

UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND FACULTY SENATE
April 16, 2020

Joint Report 2019-2020-2
Faculty Senate Curriculum and Standards Committee
and
Graduate Council

At the March 26, 2020 meeting of the Curriculum and Standards Committee and the April 1, 2020 meeting of the Graduate Council, the following matters were considered and are now presented to the Faculty Senate.

SECTION II
Curricular Matters Which Require Confirmation
by the Faculty Senate

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS:

Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design:

(See Appendix A)

ABM - BS (TMD) / MS - TMD

Creation of an accelerated BS / MS in Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design. Allow up to 11 credits of double counting.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES:

Human Development and Family Studies:

(See Appendix B)

ABM - BS (HDF) / MS (Dev. Sci.)

Creation of an accelerated BS (Human Development and Family Studies)/MS (Development Science) degree program. Allow for 12 credits of double counting.

COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENT AND LIFE SCIENCES:

(See Appendix c)

Natural Resource Sciences:

ABM - BS (Natural Resource Science) / MESM (Master of Environment Science and Management)

Creation of an accelerated BS to MESM degree program. Allow up to 12 credits for double counting.

Modified Form
For New Interdisciplinary Minors, and New
Tracks/Options/Sub-plans/Concentrations

A Proposal for: Accelerated Bachelor's to Master of Science in Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design (ABMTMD)

Date: February 10, 2020

A. PROGRAM INFORMATION

A1. Name of institution University of Rhode Island

A2. Name of department, division, school or college

Department: Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design

College: College of Business

A3. Title of proposed program and Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) code

Program title: Apparel and Textiles, General

Classification code (CIP): 19.0901

A4. Intended initiation date of program change. Include anticipated date for granting first degrees or certificates, if appropriate.

Initiation date: Fall 2020

First degree date: May 2022

A5. Intended location of the program: Kingston

A6. Description of institutional review and approval process

Department

COB Graduate Curriculum and Assessment Committee

College of Business

CAC/Graduate Council

Faculty Senate

President of the University

Approval Date

February 12, 2020

February 14, 2020

February 28, 2020

A7. Summary description of proposed program (not to exceed 2 pages)

The Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design Department is proposing 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 to also complete an MS as part time or full-time students.

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

To apply for the ABMTMD program, students must have earned a minimum of 75 credits and have a 3.0 GPA. Students still need to meet the admission requirements for the TMD graduate program; they are allowed to double count up to 11 credits from their B.S. program. Students will be enrolled in the ABMTMD only after they have met the Graduate School admission requirements and have completed 90 undergraduate credits.

Currently, the MS program has two options: thesis option of 30 credits with six credits of thesis research, and non-thesis option of 33 credits. The total number of credits required for a BS is 120 credits. Only the non-thesis option requiring 33 credits will be open to ABMTMD students. The proposed program will allow up to 11 credits of 400/500 level courses to count for both undergraduate and graduate credit. These courses include those 400-level courses in other disciplines that count for graduate credit.

The proposed program will rely solely on existing courses and will not have a budgetary impact on the department or the university. Courses will continue to be offered at the same frequency as they are currently offered. It would allow URI to retain some of its strong students; increase opportunities to specialize; and add to the number of graduate students without adding to the cost of the program. There is also an opportunity for students who are on financial aid or receiving scholarships to earn the MS degree at a lower total cost.

A8. Signature of the President

David M. Dooley

A9. Person to contact during the proposal review

Name: Linda Welters

Title: Professor, Graduate Program Director

Phone: 401-874-4525

Email: LWelters@uri.edu

A10. List and attach any signed agreements for any cooperative arrangements made with other institutions/agencies or private companies in support of the program.

B. RATIONALE: There should be a demonstrable need for the program.

B1. Why is the new program being developed?

Undergraduate students enrolled in Textiles, Fashion Merchandising, and Design; Textiles Marketing majors; and TMD minors; can streamline the process to advance into the MS and complete it in a timely fashion as either part-time or full-time graduate students. It will allow TMD to retain strong URI students, which should enhance the quality of the program and its graduates as well as increase enrollment in the program. Potential students for undergrad programs frequently ask about a fast track to a graduate degree.

TMD offers three specializations at the graduate level: historic textiles and fashion (including cultural studies and conservation), fashion merchandising, and textile science.

B2. What is the economic need and workforce data related to the program?

a. Provide information on jobs available as a result of successfully completing the certificate or degree: job titles, job outlook/growth, and salaries.

