

Proposal for Department and Major Name Change**Request:**

The Department of Health Studies proposes that the Department and Major name be changed from Health Studies to Health Promotion. The effective date for this change is requested for the fall semester, 2017.

Rationale

The name Health Studies (HST) was chosen in 1988 to reflect the changing times and offerings in the major. The name Health Promotion more accurately reflects current trends, undergraduate options, and the graduate degree offered by this department: Community Health; Health Administration; Emergency Management and Disaster Preparedness; and Health Communication. The new graduate program Health Promotion and Leadership also aligns better under the new department name.

Health Promotion, as defined by the World Health Organization (WHO), 2016, is “the process of enabling people to increase control over their health and its determinants, and thereby improve their health.” Health promotion involves public policy, health equity, epidemiology, health literacy, health administration, health education, public and community health, research, preventative care, and social marketing. Government agencies such as the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the World Health Organization (WHO) are turning to the use of the term health promotion when addressing the needs of national and global health. Because of a shift in demographics with aging populations along with global health issues and national disasters, students and employers are turning to programs aligned with health promotion, disease prevention, and wellness.

Approvals

Date approved by the department: September 8th, 2016

Date approved by the college curriculum committee:

Date approved by CAA: