

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS**

**VIRTUAL MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, November 20, 2024
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
or upon adjournment of SCOCAO**

The Council of Chief Academic Officers (COCAO) will meet in the Flint Hills Room on the Kansas State University Campus., Student Union 918 N. MLK Jr. Drive, Manhattan, KS 66506. To the extent possible, a virtual option will be provided to accommodate those who cannot attend in person.

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|---|---------------------|-------|
| I. Call to Order | Susan Bon, Chair | |
| A. Roll Call & Introductions | | |
| B. Approve Minutes from September 18, 2024 | | p. 3 |
| II. Council of Faculty Senate Presidents Update | Norman Philipp, PSU | |
| III. First Reading | | |
| A. BA & BGS in Health & Society – KU | Barbara Bichelmeyer | p. 5 |
| B. PSM in Environmental Geology – KU | Barbara Bichelmeyer | p. 16 |
| IV. Second Reading | | |
| A. No items | | |
| V. Other Matters | | |
| A. Request approval to merge BAS Biotechnology with BS Applied Biological Sciences resulting in BS Biotechnology – KU | Barbara Bichelmeyer | p. 23 |
| B. Request approval to change names of Degree Programs – KU | Barbara Bichelmeyer | p. 23 |
| • PhD Applied Behavioral Science to Behavioral Psychology | | |
| • MA Leadership in Diversity & Inclusion to MA Leadership Studies | | |
| • MSE Educational Technology to MSE Learning Design | | |
| C. Discuss Opportunities (new degree programs, partnerships, strategic initiatives, etc.) that Universities are Considering or Planning to Pursue in the Future | COCAO Members | |
| VI. Announcements | | |
| A. Next COCAO Meeting – December 18, 2024 – Virtual Meeting | | |
| VII. Adjournment | | |

COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS

The Council of Chief Academic Officers (COCAO), established in 1969, is composed of the academic vice presidents of the state universities. The Board's Vice President for Academic Affairs serves as an ex officio member, and the member from the same institution as the chairperson of the Council of Presidents serves as chairperson of the Council of Chief Academic Officers. The chief academic officers of the University of Kansas Medical Center and Washburn University are authorized to participate as non-voting members when agenda items affecting those institutions are to be considered. The Council of Chief Academic Officers meets monthly and reports to the Council of Presidents. The Council of Chief Academic Officers works with the Board Academic Affairs Committee through the Vice President for Academic Affairs. Membership includes:

Jesse Mendez, Chair	K-State	Susan Bon	PSU
Brent Thomas	ESU	John Fritch	Washburn
Jill Arensdorf	FHSU	Shirley Lefever	WSU
Barbara Bichelmeyer	KU	Rusty Monhollon	KBOR
Robert Klein	KUMC		

Council of Chief Academic Officers AY 2025 Meeting Schedule

<i>COCAO Academic Year 2024- 2025 Meeting Dates</i>			
Meeting Dates	Location (virtual or in-person)	Institutional Materials Due	New Program Requests Due
September 18, 2024	Virtual	August 28, 2024	July 24, 2024
November 20, 2024	Kansas State University	October 30, 2024	September 25, 2024
December 18, 2024	Virtual	November 25, 2024	October 21, 2024
January 15, 2025	Virtual	December 24, 2024	November 19, 2024
February 12, 2025	Virtual	January 22, 2025	December 18, 2024
March 12, 2025	Virtual	February 19, 2025	January 15, 2025
April 16, 2025	Pittsburg State University	March 26, 2025	February 19, 2025
May 14, 2025	Virtual	April 23, 2025	March 19, 2025
June 11, 2025	Virtual	May 21, 2025	April 16, 2025

COCAO meets at 9:00 a.m. or upon adjournment of SCOCAO unless otherwise noted.

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS
COUNCIL OF CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICERS
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 18, 2024**

The September 18, 2024, meeting of Council of Chief Academic Officers was called to order by Chair Susan Bon at 9:07 a.m. The meeting was held virtually through Zoom with an in-person option held in suite 530 located in the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 S.W. Jackson, Topeka, KS 66612.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jesse Mendez, KSU	Barbara Bichelmeyer, KU	John Fritch, Washburn
Brent Thomas, ESU	Jill Arensdorf, FHSU	Shirley Lefever, WSU
Robert Klein, KUMC	Susan Bon, PSU	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jesse Mendez moved that the minutes of the June 18, 2024, meeting be approved. Following the second of Jill Arensdorf, the motion carried.

COUNCIL OF FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENTS UPDATE

Norman Philipp provided an update for the Council of Faculty Senate Presidents. They have been working with two institutions that do not yet have criteria approved for nominees for the Faculty of the Year Awards, hoping to get their criteria aligned and approved this year. Nominees from four institutions will be presented during the Board meeting on Thursday, September 19th.

SECOND READING

BS IN CYBER SYSTEMS DESIGN & DYNAMICS – KSU

Jesse Mendez & Michael Oetken presented the second reading for the BS in Cyber Systems Design & Dynamics at Kansas State University. Jill Arensdorf moved to approve the request. Following the second of Barbara Bichelmeyer, the motion passed unanimously.

