



The University of Georgia

University Council
Athens, Georgia 30602

March 12, 2014

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2013-2014

Mr. David E. Shipley, Chair

Agricultural and Environmental Sciences - Dr. William K. Vencill

Arts and Sciences - Dr. Roxanne Eberle (Arts)

Dr. Rodney Mauricio (Sciences)

Business - Dr. William D. Lastrapes

Ecology - Dr. James W. Porter

Education - Dr. William G. Wraga

Engineering - Dr. Sidney Thompson

Environment and Design - Mr. David Spooner

Family and Consumer Sciences - Dr. Silvia Giraudo

Forestry and Natural Resources - Dr. Sarah F. Covert

Journalism and Mass Communication - Dr. Alison F. Alexander

Law - No representative

Pharmacy - Dr. Cory Momany

Public and International Affairs - Dr. Robert Grafstein

Public Health - Dr. Katie D. Hein

Social Work - Dr. Kristina Jaskyte

Veterinary Medicine - Dr. Scott A. Brown

Graduate School - Dr. Tracie E. Costantino

Ex-Officio - Provost Pamela S. Whitten

Undergraduate Student Representative - Ms. Hadley Dreibelbis

Graduate Student Representative - Ms. Margaret Robbins

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal for a new Graduate Certificate in Obesity and Weight Management will be an agenda item for the March 19, 2014, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

David E. Shipley, Chair
University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost Pamela S. Whitten
Dr. Laura D. Jolly



The University of Georgia

Linda Kirk Fox
Dean

College of Family & Consumer Sciences
Office of the Dean

224 Dawson Hall
Athens, Georgia 30602-3622
Telephone (706) 542-4879
Facsimile (706) 542-4862
Web page www.jfcs.uga.edu

October 30, 2013

Dr. Libby V. Morris
Interim Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
Administration Building
University of Georgia
CAMPUS

Dear Provost Morris:

The College of Family and Consumer Sciences supports the creation of a **Graduate Interdisciplinary Certificate in Obesity and Weight Management** submitted by Dr. Mary Ann Johnson, Dr. Joan G. Fischer, Dr. Linda Campbell, Dr. Ellen Evans, and Dr. Neale Chumbler from the University of Georgia, and Dr. Leann Birch from Penn State University. The first Director of the certificate program will be Dr. Leann Birch, William P. Flatt Professor in Childhood Obesity when she joins UGA in January 2014. We support the intention to rotate the leadership and directorship for this certificate among three colleges: College of Family and Consumer Sciences, College of Education, and College of Public Health.

Our college supports the focus of this certificate for graduate students who are or aspire to be health professionals and/or practitioners in public health, policy, environment, counseling and behavior management, schools, foods, nutrition, dietetics, physical activity, medicine, pharmacy, nursing, and related disciplines. The economic costs of obesity are staggering with medical costs alone exceeding \$150 billion in the US. The annual cost of obesity in Georgia is estimated to be \$2.4 billion (\$250 per Georgian each year), including direct health care costs and lost productivity from disease, disability, and death. Recent data compiled by UGA's Obesity Initiative Strategic Plan (2013-2018) indicates that the projected cost of obesity in Georgia is \$4.43 billion for 2013 in direct health care costs and lost productivity from disease, disability, and death.

Georgia has a high prevalence of obesity among our children, while more than 60% of adults in Georgia are overweight or obese. According to the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control, nutrition, physical activity, behavior, environment, and policy are among the important targets for prevention and treatment of obesity and will also be the primary topics addressed in the proposed certificate.

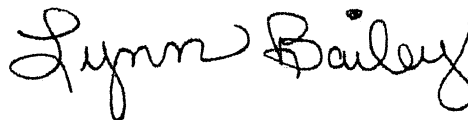
This certificate fills a gap in higher education, particularly for Georgia with its high prevalence of obesity and economic impacts, including lost productivity and high health care costs. The overall impact will be to equip graduates – our future workforce – with the interdisciplinary knowledge and skills to address the problem of childhood and adult obesity from multidisciplinary perspectives in their environments, including schools, UGA Extension, public health departments, clinical and outpatient settings, and other community venues. This segment of the workforce directly interacts with and impacts the health and well-being of children, the general public, and our communities on a daily basis. Therefore, this Graduate Interdisciplinary Certificate should have widespread appeal.

We are pleased to support the faculty led certificate and join the other colleges in endorsing the vision and the implementation for enrollment of students in fall 2014.

Sincerely,



Linda Kirk Fox
Dean



Lynn B. Bailey
Department Head, Foods and Nutrition

C: Silvia Giraud, Associate Dean Academic Programs
Mary Ann Johnson, Graduate Coordinator, FDN



The University of Georgia

College of Education
Office of the Dean

30 October 30 2013

Dr. Libby V. Morris
Interim Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
Administration Building
University of Georgia
CAMPUS

Dear Dr. Morris:

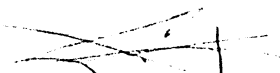
The College of Education supports the creation of this Graduate Interdisciplinary Certificate in Obesity and Weight Management submitted by Dr. Mary Ann Johnson, Dr. Joan G. Fischer, Dr. Linda Campbell, Dr. Ellen Evans, and Dr. Neale Chumberl from the University of Georgia, and Dr. Leann Birch from Penn State University. We understand that the first director of the program will be Dr. Leann Birch who will join the College of Family Consumer Sciences in January 2014. We support the intention to rotate the leadership and directorship for this certificate among three colleges: College of Family and Consumer Sciences, College of Education, and College of Public Health.