The Master of Science degree is the entry level requirement for jobs in the museum field, particularly curation and conservation. This fast-track degree option would appeal to undergraduates who enjoyed TMD's courses in history of textiles and fashion, and wish to continue their studies and eventually find employment in the field. An MS degree is an added advantage for the many diverse jobs in fashion merchandising. This specialization is especially attractive to students who feel the need for further education in fashion merchandising before venturing out into the job market. In the textile science specialization,

students who have taken the basic mid-level textile science course may further their education and prepare for positions in textile research, quality control, product development, and material science. Some of our undergrads intend to pursue PhD degrees in order to teach at the university level; the ABMTMD would allow them to do so in a timely manner.

Beginning salaries vary between specializations. In general, salaries are in the high \$30,000s to low \$40,000s for those with bachelor's degrees. Master's degrees add a few thousand dollars. Technical expertise, such as that needed in textile science, commands higher salaries. In fashion merchandising, salaries can quickly rise to six figures for talented, experienced employees. In the museum field, salaries head into the \$60,000s with experience.

B3. What entities are advocating for this program? Was an advisory board used to develop the curriculum?

It is not a new curriculum.

C. INSTITUTIONAL ROLE: The program should be clearly related to the published role, scope, and mission of the institution and be compatible with other programs and activities of the institution.

C1. Explain how the program is consistent with the published role, scope, and mission of the institution and how it is related to the institution's Academic Plan.

The proposed ABMTMD addresses the following goals in the University's Academic Plan:

Goal 1, Enhance Student Success – Strategy 6: Focus on access and affordability and improve credits and degree completion rates for all graduate students ...

Specifically, action 8: Develop specific strategies to improve retention of graduate students and ensure timely completion of advanced degrees.

The MS degree already involves the strategies in Goal 2 (Strategy 2: inquiry-based interdisciplinary knowledge that build connections across disciplines; Strategy 4: involve graduate students in rich and varied research, creative projects and other opportunities) and in Goal 4 (Strategy 2: promote and coordinate globalization efforts; Strategy 3: ensure that all students are exposed to global perspectives).

D. INTER-INSTITUTIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:

D1. What are the similar programs in the state and region?

The MS in TMD is the only face-to-face master's degree in Textiles, Fashion Merchandising and Design in New England land-grant universities. Framingham University offers an online masters in merchandising for working professionals. There are no programs in textile and fashion history (including conservation) or textile science in New England.

a. If similar programs exist, how is this program different or why is duplication necessary?

The program already exists. This is an attempt to streamline it for existing students who want to continue on for their Master's degree.

b. Have you communicated with other institutions about the development of this program and have any concerns been raised related to role, scope, and mission or duplication?

The program already exists.

D2. How do courses in this program transfer to other schools?

The change will not affect how courses transfer.

D3. How does this program align to academic programs at other institutions?

Not applicable.

D4. Are recipients of this credential accepted into programs at the next degree level without issue?

Credits from the MS degree would be accepted into PhD programs at other institutions. Typically, up to 30 credits from master's programs are accepted for PhD programs.

D5. How does this program of study interface with degree programs at the level below them?

The goal is to streamline the interface with the programs at the undergraduate level.

Here are three examples of how students enrolled in TMD as TMD or TM majors, or TMD minors, may apply credits toward the MS as part of an ABMSTMD and complete their degrees in a timely fashion.

A student who majors in Textiles Marketing or Textiles, Fashion Merchandising, and Design, and seeks the Fashion Merchandising track:

- Takes TMD 402 (1-2 cr), TMD433 and at two other 400-level courses as part of their BS degree requirements (120 credits).
- The student takes MBA500, TMD 510, TMD 524, plus 13 other credits over the course of the academic year. Summer internships are offered under the course number TMD 530.
- The student completes the degree in five years.

A student is interested in the Historic track:

- Takes TMD 424, 440, 441, and 402 (2 cr) for a total of 11 credits.
- The student takes TMD 524 and 518 in the fall (6 cr).
- The student takes TMD 426 in Winter J-term (3 cr).
- The student takes TMD 500, 510 and TMD 540 in the spring (9 cr).
- The student completes an internship (TMD 530) in the summer (4 cr.)
- The student completes the degree in one extra year.

A student who is interested in textile science:

- Takes TMD 402, 403, 413, and 433 as part of the undergraduate program (11 cr).
- Takes a stats course (STA 409, MBA 500)
- Takes TMD 510, TMD 540 in spring semester.
- Takes other TMD courses, CHM or Engineering courses, including an internship, to reach 33 credits.

Examples of undergraduate courses that can double count include: TMD402, TMD403, TMD413, TMD424, TMD426, TMD 432, TMD433, TMD440, TMD 441, TMD 442, TMD452. Courses outside the TMD Department that count for graduate credits, such as STA 409, can double count. Only courses taken at URI can double count towards the ABMSTMD.

D6. Are cooperative agreements or affiliations established? If so, what?

Not applicable.

E. PROGRAM:

E1. Are there pre-requisite courses? If so, please explain/list?

Pre-requisite courses would remain the same as those for other students admitted to the graduate program. All students are required to take TMD 303 (Textile Science) and TMD

313 (Textile Science Laboratory). Students in the Historic track are required to take TMD 240 (Development of Contemporary Fashion). Students in the Fashion Merchandising track are required to take TMD 232 (Fashion Retailing) and 332 (Fashion Merchandise Buying). Students admitted to the program as juniors or first-semester seniors would be advised to take these courses during their undergraduate years.

E2. Curriculum

a. How many credit hours are required to graduate (include all general education and pre-requisites)?

The BS programs require 120 credits to graduate. The MS program (non-thesis option) requires 33 credits to graduate. Students can take the pre-requisites during their undergraduate years, with some courses offered online over the summer. Students in the ABMTMD will be able to double count four 400-level courses, including TMD 402 (1-2 cr), totaling no more than 11 credits, that are approved for graduate credit.

b. What courses are required for the program?

The BS programs require 120 credits to graduate. The MS program requires 33 credits for the non-thesis track. TMD 510 and a course such as TMD 540 (which satisfies the major paper requirement) are required for all non-thesis tracks. For the historic track, TMD 500 or 524, TMD 528, and TMD 530 are required. For the fashion merchandising track, TMD 524 and a statistics course that counts for graduate credit is required. For the textile science track, a statistics course that counts for graduate credit is required.

c. What are the new courses and descriptions that will go into the course catalog?

There are no new courses that will go into the course catalog.

Admitted to ABMSTMD – Prior to Receiving Bachelor's

Up to eleven credits may be double counted for both the Bachelor's and Master's Degree. Only 500-level courses and 400-level courses designated for graduate credit are eligible to be double counted.

Admitted to ABMSTMD – After Receiving Bachelor's

After the bachelor's degree has been completed, the remaining courses must be completed within two years of being coded as an ABMTMD student.

c. Are there specializations and options? If so, please describe.

Specialization is available in the degree programs, which already exist.

As described above, three specializations currently exist: (1) textile science, (2) fashion merchandising, and (3) historic textiles and fashion/textile conservation/cultural analysis.

- e. Is the program content guided by program-specific accreditation standards or other outside guidance?**

No.

- f. What are the learning goals (what students are expected to gain, achieve, know, or demonstrate by completion of the program)?**

There are no separate learning goals for this program. The existing learning goals for the BS degree and the MS degree will stay the same. The MS student learning outcomes are posted in a link on the TMD Department's web page.

<https://web.uri.edu/business/files/Student-Learning-Outcomes-MS-TMD.pdf>

- F. FACULTY AND STAFF: The faculty and support staff for the program should be sufficient in number and demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and other attributes necessary to the success of the program.**

- F1. What are the number of each needed?**

Not applicable. It is an existing program.

- F2. Are these new positions or reassignments?**

Not applicable. It is an existing program.

- F3. What are the minimal degree level and academic/technical field requirements and certifications required for teaching in this program?**

Seven faculty members have terminal degrees (PhD): Bide, Welters, Aspelund, Hannel, Kang, Goswami, Strübel. Two have master's degrees with years of professional experience (Kelly, Grullon).

- G. STUDENTS:**

- G1. How are students selected for the program?**

Students will be recruited for the ABMTMD program based on interest and academic merit. Potential undergraduate students will be informed of the program at "Meet the University" and "Welcome Day" events. Current students will be informed by their advisors.

- G2. Are there admission requirements?**

Students must have a 3.0 GPA and have completed 75 credits in order to apply. Students must have completed 90 credits and meet the Graduate School admission requirements to be accepted.

G3. What is the primary source of students?

a. New students or drawn from other programs?

The primary source of students for this program is the two undergraduate programs in the TMD in the College of Business at URI, which includes students majoring in Textiles, Merchandising, and Design and Textiles Marketing. The other population consists of students with minors in TMD.

b. Industry sponsored students/ employees? Describe.

Not applicable.

G4. What is the estimated number of students in the program?

Initially 2-3. After the program gets rolling, 5. An ABM is more attractive to our students than the post-baccalaureate certificate program because financial aid is available only for degree-granting programs.

G5. What is the estimated number of annual graduates?

Initially 2-3. After program gets rolling, 5.

H. EVALUATION:

H1. How will the program be evaluated?

The program evaluation will be folded into the biennial assessment of the MS program.

a. Performance measures to evaluate the program.

Assessment of the graduate program takes place every two years, currently even-numbered years. The ABM assessment will be folded in to the assessment of the existing graduate program.

b. Will the program be accredited? If so, when? How?

Not applicable.

I. WHAT SPECIAL EQUIPMENT OR RESOURCES ARE NEEDED?

I1. Special instructional resources and services needed? (Clinical space, internships, proctors)

No new resources are associated with the request.

I2. Facilities and capital equipment?

No new facilities are associated with the request.

J. IS THE PROGRAM FINANCIALLY VIABLE?

J1. ALL PROPOSALS: Complete the Rhode Island Office of Postsecondary Commissioner [Budget Form](#) demonstrating either

a. the need for additional resources or

b. that existing funds are sufficient for carrying out the program.

The program is an existing program. No new funds are requested.

The completed proposal with Budget Form requires review by the URI Budget and Financial Planning Office. If no new funds are requested, proposers shall request a Statement of No Financial Impact from the URI Budget and Financial Planning Office.

NOTICE OF CHANGE FORM

Notice of Change for: Inclusion of an Accelerated Bachelor's to Master's (ABM) degree program in Developmental Science

Date: 2/14/2020

A. PROGRAM INFORMATION

1. Name of institution

University of Rhode Island

2. Name of department, division, school or college

Department: Human Development and Family Studies

College: College of Health Sciences

3. Intended initiation date of program change. Include anticipated date for granting first degrees or certificates, if appropriate.

Initiation date: 9/~~2021~~2020

First degree date: 5/2023

4. Intended location of the program

Department of Human Development and Family Studies, Kingston Campus

5. Summary description of proposed program (not to exceed 2 pages).

The Department of Human Development and Family Studies (HDF) is proposing to include an Accelerated Bachelor's to Master's (ABM) program in Developmental Science. Students who enroll in this program will have earned a Master of Science degree in Human Development and Family Studies with a Concentration in Developmental Science within two years; one extra year beyond earning their HDF Bachelor's degree. The inclusion of this program is expected to strengthen the Developmental Science Master's program by attracting competent and promising undergraduate students of the University of Rhode Island (URI). Such students will see more value to remain at URI for only one extra year after earning their Bachelor's degree as opposed to pursuing a graduate degree elsewhere. Currently, approximately 4-7 students enroll in the Developmental Science Master's program annually. The inclusion of an ABM program is expected to increase this number up to 10-12 students. Furthermore, many graduate programs across the country similar to the Developmental Science Master's program are offering an ABM program. Thus, the inclusion of such a program is also a means to stay up-to-date with new developments of this growing field. [The initiation date of 2020-2021 allows for students to apply to the program in their junior year in Spring 2020 to have their ABM coursework begin in Fall 2021.](#)

Same as for students who enroll in the Developmental Science Master's program, all ABM-Developmental Science students will be required to complete a Master's Thesis. This will be required in order to best accommodate Developmental Science students as most of these students aspire to pursue a Ph.D. in areas within the social sciences (e.g., Human Development and Family Studies, Behavioral Science, and Sociology). Thus, the completion of a Master's Thesis will provide these students the necessary skills to be competitive to apply for a doctoral program.

The HDF Bachelor's program requires that students complete a minimum of 120 credits. Additionally, a minimum of 36 credits is required for completion of the Developmental Science Master's program. Therefore, in accordance with the Appendix K guidelines established by the Graduate School, the ABM-Developmental Science program will allow up to one-third of the total credits required for the master's program (i.e., 12 credits) to be double-counted. Specifically, twelve credits of approved graduate courses will be counted towards students' Bachelor's degree as well as their Developmental Science Master's degree. Also, in accordance with the Appendix K guidelines of the Graduate School, students will have earned 75 credits prior to being eligible to apply for the ABM-Developmental Science program and will have completed 90 undergraduate credits before being enrolled in this program. The proposed ABM-Developmental Science program will not have a budgetary impact on the HDF department as the inclusion of this program does not require for the development of new courses. Thus, this program will rely on currently existing courses within the HDF department. Lastly, the inclusion of this program will not influence the offering of currently existing courses, therefore, both undergraduate and graduate courses will be offered with the same consistency as they have been offered in the past.

In summary, the following criteria must be met for students to apply to the ABM-Developmental Science program: 1) completion of 75 credits towards an HDF Bachelor's degree, 2) a GPA of a 3.5 or higher, 3) completion of an undergraduate level statistics course taken prior to the beginning of the program or during the first semester of the program, 4) two letters of recommendation, each from an academic reference, 5) a current resume, and 6) a personal statement (750 words maximum) detailing why the student is a fit for this program and how can this program contribute to the student's professional development. Should students be accepted

in the ABM-Developmental Science program, students will be enrolled in this program upon meeting the Graduate School admission requirements and after having completed 90 undergraduate credits. Ideally, students would apply for the ABM-Developmental Science program during the spring of their undergraduate junior year and would be admitted in this program for the following fall of their senior year. Applications must be received by February 15. Applications received after that date will be reviewed on a space-available basis (see Table 1 for a potential trajectory of an undergraduate student enrolling in the ABM-Developmental Science program and see Table 2 for an example of a curriculum for an ABM-Developmental Science student).

