, Steven E  
**Cc:** Hall, Susan J.; Quinci, Carolyn E; Eisenman, Laura T  
**Subject:** Re: UGS0494 – Request to add a Concentration to the HBS Major – Health and Disability

Dear UGS Committee:

Thank you for reviewing our proposal and we understand there is a concern about the amount of overlap between the Disabilities Studies minor and our proposed concentration. We believe there are two reasons the Health Behavior Science (HBS) concentration in Health and Disability is unique at the undergraduate level:

First, the carefully selected courses will guide HBS students early in their studies to take important graduate prerequisites. The combination of core courses and electives will give them enough flexibility to apply to a wide range of graduate schools.

Second, it allows them to gain quality field-based experiences to appropriately plan for and work with individuals with disabilities across the lifespan in a variety of settings that promote health, physical activity, and wellness, a component that is particularly important for students who do not plan to pursue graduate studies. Research provides evidence that hands-on experiences are critical in undergraduate studies involving individuals with a disability (e.g., Lyle, Lavay, Robinson, & Huettig, 2003). As such, supervised clinical experiences are included in the following courses: BHAN 403 Practicum in Adapted Physical Activity (3-5 credits); BHAN 445 Health, Physical Activity, and Disability; and BHAN 342 Intro to Adapted Physical Activity (3credits). The amount of clinical experiences in this concentration will make the HBS concentration different from other minors and majors.

It is for the reasons mentioned above that we believe the proposed concentration offers academic and clinical experiences distinct from and beyond those of the Disability Studies minor. In fact, since BHAN 342 (Intro to Adapted Physical Activity) is being proposed as an elective option within the HBS major, a student with the HBS major and the Disabilities Studies minor may never get to work directly with individuals with a disability in settings that promote health, physical activity, and wellness. The specialized focus of the concentration will provide a much better foundation for students' future endeavors in Health and Physical Activity fields. **To address the UGS concern, below are two versions we offer as potential changes to the proposal.**

Original text	Version 1	Version 2
Taking the Health, Physical Activity, and Disability minor with this concentration is not permitted but students may take the Disability Studies minor.	Taking the Health, Physical Activity, and Disability minor with this concentration or the Disabilities Studies minor is not permitted.	Taking the Health, Physical Activity, and Disability minor with this concentration is not permitted. A maximum of six credits may be counted towards the concentration from the student's minor.

Please let us know how you would like us to proceed. Attached is the revised catalog copy removing the proposed elective option of BHAN342 for the concentration (i.e., keeping it in the required courses) and moving BHAN 335 to Group 1. BHAN 342 is kept as a required course in the HBS major because it is a prerequisite for BHAN 445, a course in the concentration's core.

Sincerely,

Iva Obrusnikova

---

Iva Obrusnikova, Ph.D., CAPE

Associate Professor

Delaware Adapted Sports Club Director

Behavioral Health & Nutrition

University of Delaware

019 Carpenter Sports Building

Newark, DE 19716

Phone: 302-831-8032; Fax: 302-831-4261

[obrusnik@udel.edu](mailto:obrusnik@udel.edu)

On Mar 26, 2015, at 9:46 AM, Hastings, Steven E <[hastings@udel.edu](mailto:hastings@udel.edu)> wrote:

Iva - UGS has considered the revised version of this proposal and still feels there is too much overlap with the Disabilities Studies minor. As Laura Eisenman's letter points out (if I understand correctly) there is a 9 - 12 credit overlap. UGS has uses 6 credits as a maximum allowable overlap between major, minor, concentrations, etc.

If you are willing to exclude students in the Disabilities Studies from this concentration, we will reconsider the proposal.

Please let me know asap if you plan to submit a revised proposal.

Thanks – Steve

DR. STEVEN E. HASTINGS, Professor and Associate Chair

Chair, Faculty Senate's Undergraduate Studies Committee  
Department of Applied Economics and Statistics  
College of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
University of Delaware  
209 Townsend Hall  
Newark, DE 19717-1303  
USA

Phone: 302-831-1318  
Fax: 302-831-1665  
Email: [hastings@udel.edu](mailto:hastings@udel.edu)