

Associate in Science in Public Health Science for Transfer Degree

Background:

Columbia College currently has an Allied Health AS degree under the TOP Code of 1201.00. This is the same TOP Code that has been assigned to a newly approved AS-T Degree titled Public Health Science. Per SB 440, we are required to create a transfer degree for every TMC that has a TOP code that matches one of our local degrees. There is a time limit (18 months) attached to this requirement so our curriculum committee began discussions and created an action plan at our last meeting. After doing our first round of research, we have developed an idea that we believe will benefit both Columbia and MJC, and potentially serve students at both colleges.

Columbia Situation:

- We are required to address the development of the new Public Health Science AS-T.
- We believe the new degree to be of benefit to our students, particularly those who are currently pursuing a Nursing pathway, but may not end up getting into the Nursing program.
- There is only one class required for the Public Health Science degree that we do not currently have.

MJC Situation:

- MJC has no requirement to address or create the Public Health Science transfer degree as they do not currently have a degree within the same TOP Code.
- However, MJC does have an Intro to Public Health course, the one Columbia is missing and in need of to create the degree.
- MJC offers an online version of the Intro to Public Health class.
- In looking at this Fall and the upcoming Spring offering of HE 112(Intro to Public Health), the sections are not full. A few Columbia College students would appear to be a welcome addition to the online section.
- MJC also has a significant number of students pursuing the pre-Nursing courses who may not actually end up in the Nursing Program and who may be interested in pursuing this degree.

Proposal for Collaborative Program with Modesto Junior College

- The PICAH, 6th edition, allows for Collaborative Programs between colleges, “described through a written agreement between the colleges that delineates the responsibilities of each college with respect to the curriculum offered and the scheduling of classes.”
- Students at both colleges could pursue this Public Health Services degree. The requirement for earning a degree requires 12 units “in residence”. Columbia College offers online versions of numerous courses, both within the Public Health Science degree, as well as those within the GE Breadth courses, which would allow MJC students to easily complete their 12 “in residence” units at Columbia, while completing the remainder of their required courses at either college, allowing them to apply to earn this degree from Columbia.

- Developing a Collaborative Program would allow Columbia to build the Public Health Science AS-T much more quickly than if we create our own Public Health class, as we would need to acquire C-ID approval for the course before we could even submit the degree to the Chancellor's office. MJC's HE 112 already has C-ID PHS 101 approval so as soon as we have an agreement on the collaboration, Columbia could build and submit the degree for approval.

Next Steps

- Columbia College's VPI office to begin process of developing the necessary MOU for a Collaborative Program for the Public Health Science AS-T degree. The AS-T would list the MJC course, HE 112, as a requirement with all other required courses on the TMC template being Columbia College courses.
 - Investigate the willingness of MJC to participate in this collaboration.
 - Determine who needs to sign the MOU and pursue their cooperation.
 - In collaboration with the Curriculum Chair and the Curriculum Process Specialist, write the MOU, including a request for the HE 112 course to be offered in Online mode at least once a year at MJC, with 8-10 seats reserved for Columbia College students.
 - Process Specialist would help ensure we have the necessary documents for submission of a collaborative program to the Chancellor's office.
 - In collaboration with the Academic Senate President, bring before the full Academic Senate for Approval. This would include working with the MJC Senate for their approval also.