

To: Members of the 2025-2026 Graduate Council

From: Hans Saint-Eloi Cadely, Chair
Beth Meyerand, Vice Provost and Dean
Colleen Mouw, Associate Dean for Diversity and Academic Affairs

Date: April 6, 2026

RE: Agenda for Meeting Number 577 of the Graduate Council to be held on Monday,
April 6, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. virtual via Zoom

I. Call to order

II. Approval of Minutes - [Meeting No. 576, March 2, 2026](#)

III. Announcements

- A. 3MT Winners!!! (Mitnick)
- B. Professional Development Update (Mitnick)
- C. Anticipated impact of OB3 on Federal Student Loans (Kulesh-Caisse)
- D. Learning and Success Reports (Kulesh-Caisse)
- E. Admissions Update (Kulesh-Caisse)
- F. Gratitude to our departing Council Members (Mouw)
- G. Recent appointments to the Graduate Faculty (Mouw)

Ashutosh Giri, Outside Scholar, COE

Elizabeth Methratta, Outside Scholar, GSO

Michael J. Rybak, Outside Scholar, COP

Reuben 'JA' Macfarlan, Outside Scholar, CELS

Hairong Shang-Butler, Outside Scholar, FCE

Todd Brothers, Clinical Associate Professor, COP

Clarisa Carubin, Teaching Professor, CAS

Denine Northrup, Outside Scholar, FCE

IV. New Business

- A. Graduate Council Chair Vote (Saint-Eloi Cadely)

V. Conferral of May Degrees (Meyerand)

VI. Graduate Curriculum (Kuali Agenda) (Mouw)

[COURSE CHANGES \(vote by college\)](#)

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

COM 523 | Health Communication in Mass Media, Effective Spring 2027

Change course description, change method of instruction

(3 crs.) Explores health communication theories, mass media health messages, and how individuals seek and use health information. (Seminar) Pre: Graduate standing, or by permission of instructor. May replace COM520.

DSP 567 | Database Concepts, Cloud Computing, and Big Data, Effective Spring 2027

Change course description, change prerequisites

(3 crs.) Foundational and recent inventions in data management research. Topics include, indexing, query processing, query languages, NoSQL databases, spatial databases, data warehousing, business intelligence, and big data frameworks. (Lec/Accelerated Online Program) Pre: DSP563 and enrollment in the Online Master's in Data Science Program.

DSP 568 | Data Science For Business, Effective Spring 2027

Change course description, change prerequisites

(3 crs.) Apply Data Science techniques to business functions, including decision-making, finance, accounting, marketing, operations management, information technology, human resources, etc. Includes data visualization and machine learning in a business context. (Lec/Accelerated Online Program) Pre: Completed or concurrent enrollment in DSP 567 and enrollment in the Online Master's in Data Science Program.

DSP 569 | Application of Data Science in Biological Science, Effective Spring 2027

Change course description, change prerequisites

(3 crs.) Use data science techniques in data-enabled research in a topic within the biological and life sciences. (Lec/Accelerated Online Program) Pre: Completed or concurrent enrollment in DSP567 and enrollment in the Online Master's in Data Science Program.

MUS 596 | Jazz And Studio Ensemble, Effective Spring 2027

Change course description, change prerequisites

(0-1 cr.) Study and performance of jazz and studio music, with leadership roles in improvisation and performance. (Studio 3) Pre: audition at graduate level of performance. May be repeated for credit.

MUS 598M | Chamber Music Ensemble-Mixed Instrumentation, Effective Spring 2027

Change course description, change prerequisites

(0-1 cr.) Chamber music ensembles are small performance ensembles normally restricted to one performer per part. Chamber music ensembles study and perform repertoire in the following areas, or combinations of areas: keyboard, string, woodwind, brass, percussion, vocal, guitar, jazz, etc. (Studio) Pre: audition and/or permission of chamber music coach. May be repeated for credit.

MUS 598Z | Chamber Music Ensemble, Effective Fall 2027

Change course description

(0-1 cr.) Chamber music ensembles are small performance ensembles normally restricted to one performer per part. Chamber music ensembles study and perform repertoire in the following areas, or combinations of areas: keyboard, string, woodwind, brass, percussion, vocal, guitar, jazz, etc. (Studio) Pre: audition and/or permission of chamber music coach. May be repeated for credit.

WRT 999 | Methods of Teaching College Writing, Effective Spring 2027

Change course title and/or course description, change modality

(0 crs.) Methods of teaching college writing. Required of TA's to teach WRT courses unless waived by TA's graduate director, First-Year Writing director, and Professional and Public Writing chair. (Seminar)

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

MBA 507 (BUS507) | Critical Business Skills, Effective Winter 2027

Change course description, change modality

(3 crs.) Cross-listed as (MBA) BUS507. Learn best practices to think strategically about influence and persuasion; apply what you learned to improve writing, speaking, and interpersonal communication skills; and give and get feedback to strengthen your abilities. (Lec. 3/Online) Not open to students who have taken MBA501, MBA516, or BUS461.

MBA 560 | Operations and Supply Chain Management, Effective Summer 2026

Change course description, change modality

(3 crs.) The management of manufacturing and service operations. Topics include flow processes, inventories, scheduling, capacity, and operations strategy. (Lec. 3/Online) Pre: MBA 500. Cannot be taken for credit if student has already taken MBA 536.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

EDC 420 | Second Language Acquisition and Assessment, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description, change modality, change college

(3 crs.) This course explores the theories, research and practice of second language acquisition (SLA) and critically examines assessment for/of language learners. (Lec. 3/ Online)

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

ELE 506 | Digital Signal Processing, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description, change prerequisites, change method of instruction

(4 crs.) Continuous-time Fourier transform and Laplace transform; discrete-time Fourier z-transform and linear constant coefficient difference equations; sampling theorem and re-sampling techniques; digital filter design principles; DFT or FFT windowing and periodogram. (Lec. 4) Pre: graduate standing or permission of instructor.

ISE 513 | Quality & Safety Systems, Effective Spring 2027

Change course title and/or course description, change prerequisites, change course number/level, change modality

(3 crs.) Discusses data management methods and sampling, along with identifying and tracking metrics such as key performance indicators, and safety performance indicators. Topics include DMAIC process, sampling, multivariate methods, statistical process control and charts, process capability and limits and forming arguments for safety systems. (Lec. 3/Online)

ISE 520 (PSY520) | Human Factors & Ergonomics, Effective Spring 2027

Change course title and/or course description, change prerequisites, change method of instruction, change modality

(3 crs.) Cross-listed as (ISE), PSY520. A study of human capabilities, and their interactions within systems that help engineers and psychologists optimize design, improve jobs, and enhance system performance. (Lec. 2, Lab. 1/Online) Pre: Graduate standing or permission of instructor. This course is not open for the students who have prior credit in ISP420(PHY420).

COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES

BTC 405 | Drug Discovery and Development, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description, change prerequisites

(3 crs.) This course describes the processes underlying therapeutic drug development for the safe and efficacious treatment of human diseases such as cancer, AIDS, thrombosis and others. (Lec. 3) Pre: BTC295, CMB211 and CMB311.

BTC 522 (CMB532) | Biotechnology Manufacturing for the Life Sciences, Effective Summer 2026

Change course title and/or course description

(3 crs.) Cross-listed as (BTC) CMB522. This course provides students with an overview of the biopharmaceutical manufacturing process. The course will study the process of manufacturing proteins and other large molecules on a large-scale according to current good manufacturing practices (cGMP). Lectures will cover the conceptual aspects of upstream and downstream production issues. (Online) Pre: Graduate standing, or by permission of instructor.

BTC 571 (CMB573) | Biotechnology Product Evaluation and Development, Effective Summer 2026

Change course title and/or course description

(3 crs.) Cross-listed as (BTC) CMB573. Examines the process through which candidate products produced using recombinant DNA technology are evaluated for safety and efficacy, including conductance of clinical trials, economic issues, and regulatory affairs. (Lec. 3/Online) Pre: graduate standing and permission of chairperson.

BTC 575 (CMB575) | The Business of Biotechnology, Effective Summer 2026

Change course title and/or course description

(3 crs.) Cross-listed as (BTC) CMB575. This course provides participants with an understanding of the critical role business development and licensing functions play in the commercialization of a discovery product and to the development of a successful biotech company. (Online) Pre: Graduate standing or by permission of instructor.

NRS 522 | Advanced Gis Analysis Of Environmental Data, Effective Spring 2027

Change course title and/or course description, change method of instruction, change course credits, change modality

(4 crs.) Advanced spatial analyses of environmental data at watershed and landscape scales. Emphasis on workflow development using Modelbuilder or Python with vector- and raster-based data. Capstone. (Online) Pre: NRS410 or permission of instructor.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCE

HDF 400 | Growing Minds: Principles of Child Development, Effective Fall 2026

Change course title and/or course description, change method of instruction, change 400 level course to qualify for graduate credit

(3 crs.) Review and critique of contemporary theories of child development. Examination of the biopsychosocial aspects of child development. Emphasis on social contexts and practical application. (Seminar) Pre: HDF200 or PSY232 and HDF202.

PSY 660 | Clinical Assessment and Decision Making, Effective Spring 2027

Change course title and/or course description

(3 crs.) Covers basic principles and methods for decreasing error and increasing accuracy in applied clinical work, such as clinical versus actuarial judgment, use of base rates and assessment procedures used in the measurement of intelligence, aptitude, ability, attention, and effort. Focus on psychometric principles associated with the various tests. (Lec. 3)

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

PHC 693 | Seminar in Pharmaceutical Sciences, Effective Spring 2027

Change course title and/or course description, change prerequisites, change grading method

(1 cr.) Seminar discussions including presentation of current research in pharmaceutical sciences. Each section includes different fields of study (Seminar) Pre: Enrollment in Pharmaceutical Sciences MS or PhD programs. May be repeated as required for a degree program. S/U only for attendance and discussion. Letter grades for presentation, attendance, and discussion.

PHC 694 | Seminar in Pharmaceutical Sciences, Effective Spring 2027

Change course title and/or course description, change prerequisites, change grading method

(1 cr.) Seminar discussions including presentation of current research in pharmaceutical sciences. Each section includes different fields of study (Seminar) Pre: Enrollment in Pharmaceutical Sciences MS or PhD programs. May be repeated as required for a degree program. S/U only for attendance and discussion. Letter grades for presentation, attendance, and discussion.

NEW COURSES (vote by college)

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

COM 504 | Strategic Communication Campaigns, Effective Fall 2026

(3 crs.) Best practices in creating and implementing effective strategic communication campaigns for internal/external audiences. Students gain experience researching and evaluating campaigns designed to meet strategic goals. (Seminar/Online) Pre: Enrolled in MA in Strategic Communication program or by permission of program director.

COM 505 | Strategic Communication Theory and Methods, Effective Fall 2027

(3 crs.) Introduces students to key theories of strategic communication and applications in research. Students will learn about the empirical methods that are frequently used to study these theories in real-world contexts. (Seminar)

COM 527 | Social Media for Strategic Communication, Effective Fall 2027

(3 crs.) Social media revolutionized communication practices by offering new opportunities for organizational growth. Using a theory-driven and evidence-based approach, participants learn to effectively develop social media strategies to meet organizational goals. (Online/Lec.) Pre: COM501 and admitted to Strategic Communication MA program.

COM 595 | Strategic Communication Capstone, Effective Fall 2027

(3 crs.) Guides students through the creation of a culminating client-facing strategic communication project. Includes reflection opportunities to create a final portfolio showcasing the student's progress in their graduate studies. (Seminar) Pre: Completed or concurrently enrolled in COM504, COM505, COM530, and one of the following: COM520, COM522, COM523. Students should be in their final semester of the graduate program, or by permission of instructor.

PHL 419 (EAH419) | Environmental Philosophy, Effective Spring 2027

(3 crs.) Cross-listed as (PHL) EAH419. Philosophical examination of the conceptual assumptions and practices underlying environmental issues. Consideration of topics such as the history of environmental thought, the moral status of nature, and environmental justice. (Lec. 3) Pre: EAH101

SMC 415 | Global Issues & Sport, Effective Fall 2026

(3 crs.) Looking at World Cups and Olympics, students will evaluate global sport considering the economic, social and political forces through media coverage. (Lec. 3/Online) Pre: SMC203; SMC major or minor or permission by instructor. May be repeated for a maximum of 6 credits.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

ACC 609 | Doctoral Accounting Seminar, Effective Fall 2027

(3 crs.) Provides a rigorous analysis of current research questions and research techniques used to address those questions in the accounting discipline. Recent developments and current issues addressed. (Seminar) Pre: enrollment in Phase II of the Ph.D. program in business administration. May be repeated for a maximum of 12 credits.

MBA 599 | MBA Impact Lab, Effective Summer 2026

(1 cr.) Explores real-world business challenges through cases, experiential activities, team challenges, and networking. Emphasizes impact, collaboration, and applied problem-solving. (Online/Lec.) Pre: Admitted to MBA program. May be repeated for a maximum of 3 credits.

SCA 467 | Applied Supply Chain Analytics and Artificial Intelligence, Effective Fall 2026

(3 crs.) Explores the use of the Business Analytics measures, metrics, and protocols that are used by organizations in global supply chains, including the use of Artificial Intelligence technologies. (Lec. 3) Pre: SCA255 or MKT265 or MKT265H or BAI310, or by permission of instructor.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**ELS 450 | Academic Grammar and Writing for International Students, Effective Summer 2026**

(3 crs.) Advanced academic grammar and writing course for low-advanced and advanced international students. Building on high-intermediate coursework, the course emphasizes grammatical control, sentence sophistication, and strategic use of complex structures in academic writing. Students produce extended academic texts, including a three-part essay and a 500-word academic report, in preparation for advanced university-level study. (Lec. 3) Pre: ELS350 or ELS351 or ELS352, or placement testing

ELS 451 | Academic Reading and Vocabulary for International Students, Effective Summer 2026

(3 crs.) Provides low-advanced and advanced students with expanded vocabulary instruction to strengthen reading skills in English. The skills learned in this course will be evident when students gain reading comprehension abilities at the advanced level and produce a documented essay and a research paper. (Lec./Online) Pre: ELS350 or ELS351 or ELS 352, or placement testing

ELS 452 | Academic Oral Communication Skills of International Students, Effective Summer 2026

(3 crs.) Provides low-advanced and advanced students with oral and auditory communication skills in English. Understanding non-simplified English and giving lengthy oral presentations will demonstrate success in this course. The skills acquired in this class will be evident in producing presentations on research and understanding units of speech in different discussions. (Lec. 3) Pre: ELS350 or ELS351 or ELS352, or placement testing

ELS 453 | Seminar in English for Specific Purposes, Effective Summer 2026

(3 crs.) In today's globalized world, English for Specific Purposes (ESP) is essential for professionals looking to advance their careers. This course focuses on teaching learners the language skills and vocabulary needed for a specific profession or field of study through needs analysis, instruction and selection on genre and register, integration of language domains, and developing cultural competence within a given professional field. (Accelerated Online Program/Seminar) Pre: ELS350 or ELS351 or ELS352 or placement testing

