

SDBOR Policy 1.2.5 states South Dakota State University's mission is to offer academic programs in the liberal arts and sciences and professional education in agriculture, education, engineering, home economics, business economics, nursing, and pharmacy. The nature of the Rural Health Certificate fits within the statutory mission of South Dakota State University. SDSU is currently authorized to deliver majors in nursing, pharmacy, medical laboratory science, community and public health, and nutrition and dietetics.

Alignment of the Rural Health Certificate with SDSU's mission and strategic plan:

x *Achieve Excellence through Transformative Education:* The rural health certificate

certificate would be more competitive in the job market as they will have training that aligns with the distinct needs of rural healthcare settings, such as managing multiple roles, addressing health resource shortages, and utilizing telehealth. Nursing and other healthcare students who obtain a rural health certificate would be better positioned to enter the workforce in rural settings, where demand for healthcare professionals is high. Additionally, the certificate could enhance opportunities for further education, such as advanced nursing degrees or public health programs focused on rural health.

Federal initiatives frequently offer loan repayment programs and scholarships to healthcare professionals who commit to working in underserved areas, including rural regions.<sup>3</sup> Furthermore, national and state governments are increasing their focus on rural health through funding and policy initiatives aimed at improving access to care in these areas.<sup>4, 5</sup> A rural health certificate aligns with these policy goals, helping institutions produce graduates who are qualified to fill critical rural healthcare roles.

An undergraduate rural health certificate would prepare students for employment in high-demand rural settings, address healthcare disparities in these communities, and respond to national policy goals aimed at improving access to care in underserved areas.

## **5. Who is the intended audience for the certificate**

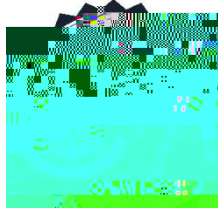
This certificate is not intended as a stackable credential. Students will be able to apply the 11 credits towards their major requirements and available electives.

7. List the courses required for completion of the certificate in the table below (if any new courses are proposed for the certificate, please attach the new course requests to this form).

| <b>Prefix</b> | <b>Number</b> | <b>Course Title</b>          | <b>Prerequisites for Course</b><br><i>Include credits for prerequisites in subtotal below.</i> | <b>Credit Hours</b> | <b>New (yes, no)</b> |
|---------------|---------------|------------------------------|--|---------------------|----------------------|
| HSC           | 212           | Contemporary Health Problems | None   | 2                   | No                   |
| HSC           | 402           | Rural Healthcare Matters     | None   |                     |                      |

| <b>Individual Student Outcome</b>  | <b>Program Courses that Address the Outcomes</b> |                |                |                |
|--|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|  | <b>HSC 212</b>                                   | <b>HSC 402</b> | <b>HSC 410</b> | <b>HSC 452</b> |
| 2. Students will demonstrate knowledge of rural healthcare delivery models, including the use of telehealth, mobile clinics, and interdisciplinary care teams, to improve access and quality of care in rural communities. |  |                | X              |                |

Appendix A  
Corresponding Curriculum Requests – New Course Requests



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

**New Course Request**

|   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| <b>SDSU</b>                             | <b>Nursing</b>             |
| <b>Institution</b>                      | <b>Division/Department</b> |
| Dennis D. Hedge                         | 10/22/2024                 |
| <b>Institutional Approval Signature</b> | <b>Date</b>                |

**Section 1. Course Title and Description**

| Prefix & No. | Course Title                    | Credits |
|--------------|---------------------------------|---------|
| HSC 410      | Current Rural Healthcare Trends | 3       |

| Course Description  |
|---|
| This course provides a comprehensive overview of the dynamic landscape of rural healthcare. Students will explore the unique challenges and opportunities facing healthcare providers and communities in rural areas. |

**Pre-requisites or Co-requisites**

| Prefix & No. | Course Title             | Pre-Req/Co-Req? |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| HSC 402      | Rural Healthcare Matters | Pre-Req         |

**Registration Restrictions**

|      |
|------|
| None |
|------|

**Section 2. Review of Course**

**2.1. Will this be a unique or common course?**

**Unique Course**

| Prefix & No. | Course Title                                 | Credits |
|--------------|--|---------|
| HSC 402      | Rural Healthcare Matters                     | 3       |
| FAMP 857     | Rural Health/Interprofessional Collaboration | 4       |

Provide explanation of differences between proposed course and existing system catalog courses below:

HSC 402 provides an introductory focus on rural healthcare, however, the proposed course takes a more in-depth look at the issues facing healthcare providers and communities.

FAMP 857 is a clinical course for medical students.

**Section 3. Other Course Information**

**3.1. Are there instructional staffing impacts?**

No. Schedule Management, explain below: This new course will be initially offered every spring, alternating with other HSC courses. If needed, it will be offered more frequently.

**3.2. Existing program(s) in which course will be offered:** Rural Health Certificate

**3.3. Proposed instructional method by university (as defined by AAC Guideline 5.4):** D - Discussion

**3.4. Proposed delivery method by university (as defined by AAC Guideline 5.5):** 015 - Online Asynchronous, 018 - Online Synchronous

**3.5. Term change will be effective:** Fall 2025

**3.6. Can students repeat the course for additional credit?** Yes, total credit limit: No

- 3.7. Will grade for this course be limited to S/U (pass/fail)? Yes No
- 3.8. Will section enrollment be capped? Yes, max per section: No
- 3.9. Will this course equate (i.e., be considered the same course for degree completion) with any other unique or common courses in the common course system database in Colleague and the Course Inventory Report? Yes No
- 3.10. Is this prefix approved for your university? Yes No

**Section 4. Department and Course Codes (Completed by University Academic Affairs)**

- 4.1. University Department: Nursing
- 4.2. Banner Department Code: SNUR
- 4.3. Proposed CIP Code: 51.2201

Is this a new CIP code for the university? Yes No

**NEW COURSE REQUEST**  
**Supporting Justification for On-Campus Review**

|                            |                  |             |
|----------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Heidi Mennenga             | Heidi Mennenga   | 9/6/2024    |
| <b>Request Originator</b>  | <b>Signature</b> | <b>Date</b> |
| Heidi Mennenga             | Heidi Mennenga   | 9/6/2024    |
| <b>Department Chair</b>    | <b>Signature</b> | <b>Date</b> |
| Mary Anne Krogh            | Mary Anne Krogh  | 9/6/2024    |
| <b>School/College Dean</b> | <b>Signature</b> | <b>Date</b> |

- Provide specific reasons for the proposal of this course and explain how the changes enhance the curriculum.  
 This course will be included in the proposed Rural Health Certificate. Intended for a variety of students, including those in healthcare-related majors, this course will focus on specific challenges and opportunities facing healthcare providers and communities in rural areas.
- Note whether this course is: Required Elective
- In addition to the major/program in which this course is offered, what other majors/programs will be affected by this course?  
 None.
- If this will be a dual listed course, indicate how the distinction between the two levels will be made.  
 N/A
- Desired section size 30
- Provide qualifications of faculty who will teach this course. List name(s), rank(s), and degree(s).  
 Theresa Garren-Grubbs, Clinical Assistant Professor, DNP  
 Danielle Currier, Instructor, MSN
- Note whether adequate facilities are available and list any special equipment needed for the course.  
 No special equipment is needed and the course is online so no impact on facilities.
- Note whether adequate library and media support are available for the course.  
 Current library and media support is adequate for the course.
- Will the new course duplicate courses currently being offered on this campus? Yes No
- If this course may be offered for variable credit, explain how the amount of credit at each offering is to be determined.  
 N/A