

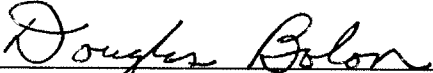
MASTER OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM: TRANSITION TO SEMESTER HOURS PROPOSED CHANGE

Program Title: Master of Health Administration

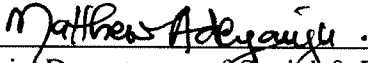
Degree to be Conferred: Master of Health Administration

Administrative Unit Proposing the Program Change: Department of Social and Public Health, College of Health Sciences and Professions

Date of Submission: September 26, 2011



Chair, Department of Social & Public Health Curriculum Committee



Chair, Department of Social & Public Health

Chair, College of Health Sciences & Professions Curriculum Committee

Dean, College of Health Sciences & Professions

Chair, Programs Committee

Chair, University Curriculum Council

PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE MASTER OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM

During the Quarter to Semester process, the Master of Health Administration program was developed with 42 semester hours of content distributed across 14 courses. This represented a 5% increase in credits after conversion over the current program offered in the quarter system. We are presently requesting to reduce the semester-based program to 36 semester hours distributed over 12 courses.

This reduction will be achieved by dropping the following courses from the program:

1. **HLTH 622 – Reimbursement** - Content of this course is easily integrated into the remaining finance course, making it appropriate for use by other graduate programs and allowing some economies of scale.
2. **HLTH 653 – Managed Care** – Content of this course that should remain is easily integrated into several other courses (HLTH 601, HLTH 621, and HLTH 628). These changes make both HLTH 601 and HLTH 621 more attractive for other courses.

A number of rationale underlie these requested changes:

1. First, continuing changes to the landscape of health care in America make extended focus on reimbursement and managed care less necessary to the preparation of health care administrators. As changes to health care provision and health policy continue to evolve, these topics are adequately addressed to the degree that they are built into other courses in the program. The content of these courses, then, becomes unnecessarily duplicative.
2. A move to a 36-semester hour program brings this program more in line with other masters degree programs in related areas both at Ohio University and elsewhere. We believe this will increase the attractiveness of the program to prospective students who face a growing number of choices in terms of graduate education in health administration.
3. Ohio University is developing two additional online graduate programs with a health focus: an MBA track in health care and a Master of Science in Nursing track in administration. The proposed changes will structure the current MHA program in such a way as to facilitate utilization of some MHA courses in these other programs.

As a result of these issues, we believe it would be advantageous to make further changes to the MHA before we start into semesters. This change will reduce the program by 10% from its original quarter hour equivalent and 12% from the program approved in the OCEAN process. In either case, we are well within the 'minor' change category for the latter process.

*Dept SPH
Sept 2011*