ELS 550 | Academic Grammar and Writing for International Students, Effective Summer 2026

(3 crs.) Advanced academic grammar and writing course for low-advanced and advanced international students. Building on high-intermediate coursework, the course emphasizes grammatical control, sentence sophistication, and strategic use of complex structures in academic writing. Students produce extended academic texts, including a three-part essay and a 500-word academic report, in preparation for advanced university-level study. (Lec. 3) Pre: ELS350 or ELS351 or ELS352, or placement testing

ELS 551 | Academic Reading and Vocabulary for International Students, Effective Summer 2026

(3 crs.) Provides low-advanced and advanced students with expanded vocabulary instruction to strengthen reading skills in English. The skills learned in this course will be evident when students gain reading comprehension abilities at the advanced level and produce a documented essay and a research paper. (Lec./Online) Pre: ELS350 or ELS351 or ELS 352, or placement testing

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

ISE 515 | Production Safety and Risk Analysis, Effective Summer 2027

(3 crs.) Introduces risk assessment, failure mode and effects analysis (FMEA), lean manufacturing error proofing, product testing, and failure analysis. The course requires applying complex models and techniques to real systems. (Online/Lec.)

ISE 517 | Fundamentals of Industrial Safety, Effective Fall 2026

(1 cr.) Introduces environmental health and safety practices and provides practical knowledge for risk management within various industries. Students identify, evaluate, and assess control measures for hypothetical hazards. (Online/Lec.)

ISE 518 | Engineering Leadership and Communication, Effective Spring 2027

(1 cr.) Integrates engineering and management, preparing students to lead teams through change, communicate complex safety information, and interpret data-driven decisions for implementation of safety protocols and plans. (Online/Lec.)

ISE 519 | Special Topics for Systems Safety Certificate, Effective Fall 2026

(1 cr.) Special Topics in Systems Safety, such as Batteries, Wind Energy Safety, Solar Energy Safety, Marine Safety, Fire Safety, Construction Safety, Electrical Hazards, Petroleum Chemical Safety, and Transport Safety. Students may enroll in more than 1 section with different topics in the same semester. May be repeated up to 4 times. (Online) May be repeated for a maximum of 4 credits.

MCE 458 | Aeroelasticity, Effective Spring 2027

(3 crs.) Explores how aerodynamic forces interact with flexible structures, including divergence, flutter, unsteady effects, and basic aeroservoelastic behavior in aircraft wings and wind turbine blades. (Lec. 3) Pre: MCE457 or permission of instructor.

OCE 518 | Computational Hydrodynamics, Effective Spring 2026

(3 crs.) Cross-listed as (OCE) MCE518. Introduction to Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD); Numerical methods, algorithms for solving the Navier Stokes equations and turbulence modeling; Specific topics include numerical methods, setting up and performing CFD computations. (Lec. 3) Pre: MCE354 or equivalent, or by permission of instructor

COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES

SAF 500 | Urban Agriculture: Policy, Planning, and Design, Effective Spring 2027

(3 crs.) Critical exploration of urban agriculture through lectures, readings, field trips, and hands-on learning. Culminates in an assessment of an urban food system and a grant proposal. (Lec. 3) Pre: Graduate standing or permission of instructor.

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

PHP 503 | Foundations of Anti-Doping in Athletics, Effective Fall 2026

(3 crs.) This comprehensive introductory course teaches the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively manage athletic populations as they relate to drugs and therapeutics. Students will learn the basics for treating athletic conditions with emphasis on prescriptive, over-the-counter (OTC) and nutritional/dietary supplements in accordance with World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) standards. Additionally, students will acquire an understanding of prohibited substances and performance enhancing drugs. By the culmination of this course, students will understand how interdisciplinary collaboration of sports medicine teams, athletic trainers, physicians, pharmacists, and dietitians support elite and recreational athletes. (Lec. 3) Pre: Minimum junior standing

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Professional Science Masters - PSM, Effective Spring 2027

The Professional Science Masters (PSM) program is a non-thesis graduate degree program that prepares students for leadership and management roles in science- and technology-driven organizations. Housed in the College of Business, the PSM integrates advanced scientific or technical coursework with professional skills in leadership, project management, communication, and applied problem solving that are broadly applicable in rapidly evolving scientific fields.

This 30–33 credit interdisciplinary degree combines a graduate certificate in a science or technical field with professional business coursework and applied experiential learning. Students develop practical interpersonal, leadership, communication, and critical thinking skills, and apply these competencies in real-world organizational and industry contexts.

The PSM requires the completion of a graduate certificate in a science field, and four professional courses, including at least one capstone/practicum, and an additional relevant graduate-level course(s) from the URI Online portfolio as elective with Program Director approval. PSM program tracks that have been certified by the National Professional Science Master's Association should have Industry Advisory Boards and include an integrative, hands-on experiential learning project or applied internship.

The menu of professional courses includes BUS532, BUS506, BUS509, BUS515, MBA540, and BUS557 (MBA557). Other online courses may be approved by the program director.

At least one 3-credit course must be a capstone/practicum. If a student does not take BUS515 and the certificate program does not contain a capstone experience, they should take another capstone course from the URI Online portfolio (e.g., PSC592 or MPS598)

In addition to the graduate certificate courses, the four professional courses, and the capstone/practicum, students must complete relevant graduate-level course(s) from the URI Online portfolio as electives with Program Director approval (up to 6 credits).

Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design - ABM, Effective Fall 2026

Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design (TMD)

Department offers an Accelerated Bachelor of Science to Master of Science Degree in Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design (ABMTMD) to allow undergraduates to complete a BS/BA and an MS degree in 5 years. The program would allow students currently receiving a Bachelor's of Science in Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design; or a Bachelor's of Science in Textile Marketing; or Bachelor's degree in any other major combined with a TMD minor

Under certain circumstances, students enrolled in programs leading to degrees in related areas may be considered for admission into the TMD program, for example, Business, Chemistry, History, Art History, or Psychology. In such cases, half of the total credits must be in TMD.

As part of the program, ABMTMD students will need to earn a total of 33 credits (including 11 credits double-counted from their undergraduate degree) Students will also complete industry-oriented capstone project as an independent study (for example, complete an industry-focused case study or an industry-sponsored project).

Finally, students will also successfully complete comprehensive exams on two TMD elective courses.

Courses eligible for double-counting:

TMD403 Textile Performance

TMD413 Dyeing and Finishing Textiles

TMD424 Retail Product Trend Forecasting

TMD426 Historic and Contemporary Furniture

TMD432 Fashion Retail Supply Chain Management

TMD433 Textile Markets

TMD434 Branding Fashion Industry

TMD440 Historic Textiles

TMD441 History of Western Dress

TMD442 Fashion Promotion

TMD458 Fashion Retail Analytics

URI courses outside the TMD Department that are cataloged as eligible for graduate credits can double-count.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCE

Mental and Behavioral Health Counseling - MS, Effective Summer 2026

The Master's in Mental and Behavioral Health Counseling program prepares graduates to work with clients in settings including counseling agencies, hospitals, community mental health centers, and private practice. Students gain training in evidence-based practice, measurement-based care, develop practical skills in individual and group therapy approaches, as well as career counseling with diverse populations. This 66-credit program meets curricular requirements for the State of Rhode Island's Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC).

Course Requirements: HDF450, HDF551, HDF570, PSY507, PSY603, PSY615 (3 credits), PSY642, PSY643, PSY644, PSY660, PSY666, PSY670 (18 credits), and PSY672 (12 credits).

A minimum of 66 credits is required to graduate.

Human Development and Family Science - MS, Effective Fall 2026

Master of Science (M.S.) in Human Development and Family Science

The Human Development and Family Science (HDF) Department offers a Master's of Science degree with two specialization pathways.

1) Specialization in Couple and Family Therapy

This program provides skills for students become licensed couple and family therapists. This program involves intense clinical practice, including a year-long clinical placement at approved agencies and the department's Family Therapy Clinic.

A minimum of 60 credits is required for completion of the Couple and Family Therapy pathway within the Human Development and Family Science Program, with an option for 66 credits with thesis.

2) ABM Specialization in Prevention Science

Through the Accelerated Bachelor's to Master's (ABM) program, students are able to complete their master's degree within one year after completion of their Bachelor of Science (B.S) degree. This program provides skills

for students to work for organizations designed to improve the well-being of families (e.g., non-profit organizations and state agencies.)

A minimum of 30 credits is required for completion of the Prevention Science ABM pathway within the Human Development and Family Science MS program.

Spec - Couple and Family Therapy (HDF MS), Effective Fall 2026

Program requirements:

- 33 credits approved graduate coursework: HDF 505, HDF 536, HDF 559, HDF 563, HDF 564, HDF 566, HDF 570, HDF 572, HDF 578, HDF 581, PSY 607
- 3 credits of approved electives
- 13 credits practica: HDF 565 (13)
- 11 credits internship: HDF 582 (1), HDF 583 (5), HDF 584 (5)

Students choosing the thesis option take 6 credits of HDF 599.

This program involves intense clinical practice, including a year-long clinical placement at approved agencies and the department's Family Therapy Clinic.

Spec - Developmental Science (HDF MS), Effective Summer 2026

This M.S. program is designed to immerse students in a specialized area of human development and family science, while providing a strong emphasis on policy, research, and practical knowledge of the field. Graduates from this program are prepared for positions in human service and education administration, research and policy organizations, and for advanced academic work at the Ph.D. level.

*Admission to this track suspended

Prevention Science - ABM, Effective Fall 2026

An accelerated Bachelor's to Master of Science Program is available through a competitive admissions process for students enrolled as a major or minor in Human Development and Family Science. Students who are admitted and complete the ABM-HDF Program will earn a Bachelor's degree and a Master's of Science in Human Development and Family Science with a Prevention Science emphasis by adding one additional year to their academic plan.