OTHER MATTERS

REQUEST APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF BST ENVIROMENTAL & SAFETY MANAGEMENT TO BST SAFETY MANAGEMENT – PSU

Shirley Lefever moved to approve the request. Following the second of Jill Arensdorf, the motion carried.

CHANGES TO QUALIFIED ADMISSIONS – KU

Barbara Bichelmeyer & Nick Stevens presented the requested changes to qualified admissions. Jill Arensdorf moved to approve the request. Following the second of Jesse Mendez, the motion passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Susan Bon provided a reminder that the next COCAO meeting will be held virtually November 20th along with a campus visit hosted by Kansas State University.

Jill Arensdorf requested that the agenda item regarding future programs, which was used in previous meetings, be included in future agendas. She also proposed initiating a discussion about AI on the campuses. The council agreed to add this topic to the list of future discussion items and consider coordinating separate meetings with faculty experienced in this area. Norman Philipp noted that he would add this topic to the agenda for the Council of Faculty Senate Presidents.

ADJOURNMENT

Jesse Mendez moved that the meeting be adjourned. Following the second of Barbara Bichelmeyer, the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

III. First Reading

A. BA & BGS in Health & Society – KU

Barbara Bichelmeyer

➤ Program Approval

Summary

Universities may apply for approval of new academic programs following the guidelines in the Kansas Board of Regents Policy Manual. The University of Kansas has submitted an application for approval and the proposing academic unit has responded to all of the requirements of the program approval process.

November 20, 2024

I. General Information

A. Institution

University of Kansas

B. Program Identification

Degree Level: Bachelor's
Program Title: Health and Society
Degree to be Offered: Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of General Studies
Responsible Department or Unit: College of Liberal Arts and Sciences/Department of Sociology
CIP Code: 51.2212
Modality: Face-to-face
Proposed Implementation Date: Fall 2025

Total Number of Semester Credit Hours for the Degree: 120

II. Clinical Sites: Does this program require the use of Clinical Sites? No

III. Justification

Health and Society is an interdisciplinary liberal arts degree focused on the social context of health. The curriculum provides an interdisciplinary understanding of the role of social factors in health, such as housing, economics, and local environments (i.e., social determinants of health), while facilitating the development of transferable professional skills emphasized in a liberal arts education including critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, collaboration, adaptability, ethics, and social responsibility. The central goal of the Health and Society program is to train students for careers that emphasize the socio-demographic, cultural, political, historical, and ethical contexts that underlie health behaviors, healthcare practices, and health policies, by providing the knowledge and skills necessary to critically evaluate and inform strategies that address health at local, state, and national levels.

Health-related careers frequently require a team effort, incorporating multiple viewpoints and approaches. To prepare students for this, the Health and Society program engages students with a wide range of perspectives on health including those from anthropology, economics, geography, political science, psychology, and sociology. By intentionally integrating the conceptual frameworks, analytical tools, and data approaches from each discipline, the Health and Society curriculum provides graduates with a rich toolkit to tackle real-world challenges. With this interdisciplinary training, graduates can effectively communicate and collaborate with multiple stakeholders, approach problems creatively, facilitate collaborations across sectors, and foster innovation by blending ideas from different fields.

Clinical care only accounts for an estimated 10-20% of non-genetic contributors to health, with the other 80-90% attributed to social and economic factors, health behaviors, and the physical environment (Hood et al., 2016). A BA/BGS in Health and Society prepares students to identify and tackle the social

conditions shaping health outcomes for communities, an approach that will have the greatest impact on population health and reduce health disparities (Castrucci & Auerbach, 2019; Hood et al., 2016).

Health disparities are differences in the quality of health, healthcare, and health outcomes across socio-demographic groups. For example, in Kansas rural communities often face disproportionate burdens of poor health, lower levels of positive health behaviors, and a limited health infrastructure. Eliminating these disparities requires a multifaceted approach and partnerships both within and outside of medicine. The Health and Society curriculum prepares students to critically engage with the social and environmental factors at the root of these disparities.

Health and Society offers an academic home for students who want to work in healthcare or health related industries but may not be planning for clinical practice or laboratory research, and for whom requiring extensive coursework in the natural sciences may serve as a barrier to program and degree completion. The major is also designed in a way that facilitates the dual pursuit of Health and Society and other majors that offer complimentary or specialized training, including pre-medical education. By understanding the structural factors that contribute to health differences, students will be able to work with and within healthcare organizations to manage the organization, delivery, and consumption of medical services more effectively, and design policies and interventions that address health disparities at the societal level.

IV. Program Demand:

A. Survey of Student Interest

The University of Kansas (2021) Hopes & Dreams survey was included in post-orientation emails from the Center for Orientation & Transition Programs, as a component of UNIV 101, and direct emails to freshmen (response rate 24%). While not specific to the Health and Society program, the [Hopes & Dreams survey](#) administered to KU freshmen in summer and fall of 2021 reported that the top industry of interest was Healthcare, and Social/Human Services was third. What mattered most to the Class of 2025, was being able to apply knowledge to solve real world problems (72.38%) and assisting people who were struggling (63.22%), and the desire to make a positive impact on society was given as one of the top motivators for attending college (73.67%). The Health and Society program prepares students for careers that include each of these.