Table 1. Potential trajectory for a UG student enrolling in the ABM-Developmental Science Program.

Year 1		Year 2	
Fall 15 credits	Spring 15 credits	Fall 15 credits	Spring 15 credits
Year 3		Year 4	
Fall 15 credits <i>**Prepare ABM application</i>	Spring 15 credits <i>**Submit ABM application</i>	Fall 15 credits <i>**Begin ABM program</i>	Spring 15 credits

Table 2. Example of a curriculum for an ABM-Developmental Science student.

Even Year Calendar	Fall	Spring
4th year (undergraduate senior year)	HDF4XX (3 credits) HDF4XX (3 credits) HDF4XX (3 credits) HDF501 (3 credits) DC HDF511 (3 credits) DC	(HDF480/481) (8 credits) HDF570 (3 credits) DC HDF512 (3 credits) DC
5th year	HDF580 (3 credits) HDF533 (3 credits) HDF599 (3 credits) Grad Elective (3 credits)	HDF513 (3 credits) HDF599 (3 credits) HDF584/Elective (3 credits) Grad Elective (3 credits)

Note. DC = Double-counted; Even & Odd year calendars refer to Graduate courses being offered once every two years.

Odd Year Calendar	Fall	Spring
4th year (undergraduate senior year)	HDF4XX (3 credits) HDF4XX (3 credits) HDF4XX (3 credits) HDF501 (3 credits) DC HDF533 (3 credits) DC	(HDF480/481) (8 credits) HDF570 (3 credits) DC HDF513 (3 credits) DC
5th year	HDF580 (3 credits) HDF511 (3 credits) HDF599 (3 credits) Grad Elective (3 credits)	HDF512 (3 credits) HDF599 (3 credits) HDF584/Elective (3 credits) Grad Elective (3 credits)

6. If applicable, please include the existing URI catalog language and proposed catalog changes indicated in Track Changes.

Note. The changes and language from the URI catalog included below only pertain to the Developmental Science Master's program

M.S. (specializations listed below)

401.874.2150

Faculty: Professor S. Adams, *chair*.

Developmental Science: Assistant Professor J. Xiao Saint-Eloi Cadely, *director*. Professors S. Adams, Clark, and McCurdy, and Xiao; Associate Professors Kim and Leedahl; Assistant Professors Kim, Leedahl, Brasher, Porto, and Spivak, and St. Eloi Cadely; Professors Emeriti Gray Anderson, B. Newman, and Rae.

Master of Science Specializing in Developmental Science

This M.S. program is designed to immerse students in a specialized area of human development and family studies, 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 requirements: 18 undergraduate credits from relevant disciplines, including human development and family studies, psychology, and sociology. Majors in related fields (e.g., nursing, political science, education) may be admitted with the permission of the director of graduate studies. Completion of an undergraduate level statistics course take prior to the beginning of the program in the first year of the program is required. Two letters of recommendation are required with at least one from an academic reference. Application deadline for fall admission is February 15. Applications received after that date will be reviewed on a space available basis. *Program requirements:* a minimum of 36 credits of approved graduate courses that include a developmental seminar; a sequence in policy and research; and a professional seminar. In addition, students will select a minimum of 6 credits in a specialization, such as child development, early childhood education, adult

development/gerontology, public policy/administration, family studies, and family financial counseling/education. ~~Students complete a master's thesis. Students will have the option of including up to 3 credits of a policy, administrative, or research internship as part of the program of study.~~

The Department of Human Development and Family Studies (HDF) offers a Master of Science in Developmental Science. This program is designed to immerse students in a specialized area of human development and family studies, while providing a strong emphasis on policy, research, and practical knowledge of the field. Additionally, an Accelerated Bachelor's to Master's (ABM) program in Developmental Science is also available. Graduates from this program will be prepared for positions in human service and education, administration, research and policy organizations, and for advanced academic work at the Ph.D. level. Students who are admitted in the ABM-Developmental Science program will have earned a Master of Science in Human Development and Family Studies with a concentration in Developmental Science within two years; one extra year beyond earning their HDF Bachelor's degree.

