

4/23/07

Sherry-

We thank the reviewers of our PhD in Health and Rehabilitation Sciences for their thoughtful comments and offer this response.

Both reviewers noted that IU PhD credit hour requirements are set at 90. We had included language to reflect credit hour requirements from 90-92 to account for differences in credit hours for courses offered on campus that would meet the responsible conduct of research requirement set by the University. We have modified our language to reflect required credit hours for the PhD at 90. We are requiring the course Responsible Conduct of Research (GRAD G505), which is a one credit hour course, although students will have the flexibility to take an equivalent course if they so desire.

Reviewer #1 suggested the inclusion of additional examples of statistics and research design courses that could be taken by students in the program. We have included these additional examples in our document.

Perhaps reviewer #2 misunderstood the minor option (page 15). This is not an external minor for students enrolled in the PhD. The minor would be available to graduate students NOT enrolled in the PhD who may want to pursue a minor as part of their plan of study and who are interested in health and rehabilitation sciences. If that language is confusing, we would be happy to clarify.

In answer to reviewer #2's query about requiring a teaching practicum, the requirement reflects the stated mission/objective of the PhD (page 7): "to develop research scientists and scholars to substantially contribute to the body of knowledge in health and rehabilitation and who in turn, **can teach** and mentor others. The practicum description has been revised to reflect that indeed the student will receive information on instructional theories and methodologies before doing actual teaching. I do not see PPF mentioned in the proposal; perhaps the reviewer can clarify the relevant comment.

Reviewer #2 suggests the possibility of including a course on health care policy; health policy issues are addressed in the syllabus included for SHRS W662 Rehabilitation Services in Health Care Systems and Delivery. We are uncertain what the reviewer is suggesting being included on rehabilitation practices. We would remind the reviewer that all students accepted into the program will have "a post baccalaureate degree in health and rehabilitation sciences or in a related health care discipline" (page 8). The reviewer also suggests perhaps including a course in the philosophy of science. While such a course might be useful to students, it is not directly related to health and rehabilitation sciences, as are the other core courses. However, a student could certainly elect to choose such a course as one of his or her electives.

We appreciate the question raised by reviewer #2 as to the adequacy of number of faculty eligible to chair dissertation committees. We have deliberately kept graduate student numbers low so as to insure adequate resources necessary for the program. We currently have two faculty within the School who have been approved to chair dissertation committees, two additional

faculty who have chaired doctoral dissertations in the past but who have not yet been formally approved and several of the junior faculty are anticipated to be approved as they progress in their academic careers. We have eliminated the adjective “full” on page 14 per the reviewer’s suggestion.

Reviewer #2 suggests exploring collaborations with Social Work, Public Health and SPEA. Both Public Health and SPEA were contacted as part of new course review and both expressed interest in possibilities for their students. We can certainly contact Social Work as well.

We also want the Committee to know that all new courses necessary for the PhD were reviewed by the GAC Curriculum Committee. Minor suggestions were made regarding 2 of the courses; these suggestions have been incorporated into the course syllabi and course descriptions.

Joyce Mac Kinnon, Associate Dean
Mark Sothmann, Dean
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

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