These KU responses are consistent with national surveys, such as the National Society of High School Scholars 2021 Career Interest Survey of more than 14,000 high achieving high school and college students, and a 2021 survey fielded by Lucid LLC. of 750 currently enrolled undergraduate students ages 18-25, that find Generation Z (encompassing individuals born between 1997 and 2012) is increasingly aware of social justice issues and their involvement with these issues impacts their coursework and career choices (Bryant, 2022; NSHSS, 2020). The 2022 National Society of High School Scholars 2022 Career Interest Survey of 11,495 high achieving high school or college-age individuals found approximately 1 in 3 were most interested in impacting the world in the area of healthcare and health-related issues (NSHSS, 2022).

B. Market Analysis

KU commissioned a market study from EAB Global, Inc. The report was limited by the fact that the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) does not contain an instructional program code (CIP code) that aligns directly to a Health and Society program. Labor market and competitive landscape analyses in the report suggest unmet student demand for a bachelor's-level Health and Society program and higher than average 10-year growth in regional employment for relevant occupations such as Social and Human Service Assistants, Medical and Health Services Managers, and Social and Community

Service Managers at a range of 17% to 19%, indicating a moderate to potentially favorable environment for program launch.

Demand in comparable programs

A more tailored picture of demand in comparable programs comes from direct correspondence with program directors.

- 1) University of Utah has a [Health, Society, and Policy](#) program that has been in existence as an interdisciplinary major for over 40 years and has approximately 400 majors.
- 2) UT Austin has a [Health & Society](#) program that is housed in Sociology. This interdisciplinary program has approximately 450 majors.
- 3) The University of Pennsylvania has a [Health and Societies](#) major housed in the Department of History and Sociology of Science with about 200 majors.
- 4) Vanderbilt offers an interdisciplinary major in [Medicine, Health, and Society](#) that has approximately 750 majors and 50 minors.

Comparative/Locational Advantage

There are no programs in Kansas with the same CIP Code. The only comparable program with a social scientific grounding in a neighboring state is the BA in [Health, Medicine and Society](#) at the University of Oklahoma.

The Department of Sociology at KU provides the optimal environment for a Health and Society BA/BGS program. The established medical sociology, statistics, and research methods curriculum and presence of multiple tenure-track and teaching faculty with expertise in social determinants of health, allow for program launch with minimal start-up costs and capitalizes on existing infrastructure. Faculty also have direct connections with KUMC and graduate programs in the department of Population Health. In addition, the social science health-related courses already available across different disciplines provide a rich set of electives for students to choose from.

V. Projected Enrollment for the Initial Three Years of the Program

Year	Total Headcount Per Year		Total Sem Credit Hrs Per Year	
	Full- Time	Part- Time	Full- Time	Part- Time
Implementation	12	0	360	0
Year 2	25	0	750	0
Year 3	35	0	1050	0

VI. Employment

Students with a BA/BGS in Health and Society will be ready for employment or further training in health services research, healthcare management and administration, public health, or health policy, and often pursue careers in the healthcare and health insurance fields, in both non-clinical and (with additional education and training) clinical positions.

Healthcare is one of the largest and fastest growing sectors of the economy and will require a workforce in both health and health adjacent fields. Approximately 18% of the U.S. economy is health care, with expectations of further growth as the population continues to age. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (2023, pg. 2), “the health care and social assistance sector is projected to not only grow most

rapidly of any sector, but it is also projected to create about 45 percent of all the projected job gains from 2022 to 2032”. Locally, in the Kansas City, MO-KS Metro Area, the most common industry is health care and social assistance, representing 14.1% of total employment in 2021 and demonstrating workforce growth of 3.36% over the previous year (Data USA, 2024).

Nationwide, employment of medical and health services managers is projected to grow 28% from 2022 to 2032, much faster than for all occupations (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2024a). During that same timeframe, the demand for social and community services managers – who coordinate and supervise programs and organizations that support public well-being – is forecasted to increase 9% (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2024b).

This interdisciplinary program provides students with knowledge and transferable skills that can be applied in a variety of contexts and professions and offers the flexibility to explore different fields and career paths within and beyond the healthcare industry. Additional areas of employment include non-profit organizations, government, public and social services, and international development.

VII. Admission and Curriculum

A. Admission Criteria

Qualified Admission criteria are used, as this program does not have separate admission requirements.

B. Curriculum

Curricula for the BA and BGS are listed below. Appendix A includes a list of elective courses for the major.

Health and Society BA

Year 1: Fall Hours

SCH = Semester Credit

Course #	Course Name	SCH
SOC 224	Intro to Health and Society (Major Requirement)	3
	KBOR Core English (SGE)	3
MATH 101	College Algebra (KBOR Core Math and Statistics (SGE))	3
	1st Semester Language (BA Second Language)	5
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree Hours	1

Year 1: Spring

Course #	Course Name	SCH
	Health and Society Elective 100+ (Major Requirement)	3
	KBOR Core English (SGE)	3
	KBOR Core Communications (SGE)	3
	2nd Semester Language (BA Second Language)	5
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree Hours	1

Year 2: Fall

Course #	Course Name	SCH
	Health and Society Elective 100+ (Major Requirement)	3
	KBOR Core Arts and Humanities (SGE)	3
	KBOR Core Natural and Physical Sciences (SGE)	5
	BA Laboratory/Field Experience (LFE)	1

	3rd Semester Language (BA Second Language)	3
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Year 2: Spring

Course #	Course Name	SCH
SOC 280	Intro to Research Methods (Major Requirement)	3
	KBOR Core Social and Behavioral Sciences (SGE)	3
	KBOR Core Arts and Humanities (SGE)	3
	KBOR Core Institutionally Designated US Culture (SGE)	3
	4th Semester Language, or 1st semester of Another Language (BA Second Language)	3

Year 3: Fall

Course #	Course Name	SCH
SOC 424	Sociology of Health and Medicine (Major Requirement)	3
SOC 380, or PSYC/ ECON/ POLS 399, or MATH 365	Statistics and Data Analysis (BA Quantitative Reasoning Requirement; Major Requirement)	3
	KBOR Core Social and Behavioral Sciences (SGE)*	3
	KBOR Core Institutionally Designated Global Culture (SGE)*	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree Hours	3

* or Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree Hours if KBOR Core already fulfilled by a Health and Society Elective

Year 3: Spring

Course #	Course Name	SCH
	Health and Society Elective 300+ (Major Requirement)	3
	Health and Society Elective 300+ (Major Requirement)	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3

Year 4: Fall

Course #	Course Name	SCH
SOC 699, or SOC 499, or LA&S 490, or LA&S 494	Integrative Capstone Experience (Major Requirement)	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3

Year 4: Spring

Course #	Course Name	SCH
	Health and Society Elective 300+ (Major Requirement)	3
	Health and Society Elective 300+ (Major Requirement)	3

	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3

Total Number of Semester Credit Hours **120**

Health and Society BGS

Year 1: Fall Hours

SCH = Semester Credit

Course #	Course Name	SCH
SOC 224	Intro to Health & Society (Major Requirement)	3
	KBOR Core English (SGE)	3
	KBOR Core Social and Behavioral Science (SGE)	3
MATH 101	College Algebra (KBOR Core Math and Statistics (SGE))	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree Hours	3

Year 1: Spring

Course #	Course Name	SCH
	Health and Society Elective 100+ (Major Requirement)	3
	KBOR Core English (SGE)	3
	KBOR Core Communications (SGE)	3
	KBOR Core Institutionally Designated Global Culture (SGE)	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree Hours	3

Year 2: Fall

Course #	Course Name	SCH
	Health and Society Elective 100+ (Major Requirement)	3
	KBOR Core Natural and Physical Sciences (SGE)	4
	KBOR Core Arts and Humanities (SGE)	3
	KBOR Core Institutionally Designated US Culture (SGE)	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree Hours	2

Year 2: Spring

Course #	Course Name	SCH
SOC 280	Intro to Research Methods (Major Requirement)	3
	KBOR Core Social and Behavioral Sciences (SGE)	3
	KBOR Core Arts and Humanities (SGE)	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree Hours	3

Year 3: Fall

Course #	Course Name	SCH
SOC 380, or PSYC/ ECON/ POLS 399, or MATH 365	Statistics and Data Analysis (Major Requirement)	3
SOC 424	Sociology of Health and Medicine (Major Requirement)	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3

Year 3: Spring

Course #	Course Name	SCH
	Health and Society Elective 300+ (Major Requirement)	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3

Year 4: Fall

Course #	Course Name	SCH
LA&S 172	Exploring Health Professions (BGS career prep course)	3
	Health and Society Elective 300+ (Major Requirement)	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3

Year 4: Spring

Course #	Course Name	SCH
SOC 699, or SOC 499, or LA&S 490, or LA&S 494	Integrative Capstone Experience (Major Requirement)	3
	Health and Society Elective 300+ (Major Requirement)	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3
	Second Area of Study/Elective/Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3

Total Number of Semester Credit Hours **120**

VIII. Core Faculty

Note: * Next to Faculty Name Denotes Director of the Program, if applicable
 FTE: 1.0 FTE = Full-Time Equivalency Devoted to Program

Faculty Name	Rank	Highest Degree	Tenure Track Y/N	Academic Area of Specialization	FTE to Proposed Program
*Tracey LaPierre	Associate Professor	PhD	Y	Medical Sociology	.5
Elizabeth Felix	Assistant Professor	PhD	Y	Medical Sociology	.2
Jarron Saint Onge	Professor	PhD	Y	Sociology and Population Health	.2
Gerald (Kevin) McCannon	Assistant Teaching Professor	PhD	N	Medical Sociology	.5
Lisa-Marie Wright	Associate Teaching Professor	PhD	N	Sociology	.25
Kelly Sharron	Assistant Teaching Professor	PhD	N	Sociology and Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies	.125

Number of graduate assistants assigned to this program 2

IX. Expenditure and Funding Sources [List amounts in dollars. Provide explanations as necessary.
Please double-check the math.]