Master of Science – Developmental Science

Admission requirements: 1) completion of 18 undergraduate credits from relevant disciplines, including human development and family studies, psychology, and sociology; majors in related fields (e.g., nursing, political science, and education) may be admitted with the permission of the Graduate Program Director, 2) having earned a GPA of a 3.2 or higher, 3) completion of an undergraduate level statistics course taken prior to the beginning of the program or during the first semester of the program, 4) two letters of recommendation, at least one (preferable both) from an academic reference (one letter of reference may be from a supervisor if the applicant completed his/her bachelor's degree more than five years ago), 5) a current resume, and 6) a personal statement (750 word maximum) detailing why the applicant is a fit for the program and how can this program contribute to the applicant's professional development. The application deadline for fall admission is February 15. Applications received after that date will be reviewed on a space-available basis.

ABM-Developmental Science Program

Admission requirements: 1) completion of a minimum of 75 credits towards an HDF Bachelor's degree, 2) having earned a current GPA of a 3.5 or higher, 3) completion of an undergraduate level statistics course taken prior to the beginning of the program or during the first semester of the program, 4) two letters of recommendation each from an academic reference, 5) a current resume, and 6) a personal statement (750 word maximum) detailing why the student is a fit for this program and how can this program contribute to the students' professional development.

Should students be accepted in the ABM-Developmental Science program, they will be enrolled in this program once they have met the Graduate School admission requirements and have completed 90 undergraduate credits. Applications must be received by February 15. Applications received after that date will be reviewed on a space-available basis.

Twelve credits of approved graduate courses will be counted towards students' HDF Bachelor's degree and their Developmental Science Master's degree. With approval from the Graduate Director, students will be eligible to complete other graduate level courses during their undergraduate senior year while completing their undergraduate requirements.

Program requirements: For both the Master of Science and the ABM-Developmental Science program, a minimum of 36 credits of approved graduate courses that include developmental seminar courses, a course in policy, a course in research methods, and a professional seminar must be completed. For students admitted in the ABM-Developmental Science program, 12 credits of approved graduate courses will be counted towards students' Bachelor's degree as well as their Developmental Science Master's degree. Furthermore, for both programs, students must complete a master's thesis as a requirement for earning their Master's degree. Students will also have the option of including up to three credits of a policy, an administrative, or a research internship as part of their program of study.

7. Signature of the President

David M. Dooley

NOTICE OF CHANGE FORM

Notice of Change for: Creation of an accelerated B.S. to M.E.S.M. ABM in Natural Resources Science

Date: February 24, 2020

A. PROGRAM INFORMATION

1. Name of institution

University of Rhode Island

2. Name of department, division, school or college

Department: Natural Resources Science

College: College of the Environment and Life Sciences

3. Intended initiation date of program change. Include anticipated date for granting first degrees or certificates, if appropriate.

Initiation date: September 2020

First degree date: May 2022

4. Intended location of the program:

Kingston, RI

5. Summary description of proposed program (not to exceed 2 pages).

The proposed accelerated B.S. to M.E.S.M. Program (ABM) in Natural Resources Science (N.R.S.) will offer qualified students the opportunity to complete both the B.S. (Wildlife and Conservation Biology, or Environmental Science and Management) and the Masters of Environmental Science and Management (M.E.S.M.), non-thesis professional degree, in five years. See program descriptions in Appendix B.

ABM in Natural Resources Science Degree requirements

The B.S. degree requirements are the same as for the students completing the B.S. degree over four years. The M.E.S.M. degree requirements are the same as for students completing the M.E.S.M. degree over two years (See program descriptions in Appendix B). The students accepted into the ABM in Natural Resources Science program will be able to double count credits towards both degrees up to one-third (12 credits) of the total credits required for the M.E.S.M. degree (36 credits total). Only NRS 400-level and 500 level courses allowable for graduate credit included in Appendix A are eligible to be double-counted in the ABM in Natural Resources Science program. All credits counted towards the M.E.S.M. portion of the ABM must be earned at URI.

Students must complete all degree requirements for the ABM in Natural Resources Science within two years after enrollment and coding as ABM students. As outlined in the Graduate School Manual, one additional year may be allowed, with the permission of the Graduate School, for programs that exceed 30 credits. Failure to complete the ABM in the

allotted time effectively ends the ABM, and the students will not be able to double count credits.

Admission requirements

Students shall apply for the ABM in Natural Resources Science program through the URI Graduate School admission system, and are eligible to apply once they have earned at least 75 credits. Students will be enrolled in the ABM in Natural Resources Science program (the department hosts two B.S. degrees: Wildlife and Conservation Biology, or Environmental Science and Management) after they have met all Graduate School admission requirements and after completion of their B.S. degree requirements (typically at the end of the Spring semester of their senior year).