Nine credits of approved HDF undergraduate courses will be counted towards students' Bachelor's degree and their HDF Master's degree. Approved courses include: HDF400, HDF418, HDF421, HDF430, HDF431, HDF432, HDF434, HDF437, HDF440, HDF450, HDF451, HDF460, HDF472

Program Requirements. For the ABM-HDF program, students will take a minimum of 30 credits of approved undergraduate and graduate courses including a family health course, a child development course, an adult development course, a course in research methods, and an elective course through either the public health department, the political science department, or as an independent study with an HDF faculty member. For students admitted in the ABM-HDF program, 9 credits of approved HDF undergraduate courses will be counted towards students' Bachelor's degree as well as their HDF Master's degree. Furthermore, students will complete a capstone as a requirement for earning their Master's degree. Policies and requirements required of graduate students apply to students enrolled in ABM Programs.

Required Courses: HDF536, HDF511, HDF513, HDF533, HDF570

Elective - Choose one of the following: HLT501, HLT502, HLT503, HLT504, HLT505, HLT506, HLT507, HLT508, HDF598, or any PSC MPA course.

Capstone - One of the following: HDF595, HLT602, or MPS598

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

Spec - Health Outcomes (Pharm MS, T), Effective Fall 2026

We are streamlining the curricula for the Health Outcomes specialization of the Pharmaceutical Sciences degree programs, aiming to reduce the number of lower enrollment courses via consolidation, and, for the PhD degree, to align with the recent reduction of required credits from 72 to 64.

Specifically, the following changes to the MS thesis curriculum are proposed:

Combine two 3 credit courses: PHP540 Principles, Methods, and Applications of Epidemiology and PHP535 Introduction to Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis, into a new 3 credit course as PHP571 Methods in Epidemiology, Systematic Review, and Meta-Analysis. PHP540 and PHP535 will be terminated.

Combining PHP585 Measurement of Health Outcomes to include content from PHP/STA 575 Causal Inference for Biomedical Research to create a new 3 credit course PHP572 Measuring Outcomes and Identifying Causal Effects. PHP585 will be terminated while PHP575 will remain as an option for students in STA or other programs but will not be open to Pharmaceutical Sciences Health Outcomes graduate students.

Requirements for the MS thesis degree to be:

PHC502 Drug Development (3 cr.)

PHC693/4 Graduate Seminar (2 cr.)

PHP550 Pharmacoepidemiology (3 cr.)

*PHP571 Methods in Epidemiology, Systematic Review, and Meta-Analysis (3 cr.)

*PHP572 Measuring Outcomes and Identifying Causal Effects (3 cr.)

PHP580 Pharmacoeconomic Analysis (3 cr.)

STA courses (6 cr.)

PHC599 Thesis Research (7 cr.)

*new

Specialization Description

Health Outcomes: Health Economic and Outcomes Research (HEOR) encompassing clinical, humanistic, and cost outcomes using pharmacoepidemiologic and pharmacoeconomic designs to evaluate medication therapy and other health care interventions within populations. Focus areas include comparative effectiveness and safety research, real-world evidence, cost-effectiveness analysis, medication adherence, and health services research.

Specialization Requirements: PHP550, PHP580, PHP571, PHP572, at least six credits of statistics courses (400-level for graduate credit and higher), and remaining elective credits as determined in consultation with the student's major professor.

Spec - Health Outcomes (Pharm MS, N-T), Effective Fall 2026

We are streamlining the curricula for the Health Outcomes specialization of the Pharmaceutical Sciences degree programs, aiming to reduce the number of lower-enrollment courses via consolidation, and, for the PhD degree, to align with the recent reduction of required credits from 72 to 64. The new course designs will impact the non-thesis MS.

Specifically, the following changes to the MS non-thesis curriculum are proposed:

Combining two 3 credit courses: PHP540 Principles, Methods, and Applications of Epidemiology and PHP535 Introduction to Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis, into a new 3 credit course as PHP571 Methods in Epidemiology, Systematic Review, and Meta-Analysis. PHP540 and PHP535 will be terminated and no longer required (PHP540) or available as an elective (PHP535).

Combining PHP585 Measurement of Health Outcomes to include content from PHP/STA 575 Causal Inference for Biomedical Research to create a new 3 credit course PHP572 Measuring Outcomes and Identifying Causal Effects. PHP585 will be terminated, while PHP575 will remain as an option for students in STA or other programs, but will not be open to Pharmaceutical Sciences Health Outcomes graduate students. PHP585 and PHP575 will no longer be available as an elective.

Specialization Description

Health Economic and Outcomes Research (HEOR) encompassing clinical, humanistic, and cost outcomes using pharmacoepidemiologic and pharmacoeconomic designs to evaluate medication therapy and other health care interventions within populations. Focus areas include comparative effectiveness and safety research, real-world evidence, cost-effectiveness analysis, medication adherence, and health services research.

Specialization Requirements: PHP550, PHP580, PHP571, PHP572, at least six credits of statistics courses (400-level for graduate credit and higher), and remaining elective credits as determined in consultation with the student's major professor.

