

FACULTY AGENDA ITEM

NO. 13-04

Date: *February 18, 2013*

Submitted by: *Roy Wohl, 1459*

SUBJECT: *KINESIOLOGY: B.Ed. , PHYSICAL EDUCATION TEACHING DEGREE & B.A. DEGREE
CONCENTRATION OPTIONS*

Description: *Within the KN-B.Ed. Physical Education Teaching degree and the KN-BA degree, in the Exercise Physiology, Sport Management, Physical Therapist Assistant, and Flexible Option concentrations, remove the "correlated" status of BI 250 (Introduction to Human Anatomy), BI 275 (Human Anatomy), and BI 255 (Human Physiology), and change them to "prerequisite" status for KN 321 (Anatomical Kinesiology) and KN 326 (Physiology of Exercise).*

Rationale:

Biology prerequisites prepare Kinesiology students generally but not specifically for target KN courses. The current correlated status of these courses has unnecessarily hindered student progress. Removing correlated status from prerequisite, Biology courses would preserve the educational intent and remove the unintended complications.

Familiarity with biology concepts prepares students generally but not specifically for Kinesiology courses.

- The current, prerequisite Biology courses (BI 100/101, BI 250/275, BI 255) are broad in scope, and the proportion of content emphasized in later Kinesiology courses is relatively small.
- Students take the prerequisites at institutions whose content and standards differ greatly.
- Semesters or even years may intervene between a prerequisite and its target course.
- Even when taken in consecutive semesters, retention of information from Biology courses is low, as assessed by entry quizzes over prerequisite knowledge.

For these reasons, there is no significant correlation between grades earned in Biology prerequisites and subsequent success in their target Kinesiology courses. The difference in student knowledge between the "C" standard of a correlated course and the "D" or "Pass" standard of a prerequisite has proven inconsequential. On the other hand, students seem to benefit from a general familiarity that is gained by taking the biology courses. Those who have attempted the Kinesiology courses without first completing the biology prerequisites have been at a demonstrable disadvantage.

The consequences to student schedules between prerequisite and correlated courses are significant. The student who earns a "D" in Biology and then earns a "C" or better in the subsequent Kinesiology course has satisfied our department's minimum standard. Requiring that student to retake the Biology course to earn a "C" at that point, as would be required for a correlated course, is unnecessary.

The position of the Kinesiology Department is that KN 321 and KN 326 are the gateways to subsequent KN courses, and we have control over the content and performance required for the minimum "C" grade. The current correlated status of Biology prerequisites has introduced a gateway without observable benefit to Kinesiology classes and has resulted in students having to repeat a Biology course to earn a "C" even when the target Kinesiology course has been successfully completed. We value the relatedness of the disciplines of Kinesiology and Biology, and we wish to continue to require Biology courses as prerequisites for KN courses, but we see no advantage in continuing the current, correlated status.

Financial Implications: *None*

Proposed Effective Date: *Fall 2013*

Request for Action: *Approval by AAC/.FAC/FS/ Gen Fac, etc*

Approved by: *AAC on date*

FAC on date

Faculty Senate on date

Attachments Yes No