The program is open to undergraduates in the Natural Resources Sciences degree program who have completed 75 credits with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.2 and have earned a grade of "B" or better in the following courses (or equivalent or AP credit):

- BIO 102
- NRS 212, 223
- MTH 131 or STA 308 or equivalent

A letter of support for admission from the student's undergraduate advisor or the student's future major professor must be included as part of the application process. Students will be admitted to the M.E.S.M. degree program contingent on meeting all the admission requirements for the URI Graduate School. The GRE is not required for the M.E.S.M. program.

6. If applicable, please include the existing URI catalog language and proposed catalog changes **indicated in Track Changes**.

Accelerated Bachelor's to Master's Degrees

ABM Program in Natural Resources Science

The proposed accelerated B.S. to M.E.S.M. Program (ABM) in Natural Resources Science will offer qualified students the opportunity to complete both the B.S. (Wildlife and Conservation Biology, or Environmental Science and Management) and the Masters of Environmental Science and Management (M.E.S.M.), non-thesis professional degree, in five years. Students will typically complete their B.S. degree requirements by the end of the fourth year, and then complete the M.E.S.M. degree requirements by the end of their fifth year.

Admission requirements

Students shall apply for the ABM in Natural Resources Science program through the URI Graduate School admission system, and are eligible to apply once they have earned at least 75 credits. Students will be enrolled in the ABM in Natural Resources Science program after they have met all Graduate School admission requirements and completed a minimum of 90 undergraduate credits.

The program is open to undergraduates in the Natural Resources Sciences degree program who have completed 75 credits with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.2 and have earned a grade of "B" or better in the following courses (or equivalent or AP credit):

- BIO 102
- NRS 212, 223
- MTH 131 or STA 308 or equivalent

A letter of support for admission from the student's undergraduate advisor or the student's future major professor must be included as part of the application process. Students will be admitted to the M.E.S.M. degree program contingent on meeting all the admission requirements for the URI Graduate School. The GRE is not required for the M.E.S.M. program. Additional information can be obtained from the departmental website (<https://web.uri.edu/nrs/>) or by contacting the departmental chairperson.

7. Signature of the President

David M. Dooley

Appendix A

ABM in Natural Resources Science (B.S. – M.E.S.M.)

Up to 12 credits total from the following list of NRS 400-level and 500-level courses can double-count for students enrolled in the ABM in Natural Resources Science program.

- NRS 402 (3)
- NRS 406 (4)
- NRS 404 (3)
- NRS 407 (3)
- NRS 410 (3)
- NRS 412 (3)
- NRS 415 (3)
- NRS 423 (4)
- NRS 426 (3)
- NRS 442 (3)
- NRS 450G (3)
- NRS 452G (1)
- NRS 461 (4)
- NRS 471 (4)

At the discretion of the instructor of record, students in their senior year can register for the following 500-level courses that can count towards the ABM in Natural Resources Science program.

- NRS 505
- NRS 516
- NRS 518
- NRS 520
- NRS 522
- NRS 524
- NRS 533
- NRS 534
- NRS 543
- NRS 567

Appendix B

B.S. Natural Resources Science Degree Program and Masters of Environmental Science and Management (M.E.S.M.) Degree Program

B.S. in Environmental Science and Management

The major in environmental science and management, offered by the Department of Natural Resources Science, prepares undergraduate students for professional careers in the public and private sectors of natural resources management. Environmental Science and Management incorporates course work in water resources, geospatial technologies, wetland ecology, wildlife biology, soil science, forestry, and land use/environmental quality relationships. Coursework emphasizes the field techniques that underpin environmental assessment and restoration. This is a comprehensive major that includes a solid background in the basic sciences and exposure to a broad array of subject matter relating to environmental science and management. This major provides solid preparation for more specialized study at the graduate level and prepares undergraduate students for professional careers in the public and private sectors of natural resources management. Flexible course requirements allow students to develop individual areas of concentration and prepare for a variety of positions in environmental science and management after graduation. This major is also suitable for students who wish to become certified as teachers of environmental science and natural resources at the secondary level. With proper course selection, environmental science majors can meet the educational requirements for certifications by professional and governmental agencies as biologists, soil scientists, natural resource specialists, geospatial specialists, hydrologists, and other classifications.