A. EXPENDITURES	First FY	Second FY	Third FY
Personnel – Reassigned or Existing Positions			
Faculty	\$119,556	\$123,143	\$126,837
Administrators (<i>other than instruction time</i>)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Graduate Assistants	\$38,233	\$39,379	\$40,561
Support Staff for Administration (<i>e.g., secretarial</i>)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fringe Benefits (<i>total for all groups</i>)	\$49,971	\$51,470	\$53,014
Other Personnel Costs			
Total Existing Personnel Costs – Reassigned or Existing	\$207,760	\$213,992	\$220,412
Personnel – New Positions			
Faculty	\$0	\$0	\$0
Administrators (<i>other than instruction time</i>)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Graduate Assistants	\$0	\$0	\$0
Support Staff for Administration (<i>e.g., secretarial</i>)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fringe Benefits (<i>total for all groups</i>)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Personnel Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Existing Personnel Costs – New Positions	\$0	\$0	\$0
Start-up Costs - One-Time Expenses			
Library/learning resources	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment/Technology	\$0	\$0	\$0
Physical Facilities: Construction or Renovation	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other: Marketing	\$3,000	\$0	\$0
Other: New Course Development	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
Total Start-up Costs	\$8,000	\$5,000	\$0
Operating Costs – Recurring Expenses			
Supplies/Expenses	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Library/learning resources	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment/Technology	\$0	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Operating Costs	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000

GRAND TOTAL COSTS	\$218,760	\$221,992	\$223,412
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B. FUNDING SOURCES <i>(projected as appropriate)</i>	Current	First FY (New)	Second FY (New)	Third FY (New)
Tuition / State Funds		\$216,302	\$450,630	\$630,882
Student Fees		\$3,600	\$7,500	\$10,500
Other Sources		\$0	\$0	\$0
GRAND TOTAL FUNDING		\$219,902	\$458,130	\$641,382
C. Projected Surplus/Deficit (+/-) (Grand Total Funding <i>minus</i> Grand Total Costs)		\$1,142	\$236,138	\$417,970

X. Expenditures and Funding Sources Explanations

A. Expenditures

Personnel – Reassigned or Existing Positions

Six existing Sociology faculty (LaPierre, Felix, Saint Onge, McCannon, Wright, and Sharron) will teach the required core curriculum (SOC 224, SOC 424, SOC 280, SOC 380, SOC 699) and a rotation of SOC electives that can count towards the Health and Society Major electives (SOC 326, SOC 410, SOC 425). These courses will be taught as part of their regular course load in sociology, with half of the seats designated for students in the Health and Society program. Part of the FTE for LaPierre and McCannon includes service to the Health and Society program around course scheduling, degree level assessment, etc.

Two GTAs will be drawn from the currently funded SOC GTA pool with preference given to graduate students specializing in Medical Sociology. GTAs will offer flexibility in offering larger class sizes with smaller discussion sections and/or grading support.

Fringe was estimated at 37% for faculty and 15% for graduate students. A 3% annual salary increase was factored into the salary projections for current faculty and graduate teaching assistants beginning in year 2.

Personnel – New Positions

We have the capacity to accommodate the projected enrollments for the Health and Society program during the first three years with current staffing levels.

Start-up Costs – One-Time Expenses

Since the degree will be housed within the Department of Sociology and primarily draws on existing courses there will be limited start-up costs associated with the degree. We have budgeted for marketing expenses in year 1 and course development costs in years 1 and 2. All required courses for the Health and Society major are currently being taught as part of the Sociology curriculum except for SOC 224 and

SOC 699, which need to be developed.

Operating Costs – Recurring Expenses

We have budgeted \$3,000 per year for additional supplies and expenses that may be incurred specifically for the Health and Society program.

B. Revenue: Funding Sources

The BA/BGS in Health and Society will be fully funded through standard tuition and fee revenue. 2024-2025 standard tuition for Lawrence Campus students is \$365.60 per credit hour for resident students and \$976.60 per credit hour for non-resident students. Consistent with the overall undergraduate student credit hour distribution on the Lawrence campus, it is estimated that 61.5% of Health and Society student credit hours will be from resident students and 38.5% from non-resident students, and revenue projections from base tuition were calculated using a weighted average of \$600.84 per credit hour. Student fees were calculated based on the \$10 per credit hour course fee for CLAS effective Fall 2024.

C. Projected Surplus

Program revenues are expected to exceed expenditures in the first year. The annual projected surplus is detailed below.

Year 1 \$1,142

Year 2 \$236,138

Year 3 \$417,970

XI. References

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Appendix A: Elective Courses

Electives: 15 credits from electives (at least 12 elective credits at the jr/sr level).