Spec - Health Outcomes (Pharm PhD), Effective Fall 2026

We are streamlining the curricula for the Health Outcomes specialization of the Pharmaceutical Sciences degree programs, aiming to reduce the number of lower-enrollment courses via consolidation, and, for the PhD degree, to align with the recent reduction of required credits from 72 to 64.

Specifically, the following changes to the MS thesis curriculum are proposed:

Combining two 3 credit courses: PHP540 Principles, Methods, and Applications of Epidemiology and PHP535 Introduction to Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis, into a new 3 credit course as PHP571 Methods in Epidemiology, Systematic Review, and Meta-Analysis. PHP540 and PHP535 will be terminated.

Combining PHP585 Measurement of Health Outcomes to include content from PHP/STA 575 Causal Inference for Biomedical Research to create a new 3 credit course PHP572 Measuring Outcomes and Identifying Causal Effects. PHP585 will be terminated while PHP575 will remain as an option for students in STA or other programs but will not be open to Pharmaceutical Sciences Health Outcomes graduate students.

Combining PHP640 Epidemiologic Methods for the Health Sciences and PHP685 Advanced Pharmacoeconomic Methods to create a new 3 credit course PHP670 Advanced Epidemiologic and Economic Methods in Health Sciences. Both PHP640 and PHP685 will be terminated.

Requirements for the PhD degree (64 cr.) to be:

PHC502 Drug Development (3 cr.)

PHC693/4 Graduate Seminar (3 cr.)

PHP550 Pharmacoepidemiology (3 cr.)

PHP580 Pharmacoeconomic Analysis (3 cr.)

*PHP571 Methods in Epidemiology, Systematic Review, and Meta-Analysis (3 cr.)

*PHP572 Measuring Outcomes and Identifying Causal Effects (3 cr.)

*PHP670 Advanced Epidemiologic and Economic Methods in Health Sciences

STA courses (9 cr.)

PHC699 Dissertation Research (at least 15 cr.)

Elective courses as/if necessary to complete 64 total post-BS/PharmD credits, with at least 34 credits earned through courses taken at URI.

*new courses replacing other courses as noted above

Specialization Description

Health Outcomes: Health Economic and Outcomes Research (HEOR) encompassing clinical, humanistic, and cost outcomes using pharmacoepidemiologic and pharmaco-economic designs to evaluate medication therapy and other health care interventions within populations. Focus areas include comparative effectiveness and safety research, real-world evidence, cost-effectiveness analysis, medication adherence, and health services research.

Specialization Requirements: PHP 550, PHP571, PHP572, PHP 580, PHP670; Six to nine credits of 500/600 level statistics courses a minimum of 15 credits of PHC699; and additional 500/600 level elective courses as determined in consultation with the major professor.

NEW CERTIFICATES OR SPECIALIZATIONS (*vote by program*)

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

[TABLED] Spec - Accounting (BUS PhD), Effective Fall 2027

The accounting faculty conduct research in the fields of financial accounting, management accounting, audit, tax, accounting information systems and other fields of accounting. The doctoral program is designed to produce outstanding scholars in these fields.

Specialization Requirements:

- 12 credits of ACC609
- BUS611, Doctoral Research Seminar

Leadership in Sports Management - Graduate Certificate, Effective Summer 2026

The Graduate Certificate in Leadership for Sports Management (12 credits) is designed for professionals who are moving into or occupying management roles in sports who seek to develop the strategic leadership, business acumen, and inclusive mindset required to thrive in today's dynamic sport industry. Through a flexible format where courses are available online, in person, or students can flex between formats, this certificate blends core leadership development with sports-specific business skills.

Students will explore sport as a dynamic venue for social equity, brand-building, revenue generation, and community partnership, while strengthening their capacity to lead diverse teams, shape culture, and drive organizational transformation.

On completion, graduates will be prepared to apply leadership strategies, ethically navigate sport management challenges, and promote inclusive and sustainable sports organizations at the local, national or global level.

Program Requirements

Students must complete all required courses and one elective course from the approved list below.

Required Courses (9 credits):

BUS532 - Leadership
BUS582 - Global Sporting Events Management
BUS570 - Sports Marketing

Elective Courses (choose at least one, 3 credits):

BUS506 - Operations and Project Management
BUS509 - Law and Ethics
BUS515 - Innovation and Entrepreneurship Practicum
BUS577 - Sports Analytics
EDC560 - Group Procedures and Leadership
EDC 576 - Diversity and Cultural Competence in Student Affairs
MBA524 - Entrepreneurship and Innovation
MBA593 - Business Internship
Other course with director approval

Organizational Leadership - Graduate Online Certificate, Effective Fall 2026

The Organizational Leadership Graduate Certificate provides learners who hold a Bachelor's degree with organizational leadership skills that support career advancement or professional development. It is designed for working professionals who hold a bachelor's degree and seek to strengthen their leadership capabilities across a variety of organizational contexts. Offered fully online, the certificate emphasizes practical leadership, organizational decision making, operations and project management, and the human dynamics of organizations.

Through an interdisciplinary curriculum, students develop skills in leading teams, making informed organizational decisions, managing projects and processes, and navigating ethical, legal, and global considerations. The certificate supports career advancement, leadership development, and preparation for expanded managerial responsibilities in business, nonprofit, public, and educational organizations.

