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Educational Policies Committee Program Proposal, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, January 20, 2017 – PhD in Technical Communication and Rhetoric

Utah State University

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**Utah System of Higher Education
Changes to Existing Academic Program Proposal
Cover/Signature Page - Abbreviated Template**

Institution Submitting Request:	Utah State University		
	<i>Current</i>		<i>Proposed (if applicable)</i>
Program Title:	PhD in the Theory and Practice of Professional Communication		PhD in Technical Communication and Rhetoric
Sponsoring School, College, or Division:	College of Humanities and Social Sciences		
Sponsoring Academic Department(s) or Unit(s):	English		
Classification of Instruction Program Code ¹ :	23.1303		6 - Digit CIP
Min/Max Credit Hours for Full Program Required:	Min Cr Hr	/ Max Cr Hr	Min Cr Hr / Max Cr Hr
Proposed Effective Term for Program Change ² :	Summer	2017	
Institutional Board of Trustees' Approval Date:	01/06/2017		

Award Type:

Program Change Type (check all that apply):

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Name Change of Existing Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Restructure with or without Consolidation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Transfer to a new academic department or unit
<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Suspension
<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Discontinuation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	Out of Service Area Delivery Program

Chief Academic Officer (or Designee) Signature:

I, the Chief Academic Officer or Designee, certify that all required institutional approvals have been obtained prior to submitting this request to the Office of the Commissioner.

Laurens H. Smith _____

Date: January 4, 2017

I understand that checking this box constitutes my legal signature.

¹ For CIP code classifications, please see <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/cipcode/Default.aspx?y=55>.

² "Proposed Effective Term" refers to term when change to program is published. For Suspensions and Discontinuations, "effective term" refers to the term the program will suspend admissions.

Program Change Description - Abbreviated Template

Section I: The Request

Utah State University requests approval to change the name of the PhD in the Theory and Practice of Professional Communication to PhD in Technical Communication and Rhetoric effective Summer 2017. This action was approved by the institutional Board of Trustees on **January 6, 2017**.

Section II: Program Proposal

Program Change Description/Rationale

Present a brief program change description. Describe the institutional procedures used to arrive at a decision for the change. Briefly indicate why such a change should be initiated. State how the institution and the USHE benefit by the change.

The proposed name for the existing PhD program will more clearly and accurately reflect the existing program curriculum, and it will be more recognizable and understandable to potential student applicants. The major professional association to which the faculty belong and the major academic journals in the field consistently use the terms "technical communication" and "rhetoric." In other words, these terms are used more commonly in the field than "theory and practice of professional communication."

Consistency with Institutional Mission/Institutional Impact

Explain how the action is consistent with the institution's Regent-approved mission, roles, and goals. Institutional mission and roles may be found at higheredutah.org/policies/policyr312/. Indicate if the program will be delivered outside of designated service area; provide justification. Service areas are defined in higheredutah.org/policies/policyr315/. Will faculty or staff structures be impacted by the proposed change?

This change is designed to best "meet the educational needs of the citizens of the state of Utah," as per R312-1, Configuration of the Utah System of Higher Education and Institutional Missions and Roles, in that it more clearly communicates what the degree does. The program will not be delivered outside of the designated service area. Faculty and staff structures will not be impacted by the change.

Finances

What costs or savings are anticipated from this change? If new funds are required to implement the change, indicate expected sources of funds. Describe any budgetary impact on other programs or units within the institution.

This change will not have any budgetary impact.