Students may choose from the following currently offered electives:

ABSC 310	Building Healthy Communities (or Honors Equivalent)* ^a
ABSC 529	Pediatric Health Promotion
EVRN/HSCI 445	Introduction to Environmental Health
GEOG 201/GIST 210/AAAS 203	Culture and Health (or Honors Equivalent)* ^b
HSES 308	Drugs and Diseases in Society
HSES 403	Health Behavior Theory
HSES 489	Health and Human Sexuality
HMGT 305	Health Policy and Healthcare Systems
HMGT 320	Applied Healthcare Law and Ethics
HSCI 340	Introduction to Public Health
HSCI 440	Introduction to Epidemiology
HSCI 441	Population Health
LA&S 172	Exploring Health Professions
PHIL 370	Moral Issues in Medicine
POLS/EVRN 628/PUAD 494/LWS 494	The Politics of Public Health
PSYC 350	Psychological Disorders
PSYC/ABSC 535	Developmental Pathology
PSYC 605	Health Psychology
SOC 326	Health, Gender, and Society
SOC 410	Sociology of Death and Dying
SOC 425	Sociology of Global Health
WGSS/PSYC 521	Women and Violence

*^a This class is approved as a KBOR CORE Social and Behavioral Sciences class

*^b This class is approved as a KBOR Core Institutionally Designated Global Culture class

III. First Reading

B. PSM in Environmental Geology – KU

Barbara Bichelmeyer

➤ Program Approval

Summary

Universities may apply for approval of new academic programs following the guidelines in the Kansas Board of Regents Policy Manual. The University of Kansas has submitted an application for approval and the proposing academic unit has responded to all of the requirements of the program approval process.

November 20, 2024

I. General Information

A. Institution

University of Kansas

B. Program Identification

Degree Level: Masters
Program Title: Professional Science Masters in Environmental Geology
Degree to be Offered: Professional Science Masters
Responsible Department or Unit: Geology
CIP Code: 40.0601
Modality: Hybrid: (33 hours online; 3 hours face-to-face)
Proposed Implementation Date: Spring 2025

Total Number of Semester Credit Hours for the Degree: 36

II. Clinical Sites: Does this program require the use of Clinical Sites? No.

III. Justification

KU offers a Professional Science Masters (PSM) degree in Applied Science. The PSM degree offers concentrations in environmental geology and environmental assessment. Since its inception in 2019, the environmental geology concentration has been very successful, with more than 80 enrolled students and more than 2500 inquiries. To-date, twenty students have graduated from the environmental geology concentration. To better align with workforce and professional licensure expectations of a titled degree in geology, and to more accurately reflect the program curriculum, this proposal seeks to elevate the existing environmental geology concentration to a major. This change would allow for more focused program marketing and enable greater career advancement of its graduates.

Environmental geology is an interdisciplinary field that seeks to address and study anthropogenically-derived and naturally occurring environmental hazards on Earth. The field is grounded in basic geological sub-disciplines such as mineralogy, sedimentology and stratigraphy but has primary focus on hydrogeology, geochemistry, geophysics and components of engineering geology. These sub-disciplines and the associated field and laboratory techniques in the form of a PSM program lead to an applied understanding of how to utilize geophysical, geochemical and hydrogeological techniques to evaluate, remediate, and monitor the impact or potential impact of contamination (Schulmeister, 2024a). This applied program separates itself from traditional thesis-based research MS degrees in Geology and/or Hydrogeology through its direct integration of management, communication and case-study-based coursework with a focus of developing future government and industry professional leaders in Environmental Geology with a broad toolbox to address environmental problems.

IV. Program Demand:

B. Market Analysis

The demand for geoscience graduates with credentials beyond the traditional B.S. degree is high and is projected to grow. The American Geoscience Institute projects an increase in the number of Geoscience jobs to grow nationally by 4.9% between 2019 and 2029 (AGI, 2020). Within the geoscience field, environmental geoscience is listed as one of the top three subdisciplines with an even higher projected growth of 9.2 % (AGI, 2020).

During the last decade, the number of undergraduate geology majors at the University of Kansas who have chosen the Environmental Geology concentration for the PSM degree has increased to 19% in the most recent three years, from 7.5 % in previous years (KU Analytics and Institutional Research, 2024). GEOL 552 Introduction to Hydrogeology is an upper-level, KU undergraduate, elective course that is perceived by most students, faculty, and employers as essential for a successful career in Environmental Geology. It is commonly taken by students who plan to seek employment in the field of environmental geology. Historic records of KU student enrollment demonstrate an upward trend in the number of students in GEOL 552 since reporting began in 1994. A sustained increase in the number of students enrolled in GEOL 552 since the 1990s suggests a sustained and growing interest in environmental careers by KU students.

The number of PSM degree programs has increased from 200 to more than 360 over the past 20 years (Tobias and Strausbaugh, 2018). KU’s Environmental Geology PSM program is the only such program in the state of Kansas and one of only a few geology PSM programs in the U.S. It is also the only Environmental Geology program that can be completed primarily online (NSPMA, 2020; Schulmeister, 2024b,c) in the U.S. There are no PSM programs in environmental geology offered in surrounding states. Although peer PSM environmental geology programs are not available for comparison, the national number of geology majors choosing employment in the environmental sector continues to follow an upward trend established in the 1980s (AGI, 2019).

KBOR’s Program Inventory indicates K-State and FHSU offer a master’s degree with the same CIP Code at the master’s level; however, none are offered through distance learning and KU’s program is the only one that offers the CIP content as part of a Professional Science Masters degree:

V. Projected Enrollment for the Initial Three Years of the Program

Year	Total Headcount Per Year		Total Sem Credit Hrs Per Year	
	Full- Time	Part- Time	Full- Time	Part- Time
Implementation	2	28	36	392
Year 2	2	38	36	532
Year 3	2	48	36	672

VI. Employment

Based on workforce summaries compiled by the American Geological Institute, geologists are currently securing employment in three broad sectors: Environmental remediation and management, natural resource discovery and utilization, engineering and construction (AGI, 2019). Forty-eight percent of employed geoscientists work in the fields of environmental geology and hydrogeology (AGI, 2019).