The Organizational Leadership Graduate Certificate consists of 12 graduate credits.

Program Requirements

Students must complete all required courses and one elective course from the approved list below.

Required Courses (9 credits):

BUS 532 – Leadership (3)
MBA 540 – Organizational Decision Making and Design (3)
BUS 506 – Operations and Project Management (3)

Elective Courses (choose at least one, 3 credits):

MBA 578 – Human Resource Development (3)
MBA 579 – International Business Management (3)
BUS 509 – Law and Ethics (3)
MBA 502 – Organizational Behavior (3)
MBA 575 – Seminar in Management (3)
MBA 576 – Advanced Topics in Management (3)
EDC 505 – Leadership Development in Adult Programs (3)
EDC 539 – Evaluation and Monitoring of Occupational Training Programs (3)
LHR 531 – Labor and Employment Law (3)

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

English Language Development - Graduate Certificate

The Graduate Certificate in English Language Development is designed to meet the needs of non-English language speakers who are:

- International undergraduate and graduate students who have either been conditionally admitted into a graduate degree program OR are considering graduate level study but lack the English proficiency to matriculate into a U.S. higher education institution;
- International undergraduate and graduate students who are already matriculated in a U.S. college or university who are interested in enhancing their English communication skills for personal and professional growth.

Multilingual or non-English-speaking people in Rhode Island, across the country or abroad interested in enhancing their English communication skills for personal and professional growth.

- The program provides advanced English language skills training, including academic writing, reading and vocabulary, oral communication, and a seminar course tailored to a specific field of graduate study.

Through a combination of intensive coursework and applied learning experiences, participants develop the ability to communicate effectively in academic and professional settings. Our specialized seminar—ELS 453 English for Specific Purposes —allows students to refine language skills relevant to their disciplines.

Requirements

The following 12 credits are required to earn this graduate certificate:

ELS450 or ELS550, Academic Grammar and Writing for International Students

ELS451 or ELS551, Academic Reading and Vocabulary for International Students

ELS452, Academic Oral Communication Skills and Practices for International Students

ELS453, Seminar in English for Specific Purposes

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Systems Safety - Graduate Online Certificate, Effective Fall 2026

Risk management has become an integral part of today's fast-paced industries, and leaders qualified in creating a culture of safety in their organization are in high demand. This program is structured to prepare working professionals for the rigorous task of preventing, predicting, and reacting to hazards in a variety of operational environments. Our students will gain experience in assessing risk within the framework of engineering and managerial principles, as well as regulatory requirements and benchmarks. This curriculum will cover areas related to engineering leadership and communication, industry safety standards, quality and safety, as well as various special interest topics (e.g., marine safety, construction zones, and wind energy safety). Following a hybrid model, this course will include online lectures and deliverables. This 12-credit program allows students to earn their certification in one year or less. Eligible students must have a Bachelor's degree or advanced standing in a STEM field. A prerequisite of ISE311 or equivalent is also needed for this program.

Program Requirements:

- ISE517, Fundamentals of Industrial Safety (1)
- ISE518, Engineering Leadership & Communication (1)

Four (4) credits of the following course, taken under different topics:

- ISE519, Special Topics for Systems Safety Certificate (1)

Two (2) of the following courses:

- ISE513, Quality & Safety (3)
- ISE515, Production Safety (3)
- ISE520(PSY520), Human Factors & Ergonomics (3)

COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES

[TABLED] Community Planning 2: Social Planning - Graduate Online Certificate, Effective Fall 2026

The Graduate Certificate in Community Planning 2 (CPL), composed of 4 required classes, is an asynchronous online "stackable certificate" provides the pathway for working professionals to develop core competencies in sustainable Community Planning.

Certificate 2: Social Planning prepares graduate students with core knowledge and applied competencies consistent with the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) Core Knowledge Areas, emphasizing the social, legal, and analytical dimensions of planning practice. Through four required courses, students develop the ability to understand planning theory, apply analytical methods, engage in community-focused interventions, and operate within the legal frameworks that govern planning decisions. Through courses in Planning Law, Planning History and Theory, Community Revitalization, and Introduction to Planning Methods, this certificate emphasizes how planning decisions shape, and are shaped by, social needs, community well-being, equity considerations, and place-based revitalization efforts.

Students can earn their certificate in four sessions, maximizing flexibility and convenience for career enhancement and professional growth. Class content in this certificate is geared toward working professionals who are new to planning. While we recommend completing Certificate 1 first, the only requirement is successful completion of CPL 501: Introduction to Community Planning Practice. Together, these courses provide a foundational understanding of planning.

This certificate can be augmented with certificate programs in other departments, such as the Master of Public Administration (MPA), and the Master of Environmental Management (MEM) program.\

The Community Planning 2: Social Planning Graduate Certificate consists of 12 graduate credits.

Program requirements:

CPL522: Planning Law (3)

CPL523: Planning History and Theory (3)

CPL510: Community Revitalization (3)

CPL525: Introduction to Planning Methods (3)

NEW PROGRAMS (*vote by program*)

VII. Adjournment