

Academic Programs and Planning (APP) Committee
Feedback and Response Form

Thank you for your submission of the proposal titled BS in Public Health/MBA in Health Administration and Leadership accelerated dual degree.

The APP committee reviewed the proposal on December 14, 2023 and requests the proposal authors use this form to respond to the following questions and or suggestions. Please submit your responses by January 11, 2024 to be considered in the next APP meeting.

Committee Suggestion/Clarification	Author Response
<p>In order for students to graduate within 5 years with both degrees, they have to take summer classes and also take 5 courses in one semester, including two graduate courses. It is a big jump from taking four undergraduate courses every semester (at 4 credits each) to then taking five courses in one semester at the same time the student is experiencing two graduate level courses for the first time. Typically, graduate students take 9 credits per semester to maintain a full load. Thus, six graduate credits and 12 undergraduate credits at the same time sounds like there is not enough time in the day to study to complete that coursework. Please clarify how the academic load in year four is a reasonable expectation.</p>	<p>The students accepted into this dual degree program will be able to handle this course load. This course load in the year four is the minimum required to complete the dual degree programming five years. Students could take longer if needed.</p> <p>Students take a maximum of 32 credits per year, but because of the four credit hour undergraduate classes, year four merely distributes differently as 18 and 14, instead of the normal 16 and 16 in all the other years.</p>
<p>The language of the proposal does not make clear that students have to formally apply to the master's degree. As written, students could simply declare the accelerated track, with automatic acceptance if they meet all of the requirements prior to starting their senior</p>	<p>There would be no need to apply to the MBA (HAL) program. Once students declare their entry into the dual program, there is not need to apply again. If they are eligible they will automatically be accepted into the graduate program. Only those students who start in their first year</p>

<p>year. Please clarify whether or not the graduate school application process is needed.</p>	<p>of college will be able to complete the dual degree in five years. All others, including transfer students will take longer.</p>
<p>Why is there a need to expedite? Are competing institutions offering it in 5 years and we are missing out? Is there a career seeking advantage to completing in under 6 years? Other than “finishing early” what are the advantages?</p>	<p>At this moment, there are no other MBA (HAL) 4+1 dual programs at any other institution. However, we expect there will be soon (i.e. Rutgers University). So we want to be the first one to fill this niche. In other words, be the first one and be prospective. The norm is 4+2 - that is what we have now. So 4+1 is new and may become the new norm. There are many advantages to a 4+1 model. It would be cheaper, saving these students at least 11,000 dollars by eliminating one year (the sixth year). Also their opportunity costs would be lower as well- being able to enter the enter the labor force sooner.</p>
<p>Given that summer classes are required in two summers, it is not going to be obvious to many that this option would actually lead to cost savings on the part of the typical student. Do the math to show that the cost differential between undergraduate and graduate tuition does mean that the student saves by going this route.</p>	<p>By rolling some graduate courses, which are usually only paid on fee for credit basis (917 dollars per credit) into the flat tuition for undergraduate courses, the student would save money.</p>
<p>By “maintain a GPA” do you mean maintain the minimum of 3.2 GPA for undergraduate classes and 3.0 (B) for graduate classes? Please clarify on p.2.</p>	<p>It is now required that a student maintain a minimum of 3.0 GPA for both the undergraduate and graduate programs.</p>

<p>Is it possible to complete this program without the use of summer term required courses? A way to do so should, if at all possible, be presented as a curricular option even if it means students will need to take 20 undergraduate credits in some semesters.</p>	<p>No, it is not possible to complete that dual program or the MBA (HAL) program without taking some summer courses. Some MHAL courses are only offered during the summer.</p>
<p>Please pick a font and stick with it. Sometimes in Arial, sometimes in Calibri and the size changes with no obvious function for those differences.</p>	<p>We will be sure to have consistent font style and size throughout the application.</p>