KU cross-walked the CIP Code to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Code and then reviewed employment projections from the Kansas Department of Labor. Kansas Department of Labor data show strong long-term occupational projections for the region.

The PSM in environmental geology program’s advisory board includes environmental managers and directors at State of Kansas agencies who have witnessed a shortage of qualified environmental geologists. State environmental agencies routinely solicit KU PSM program graduates for employment, and have sought KU’s contribution to building a stronger workforce as part of its annual Environmental Conference (e.g. Schulmeister, 2021).

All students who have graduated from KU with a PSM degree with concentration in Environmental Geology have found employment in the environmental sector or have advanced in their existing environmental careers. Most are working in State and Federal environmental agencies, environment consulting firms, and oil and gas companies. One graduate has developed an environmental science curriculum at the adult alternative high school where she is employed.

The greater Kansas City metropolitan area is home to several regional federal environmental agencies including the US Army Corps of Engineers (Kansas City District) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (Region 7), numerous large and small private environmental/ engineering companies (e.g., Black and Veatch, Bartlett and West, Wilson and Company, URS Engineering, AquaTerra Environmental Services, Terracon Engineering, Burns and McDonnell, Ecology and Environment Inc., and Marshall Miller & Associates), state and local environmental agencies (Johnson County Environmental Department, Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism), and nongovernmental organizations (e.g., MidAmerica Regional Council). This concentration of environmental agencies/companies offers several strong advantages for students completing the environmental geology program: first, a large latent pool of students for the program; second, numerous opportunities in these companies and agencies for internships for students; and third, a pool of environmental professionals to draw upon for lecturers/professors-of-practice for our courses and for our External Advisory Board.

VII. Admission and Curriculum

D. Admission Criteria

1. A Bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution as evidenced by an official undergraduate transcript is required. Applicants should have an undergraduate degree in geology. Those with a related degree and 20 semester hours of geoscience coursework in geology, physical geography, engineering, or hydrology may be eligible. In some instances, relevant work experience in environmental geology may substitute for missing courses.
2. A grade-point average of B (3.0 on a 4.0 scale) for all previous university work is required. Under extenuating circumstances an average below 3.0 can be considered for provisional admission.

E. Curriculum

Year 1: Fall Hours

SCH = Semester Credit

Course #	Course Name	SCH
GEOL 755	Site Assessment	3
GEOL 751	Physical Hydrogeology	3
PFS 801	Interpersonal & Persuasive Communication	3

Year 1: Spring

Course #	Course Name	SCH
GEOL 753	Chemical Hydrogeology	3
PFS 802	Managing Teams & Leading People	3
	Elective	3

Year 2: Summer

Course #	Course Name	SCH
GEOL 556	Field Methods in Hydrology *	3

Year 2: Fall

Course #	Course Name	SCH
EVRN 721	Env Regulation & Policy	3
PFS 803	Financial Management	3
GEOL 814	Capstone Experience I	1

Year 2: Spring

Course #	Course Name	SCH
PFS 804	Project Management for Professionals	3
GEOL 815	Capstone Experience II	2
	Elective	3

* GEOL 556 may be replaced by 3, 1-cr-hr workshop courses during spring and fall semesters.

Total Number of Semester Credit Hours **[36]**

VIII. Core Faculty

Faculty Name	Rank	Highest Degree	Tenure Track Y/N	Academic Area of Specialization	FTE to Proposed Program
*Marcia Schulmeister	Director and Teaching Professor	Ph.D.	N	Hydrogeology and geochemistry	1.0
TBD	Asst. Director and Asst. Teaching Professor	M.S. or higher	N	Environmental geology	1.0
Rick Devlin	Professor	Ph.D.	Y	Contaminant Hydrogeology	.25
Mary Hill	Professor	Ph.D.	Y	Groundwater modeling	.25
Rick Leines	Adjunct Instructor	B.S.	N	Haz Waste Operations	0.125
Clark Rein	Adjunct Instructor	M.S.	N	Site Assessment	0.125
Sarah Webb	Lecturer	M.A.	N	Strategic Communication	0.125
Jordan Atkinson	Professor of Practice	Ph.D.	N	Communication Studies	0.125
Jacque Eidson	Lecturer	Ph.D.	N	Organizational Psychology	0.125
Karina Addari	Lecturer	Ph.D.	N	Supply Chain Management	0.125

