Educational Policies Committee Program Proposal, Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services, July 1, 2019

Utah State University

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July 1, 2019

Jody Burnett, Board of Trustees Chair
c/o Sydney Peterson, Board of Trustees’ Secretary
Utah State University
1400 Old Main Hill
Logan, UT 84322

Dear Chair Burnett,

Pursuant to Utah Code Annotated 53B-16-102(5)(b)(ii), attached is the Peer Review Report for the following program, which the Utah State University Board of Trustees is to consider in reviewing this program for approval:

- Bachelor of Science in Human Experience Design and Interaction

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this report. If your Board approves the program, the institution’s Chief Academic Officer will notify our office of your action so we can keep an accurate record of the programs available in the Utah System of Higher Education.

Thank you for giving this your attention.

David R. Woolstenhulme, EdD
Interim Commissioner of Higher Education

CC: Noelle E. Cockett, President – Utah State University
    Frank Galey, Provost
Peer Review Report

Institution  Utah State University
Name of Proposal  BS in Human Experience Design and Interaction
Date of Peer Review Report  June 19, 2019

Utah State University presented a proposed Bachelor of Science (BS) in Human Experience Design and Interaction for peer review by other institutions in the Utah System of Higher Education (USHE), with written comments submitted online.

Responses from the USHE Chief Academic Officers and Commissioner’s office were very supportive of the proposed BS degree. Flexible pathways into the program, multiple concentrations related to technology and training, online delivery, and strong labor market demand were all noted as positive elements.

USU’s Department of Instructional Technology and Learning Sciences is to be complimented on a well-written and forward-thinking proposal for the BS in Human Experience Design and Interaction.
JUNE IP Video - Utah State University - BS in Human Experience Design and Interaction

Trina Weller
All Sections

Please use this page for comments.

USU BS Human Experience Design & Interaction

1. Does the proposed curriculum meet the standards of the degree area as assessed by your relevant faculty - specify specific concerns based on your accepted curriculum or national standards, and/or accreditation standards?

2. Do the resources exist to adequately offer a quality program of study and are future resource needs adequately specified? Provide examples of how the resources available in your program look so as to give context on where and why you feel deficiencies exist.

3. Are there any structural or programmatic concerns with the degree? Will students be able to transfer without difficulty (3000 and 4000 level curriculum in the first 2 years, etc.), etc., etc.- Be specific in your examples

4. Are there any other concerns not addressed above?

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lesai.

Rachel Lewis
(https://uen.instructure.com/courses/44955/users/697075)
Friday

This degree proposal was forwarded to qualified teaching faculty and academic administrators in several disciplines at SLCC which align to the emphases. The comments below were returned from some of these divisions:

https://uen.instructure.com/courses/44955/discussion_topics/2182867
Social and Behavioral Sciences | Mequette Sorensen, Associate Dean
All of the courses are upper-division Psychology courses; although we offer an Intro to Social Psychology that should complement theirs at this point. It might behoove us (if program is approved) to initiate discussion in our Majors Meeting regarding possible articulation.

History, Anthropology, and Political Science | Marianne McKnight, Associate Dean
I looked over the program carefully and it appears to me to be a solid proposal. It includes four Anthropology courses in the Culturally Responsive Design category and I think they align well with the objectives of their program. We offer one of the courses (ANTH 1010) and it is possible we may develop the other lower division course (ANTH 2010) at some point if we find that it would benefit our students who are interested in transferring with an Associate’s Degree to this new Bachelor’s degree program. I do not have any concerns and wish them well. Thank you for your query.

Visual Art & Design | Bryan Griggs, Associate Dean
I’ve carefully and thoughtfully read the attached proposal, and from my position relative to it, I like what it purports. The endeavor to educate individuals in and with current technologies (featuring fairly vast choices of technological arenas); while in connection pursuing the ambition of a better and more thorough understanding of human needs and applications… seems to me like a needed niche. I think the outlined plans and justifications seem functional and fair.

I do, of course, wonder about SLCC’s ability to garner future articulation relationships and agreements with respect to this offering; but going on faith that our associates degrees may be fairly transferred in, and/or with the hope that some individual courses (if a completed SLCC degree has not been earned) might be applied… I see promise.

From what I can ascertain, it looks like a workable and intelligent plan to me. And one that should not adversely affect the SLCC neck-of-the-woods that I work to preserve, promote and represent.

Communication and Performing Arts | Nick Burns, Associate Dean
This program touches on many academic areas and disciplines, something both a strength and a potential weakness for some students. Included are a wide range of focus options, many course and discipline areas; thus, advising will be key.

This degree is a good transfer option for SLCC students who complete an Associate of Science or Associate of Arts degree – especially with online delivery. SLCC supports this degree proposal and looks forward to working with USU to create transfer pathways for our students.

~ Rachel Divine Lewis, Assistant Provost for Curriculum & Academic Systems
Edited by Rachel Lewis (https://uen.instructure.com/courses/44955/users/697075) on Jun 14 at 1:38pm

Reply
Greg Benson

Friday

Utah State University is complimented for submitting a very well-conceived, well-written proposal for the BS in Human Experience Design and Interaction.

The proposed degree is flexible with multiple concentrations and interdisciplinary strands, is stackable with various associate degrees and Utah technical college certificates, will be offered online, and helps meet rising labor market demand in several technology and training fields.

The Commissioner's office has no concerns or suggestions and, again, extends compliments to USU for this strong proposal.

Eric Amsel

Saturday

The proposal was sent to Cody Squadroni (Coordinator of the Web Design and User Experience program), Luke Fernandez (Assistant Professor in the School of Computing with expertise in Digital Humanities and Science, Technology, & Society), and Ryan Cain (Instructor in Teacher Education, who is also a doctoral student in USU's Department of ITLS). There was strong support for the program proposal with suggestions to strengthen the interdisciplinary nature of the program. Perhaps core courses outside the department can be considered, not just in the emphasis areas. Recommendations include core courses in computer science, STS, sociology, and/or humanities to provide students with more contact with computer developers and a broader perspective on the human-technology interaction.