

ILLINOIS STATE  
UNIVERSITY



*University Curriculum Committee*

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February 23, 2017

TO: Susan Kalter, Chairperson, Academic Senate

FROM: Claire Lieberman, Chairperson, University Curriculum Committee

RE: Executive Summary – Proposals to Delete the Communication Studies Teacher Education Sequence and the Pedagogy Emphasis Sequence

The University Curriculum Committee approved and is forwarding for Academic Senate consideration the two attached proposals from the School of Communication for the disestablishment of the Communication Studies Teacher Education Sequence and the Pedagogy Emphasis Sequence.

The School of Communication proposes deletion of the two sequences due to a reduction in enrollment in Communication Studies Teacher Education. They say a variety of factors contributed to the decreased demand for the program; perhaps most importantly, a rule change at the Illinois State Board of Education a few years ago that removed the requirement that prospective teachers receive an endorsement in communication if they wanted to teach communication in K-12 programs. ISBE's move to the English Language Arts endorsement now allows anyone majoring in Communication or English to teach an oral communication course, regardless of his or her training. The move has had a significant, negative impact on demand for the Communication Studies Teacher Education sequence. The Coordinator of Communication Education has developed a "teach-out" plan to help currently enrolled students matriculate through the major, which should be completed by May 2019.

The proposal to delete the Pedagogy Emphasis Sequence is tied to the proposal to delete the Communication Studies Teacher Education Sequence. Without the teacher education sequence, there is no need for the Pedagogy Emphasis Sequence, as it was created for students who could not complete the teacher education sequence due not being able to pass the edTPA.

The University Curriculum Committee supports the proposal to delete the Communication Studies Teacher Education Sequence and the Pedagogy Emphasis Sequence.

Attachments

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