Number of graduate assistants assigned to this program **[0]**

IX. Expenditure and Funding Sources

A. EXPENDITURES	First FY	Second FY	Third FY
Personnel – Reassigned or Existing Positions			
Faculty	164,140	168,245	172,450
Administrators (<i>other than instruction time</i>)	120,000	123,000	126,075
Graduate Assistants	0	0	0
Support Staff for Administration (<i>e.g., secretarial</i>)	0	0	0
Fringe Benefits (<i>total for all groups</i>).. <i>costrate</i>	75,970	76,970	77,970
Other Personnel Costs	0	0	0
Total Existing Personnel Costs – Reassigned or Existing	360,110	368,215	376,495
Personnel – New Positions			
Faculty	0	0	0
Administrators	25,500	26,138	26,791
Graduate Assistants	0	0	0
Support Staff for Administration (<i>e.g., secretarial</i>)	0	0	0
Fringe Benefits (<i>total for all groups</i>)	5,100	5,228	5,358
Other Personnel Costs	0	0	0
Total Existing Personnel Costs – New Positions	30,600	31,366	32,149
Start-up Costs - One-Time Expenses			
Library/learning resources	0	0	0
Equipment/Technology	0	0	0
Physical Facilities:Construction or Renovation	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Total Start-up Costs	0	0	0
Operating Costs – Recurring Expenses			
Supplies/Expenses	0	0	0
Library/learning resources, marketing	0	0	0
Equipment/Technology	5,205	5,205	5,205
Travel	2,400	2,400	2,400
Other	1,400	1,400	1,400
Total Operating Costs	9,005	9,005	9,005
GRAND TOTAL COSTS	399,715	408,586	417,649

B. FUNDING SOURCE (<i>projected as appropriate</i>)	Current	First FY (New)	Second FY (New)	Third FY (New)
Tuition / State Funds		233,260	309,560	385,860
Student Fees		0	0	0

Other Sources (JCERT tax revenue)		341,171	348,905	356,807
GRAND TOTAL FUNDING		574,431	658,465	742,667
F. Projected Surplus/Deficit (+/-) (Grand Total Funding <i>minus</i> Grand Total Costs)		174,716	249,879	325,018

X. Expenditures and Funding Sources Explanations

A. Expenditures

Personnel – Reassigned or Existing Positions

Two core Geology faculty members are currently teaching required Geology courses in the program. Additional faculty members in the Department of Geology contribute elective courses that may be counted toward the degree. Faculty in the School of Professional Studies teach the PFS courses and the PFS courses fulfill requirements for multiple graduate degrees.

Personnel – New Positions

A half-time Graduate Program Coordinator will be hired to support student advising.

Start-up Costs – One-Time Expenses

No new physical space or library resources are required for the successful implementation and administration of the new program. The teaching and office space will be accommodated in the Business, Engineering, Science and Technology (BEST) building on the Edwards Campus.

The program will share lab space at the Edwards Campus with the Environmental Soils Laboratory.

Operating Costs – Recurring Expenses

Laboratory and field equipment will be purchased to support student exercises and demonstrations annually. Operating costs will include sample analysis and expendable supplies.

B. Revenue: Funding Sources

Tuition rate is all inclusive = \$545/cr. Hr

Year	Total Headcount Per Year		Total Sem Credit Hrs Per Year		Income
	Full- Time	Part- Time	Full- Time	Part- Time	
Implementation	2	28	36	392	233,260
Year 2	2	38	36	532	309,560
Year 3	2	48	36	672	385,860

D. Projected Surplus/Deficit

Program revenues are expected to exceed expenditures the first year of operation.

XI. References

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Tobias, S. and Strausbaugh. L. (2018) The Professional Science Master's Degree at Twenty. *Journal of College Science Teaching* Vol. 47, No. 42.

TO: Rusty Monhollon, Vice President for Academic
Affairs Kansas Board of Regents

FROM: Barbara A. Bichelmeyer

Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor

DATE: October 24, 2024

RE: Request for Program Name Changes and Mergers

KU is requesting to merge two programs and change the name of two others, effective Fall 2025.

- School of Professional Studies
 - Merge the BAS in Biotechnology with the BS in Applied Biological Sciences, resulting in the BS in Biotechnology. KU is pursuing these changes for three inter-related reasons:
 - The generally used interpretation of how students are trained in a BS degree more specifically aligns with how SPS currently administers the degree program in Biotechnology, which has a substantial amount of lower-level foundational science courses as well as a significant undergraduate research project.
 - For admissions purposes, defining the degree in Biotechnology as a BS would help prospective students and applicants better understand what is required of the degree.
 - In the biosciences BS and BAS degrees are viewed differently by potential employers, and thus graduates may be more competitive for acceptance into advanced degree programs as well research-focused positions in the field of biotechnology.
 - College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
 - Change the name of the PhD in Applied Behavioral Science to Behavioral Psychology. This change:
 - better reflects the curriculum's focus on behavioral analysis, and
 - better aligns with terminology for licensure as a behavioral analyst.
 - Change the name of the MA in Leadership in Diversity and Inclusion to MA in Leadership Studies. These changes:
 - better reflect an updated curriculum that provides students with a wider array of leadership coursework,
 - provide clarity to advisory staff, prospective students, and faculty, and
 - better reflect the program's mission and outcomes.

KU is requesting to change the name and department of the following program, effective Fall 2025.

- School of Education & Human Sciences
 - Change the name of the MSE in Educational Technology to MSE in Learning Design and change the departmental home of the program from Educational Leadership and Policy Studies to Curriculum and Teaching. These changes:
 - better reflect a curriculum transitioning from course-based to competency-based, and
 - better reflects the breadth of the field.