

From: [Steele, Rachel](#)
To: [Garrett, Kelly](#); [Jackson, Kylie M.](#); [Kline, Susan](#); [Kosicki, Gerald](#)
Cc: [Nathanson, Amy](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Hilty, Michael](#); [Neff, Jennifer](#)
Subject: Sports Communication Certificate
Date: Wednesday, November 22, 2023 10:52:03 AM
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Good morning,

On Tuesday, November 7th, the Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a program proposal for the Sports Communication Certificate.

The Subcommittee unanimously approved the request with six contingencies and one comment:

1. **Comment:** The Subcommittee notes that the letter of support from the College of Education and Human Ecology's Department of Human Sciences (dated 09-19-2023) says that they are "committed to assisting students in the program access to...KNSISM 4245 and KNSISM 3208". However, as of Nov. 16th, 2023, the electronically enforced pre-requisites for KNSISM 3208 and KNSISM 4245 (respectively) are "Major in Sport Industry" and "Major in Sport Industry or minor in Coaching Education". As such, students outside of those programs will not be able to register for these courses as a part of their certificate without special permissions. The Subcommittee brings this to the attention of the School of Communication so that in case this has not yet happened, they can work with the College of Education and Human Ecology to come up with a procedure/plan for allowing students to enroll in those courses and a strategy for communicating that procedure/plan to students.
2. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee asks that the School of Communication remove the language on pg. 7 of the proposal that refers to the Sustainability Institute and sustainability education, as this program does not seem to have an association with sustainability. If the Subcommittee is incorrect in this assumption, they ask that the School of Communication include in the proposal a brief explanation of how the subject matter of the Certificate relates to sustainability.
3. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee asks that the School of Communication provide more information regarding the Application Process outlined on pg. 6 of the proposal. Specifically, they request that the School consider the following:
 1. The Subcommittee asks that the School consider how they will regulate completion of the certificate and/or limit enrollment when a student could potentially complete the required coursework without applying. For example, Communication 3415, 3403, and 3414 are all open for any student to enroll in

without pre-requisites, as are several of the electives. If a student were to meet the GPA requirements and complete all four courses successfully without filling out the application, would they be denied the certificate simply because the enrollment cap has already been met? How might the School approach this if a student had already completed 3 or even 2 classes but cannot apply due to the program being at capacity?

2. The proposal states that students should apply “after their sophomore year”. However, for many students who may be attending the university on an abbreviated timeline (transfer students, those that enter with significant amounts of earned credit etc.) applying after the second year may be too late. The Subcommittee asks that the School consider different wording, (such as “after attaining sophomore standing” or “after attaining sophomore standing and completing 12 graded credit hours” etc.) should the unit decide to continue with the application process. (See item 3.1 above.)
3. The Subcommittee asks that the School clarify whether students must have a 2.5 cumulative OSU GPA only at the time of application, or if the School is asking for this to be maintained through graduation for the student to earn the certificate.
4. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee asks that the School clarify the statement on pg. 7 of the proposal (under “Certificate Assessment”) that states “...we expect at least a 70% completion/graduation rate”, as these are two different metrics. Tracking the completion rate would involve identifying how many students who have declared this program eventually complete the courses and meet the GPA requirements, while tracking the graduation rate would involve identifying how many students who have declared the program graduate (which involves many other factors than certificate completion). The Subcommittee also asks that the School provide information on *how* this will be tracked.
5. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee asks that the School of Communication correct the listing of electives on the document labeled “Sports Communication Certification (general plan for any major)”, as the course entitled “Philosophy of Sport” is Philosophy 2456 rather than 2356.
6. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee asks that the School of Communication correct the language on the Certificate program form (right column under “Grades required”) to read “Minimum 2.00 cumulative GPA for all certificate course work” rather than “Minimum 2.00 cumulative point-hour ratio required for the certificate”.
7. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee asks that the School of Communication add the requirement for a minimum 2.0 GPA for all minor course work to the description on the Completion Process on pg. 6 of the proposal.

As a reminder, **contingencies** (in bold above) must be addressed and resubmitted via curriculum.osu.edu before the program can move forward in the approval process. I will return the

Sports Communication Certificate to the department queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Subcommittee's requests.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the Subcommittee, please feel free to contact Amy Nathanson (faculty Chair of the SBS Subcommittee; cc'd on this e-mail), or me.

Best,
Rachel



Rachel Steele, MA

(Pronouns: she/her/hers / Honorific: Ms.)

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I acknowledge that the land that The Ohio State University occupies is the ancestral and contemporary territory of the Shawnee, Potawatomi, Delaware, Miami, Peoria, Seneca, Wyandotte, Ojibwe and Cherokee peoples. Specifically, the university resides on land ceded in the 1795 Treaty of Greenville and the forced removal of tribes through the Indian Removal Act of 1830. I honor the resiliency of these tribal nations and recognize the historical contexts that has and continues to affect the Indigenous peoples of this land.