


Community College of Philadelphia

The Path to Possibilities™

TO: College Community

FROM: Donald Generals
President



DATE: January 19, 2021

SUBJECT: Institution-Wide Committee Decisions

This is to inform you that I have taken the following actions on recommendations made to me by the Institution-Wide Committee Fall 2020:

1. Approved the proposed new program for an Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree in Public Health. The AA in Public Health is a multi-disciplinary program designed for transfer, with an emphasis on communication (oral and written) and sociology in the context of health and health care. Students will develop a theoretical understanding of group dynamics, learn population-based approaches to health, and analyze the historical and structural factors that create health and health care disparities and impact health. The AA in Public Health also prepares students to advocate for issues they care about within their own communities. The program will be effective Fall 2021.
2. Approved the proposed revision to the Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in Technical Studies. The name of the Program to be revised to Individualized Studies. The revision broadens the scope of the degree beyond “technical” education, allowing potential students with prior learning (including training/certifications, work experience, non-credit to credit program articulations, and other demonstrated competencies) in non-technical areas to take advantage of the degree program and necessitating a change in the program’s title. The technology and business concentrations in the Personal Education Plan (PEP) are eliminated, expanding the program’s focus beyond technical fields and allowing students to apply substantive PLA credit in any field and choose courses that directly relate to their career or educational goals. In order to make sure the student takes a coherent and thoughtful series of courses, the student and department chair will develop a PEP that focuses on the student’s anticipated career path, and the PEP will be approved by the department head within the student’s first semester as an Individualized Studies major.

In addition, the revision updates the catalog page to reflect more current information about general education, which is revised effective Fall 2021. Changes to the course sequence to update the general education requirements allow for the addition of a general elective in the second semester, which provides greater flexibility for incoming students who may have already done coursework or allows students to add depth in their specialized skill area.

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