The major requires 19 credits of professional courses, which include introduction to resource economics (EEC 105; 3 credits), physical geology (GEO 103; 4 credits), natural resource conservation (NRS 100; 3 credits), seminar in natural resources (NRS 200; 1 credit), introductory soil science (NRS 212; 4 credits), and conservation biology (NRS 223; 4 credits). As part of the basic science requirements (25-27 credits), environmental science and management majors must complete eight credits in biological sciences (BIO 101/103 and BIO 102/104); four credits in general or introductory chemistry (CHM 101/102 or CHM 103/105); four credits in introductory organic chemistry (CHM 124/126); three credits in applied calculus (MTH 131); three to four credits in statistics (STA 308 or STA 409); and three to four credits in either introductory biochemistry (CMB 311), introductory microbiology (CMB 201 or CMB 211), or general chemistry II (CHM 112/114). At least 24 credits of concentration courses must be taken. These core courses are selected from the following groups: biological and ecological science; watershed and environmental quality; methods in environmental science; natural resources management; and land use management. At least one course must be selected from each group. Up to six credits of letter grade experiential learning courses may be taken as concentration courses. Supporting electives (18 credits) must be selected from an approved list of courses, mostly at the 300 and 400 levels. At least 9 supporting elective credits must be N.R.S. courses. Up to 9 credits of experiential learning courses may be taken toward satisfying supporting elective requirements.

B.S. in Wildlife Conservation Biology

The major in wildlife and conservation biology, offered through the Department of Natural Resources Science (N.R.S.), prepares students for professional careers in the public and private sectors of wildlife biology. In addition, the major provides a solid background for graduate study. Wildlife biologists are professionals concerned with the scientific management of the earth's wildlife species and their habitats. They work in the areas of preservation, conservation, and management of wildlife species. Wildlife majors meet the educational requirements for state and federal employment in the wildlife profession, and can apply to become Certified Wildlife Biologists (C.W.B.s) who are recognized by The Wildlife Society.

The major requires professional courses (19 credits) including introductory ecology (BIO 262; 4 credits), introduction to resource economics (EEC 105; 3 credits), natural resource conservation (NRS 100; 3 credits), a seminar in natural resources (NRS 200; 1 credit), introductory soil science (NRS 212; 4 credits), and conservation biology (NRS 223; 4 credits). Basic science requirements (22-23 credits) include eight credits of biological sciences (BIO 101/103 & BIO 102/104); four credits of introductory or general chemistry (CHM 103/105 or CHM 101/102) and four credits of organic chemistry (CHM 124/126); three credits applied calculus (MTH 131); and three to four credits of statistics (STA 308 or 409). At least 22 credits of required concentration courses must be taken, including principles of wildlife ecology and management (NRS 305; 3 credits); wildlife field techniques (NRS 309; 3 credits); field botany and taxonomy (BIO 323; 4 credits); wetland wildlife (NRS 406; 4 credits) or endangered species conservation (NRS 407; 3 credits); and 9-11 additional credits from an approved list of concentration courses that are recommended to include either field ornithology (NRS 304, 3 credits); mammalogy (NRS 324; 4 credits); vertebrate biology (BIO 366; 3 credits); herpetology (NRS 417; 4 credits); animal behavior (BIO 467; 3 credits); or wildlife biometrics (NRS 402; 3 credits). At least 24 credits of supporting electives must be selected from the approved list or from concentration electives or from other 300 or 400 level natural resources science courses. Students may complete specific course work to apply to become a certified wildlife biologist that includes the following supporting electives: three credits in botany; six credits in zoology; six credits in resources policy; and six credits in communications. Up to 12 credits of experiential learning courses may be taken. A maximum of 10 credits of experiential learning courses may be taken toward satisfying concentration credit (letter grade courses only), and up to 12 credits of experiential learning courses may be used as supporting electives (letter grade or S/U courses). At least 12 credits of natural resources science courses must be completed in concentration and at least six more in supporting electives. A total of 120 credits is required for graduation.

Masters of Environmental Science and Management

The Masters of Environmental Science and Management (M.E.S.M.) is an interdisciplinary, interdepartmental, professional degree program designed for students who seek professional environmental positions in areas other than research. The M.E.S.M. degree program serves graduate students from six departments within URI's College of Environment and Life Sciences (CELS): Environmental and Natural Resource Economics; Fisheries, Animal and Veterinary Science; Geosciences; Marine Affairs; Natural Resources Science; and Plant Sciences. It is administered by a steering committee selected from the graduate faculty. The M.E.S.M. degree program has the following Specializations: Conservation biology; earth and hydrologic science; environmental communication; environmental planning and design; environmental policy and management; remote sensing and spatial analysis; sustainable systems; and wetland, watershed, and ecosystem science.

A minimum of 36 credits of course work consisting of 21-25 credits of core courses, including at least nine credits in natural sciences, at least six credits in social sciences, and at least three credits in numerical methods; 6-10 credits of electives. A culminating experience for three credits which consists of one of the following: an internship (EVS 597) with an environmental agency, non-governmental agency, or private firm; an independent research project (EVS 598) that results in a substantial, high-quality, written report; or successful completion of EVS 505 (Environmental Leadership); and at least two credits of graduate seminar (typically EVS 501, 502), including a terminal oral presentation.