Our College supports the focus of this certificate on graduate students who are or aspire to be health professionals and/or practitioners in schools, counseling and behavior management, public health, policy, environment, foods, nutrition, dietetics, physical activity, medicine, pharmacy, nursing, and related disciplines. We are supportive of the Department of Kinesiology and the Department of Counseling and Human Development Services involvement through Dr. Ellen Evans' and Dr. Linda Campbell's service on the steering committee, providing required and elective courses, and for offering their respective Centers as potential sites for internships and practicums.


Georgia has a high prevalence of obesity among our children, while more than 60% of adults are overweight or obese. According to the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control, nutrition, physical activity, behavior, environment, and policy are among the important targets for prevention and treatment of obesity and it is logical that these will be among the primary topics addressed in the certificate.

This certificate fills a gap in higher education and is timely and relevant for students in our College who work with children and adults in their careers. We expect this certificate will equip graduates and our workforce with interdisciplinary knowledge and skills to address the problem of obesity through schools, and other venues such as Cooperative Extension, public health departments, clinical and outpatient settings. We expect this Graduate Interdisciplinary Certificate will be appealing to students in our College.

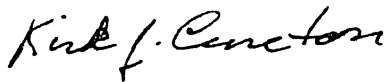
Sincerely,



Craig H. Kennedy, PhD
Dean and Professor



Diane L. Cooper, PhD
Professor and Department Head
Department of Counseling and Human Development Services



Kirk J. Cureton, PhD
Professor and Department Head
Department of Kinesiology



The University of Georgia

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
Office of the Dean and Director

October 30, 2013

Dr. Libby V. Morris
Interim Senior VP for Academic Affairs and Provost
Administration Building
CAMPUS

Dear Dr. Morris:

The College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES) supports the creation of this Graduate Interdisciplinary Certificate in Obesity and Weight Management submitted by Dr. Mary Ann Johnson, Dr. Joan G. Fischer, Dr. Linda Campbell, Dr. Ellen Evans, and Dr. Neale Chumbler from the University of Georgia, as well as Dr. Leann Birch from Penn State University who will join UGA in January 2014. Given that the majority of the courses and internship sites are currently from the College of Family and Consumer Sciences, College of Education, and College of Public Health, I support the intention to rotate the directorship for this certificate among these three colleges.

I am delighted that Dr. Louise Wicker from our Department of Food Science and Technology will offer an elective course to support this certificate. Over time, I see CAES increasing their role by providing additional coursework from many of our departments including Food Science and Technology, Agricultural and Applied Economics, and Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication. These disciplines play key roles in food production, economic and policy analysis of food and health issues, and communication about the role of the food industry and agriculture in developing a safe, healthy, and sustainable food supply. Also, faculty and staff from these departments can offer unique opportunities for research, service learning, practicums and internships to further explore the key – and essential – roles that the food industry and agriculture play in obesity prevention and management.

This certificate will be appealing to graduate students in our college. The complex and multifactorial nature of obesity requires that experts in agriculture, food science, economics and communications work closely with those in education, public health, and family and consumer sciences to make real and measurable progress in reversing this epidemic. I expect this certificate will equip graduates and our future workforce with the knowledge and skills to address the problem of obesity more effectively through the food industry, Cooperative Extension, public health departments, schools, and health care settings. The multidisciplinary nature of this certificate will afford our students with a unique opportunity to explore how agriculture and food science are involved in complementary ways with other disciplines to prevent and manage obesity and obesity-related disorders.

Sincerely,

J. Scott Angle
Dean

JSA/alc



The University of Georgia

College of Public Health
Office of the Dean

October 30, 2013

Dr. Libby V. Morris
Interim Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
Administration Building
University of Georgia
CAMPUS

Dear Dr. Morris:

The College of Public Health supports the creation of this Graduate Interdisciplinary Certificate in Obesity and Weight Management submitted by Dr. Mary Ann Johnson, Dr. Joan G. Fischer, Dr. Linda Campbell, Dr. Ellen Evans, and Dr. Neale Chumbler from the University of Georgia, and Dr. Leann Birch from Penn State University. We understand that the first director of the program will be Dr. Leann Birch who will join the College of Family Consumer Sciences in January 2014. We support the intention to rotate the leadership and directorship for this certificate among three colleges: College of Family and Consumer Sciences, College of Education, and College of Public Health.

The required courses and electives align well with the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control's suggestions that nutrition, physical activity, behavior, environment, and policy are among the important targets for prevention and treatment of obesity. The College of Public Health supports faculty involved in the certificate, especially Dr. Neale Chumbler who is serving on the Steering Committee, as well as both Neale and Dr. Jennifer Gay who will be teaching courses in the certificate from the Department of Health Policy and Management and the Department of Health Promotion and Behavior, respectively.

We expect this certificate will equip graduates and our future workforce with the knowledge and skills to address the problem of obesity more effectively through public health departments, schools, Cooperative Extension, and clinical and outpatient settings. The multidisciplinary nature of this certificate will afford our students with a unique opportunity to explore how public health and other disciplines are involved in complementary ways to prevent and manage obesity and obesity-related disorders. This certificate is timely and relevant for students in our College who work in many areas of public health at the local, state, and national levels.

Sincerely,

Phillip L. Williams
Dean

**Proposal for Graduate Certificate Program at UGA
Graduate Interdisciplinary Certificate in Obesity and Weight Management**

Institution: University of Georgia Date: October 18, 2103, Revised March 1, 2014

School/College:

College of Family and Consumer Sciences

College of Education

College of Public Health

Department/Division:

Department of Foods and Nutrition, College of Family and Consumer Sciences

Department of Counseling and Human Development Services, College of Education

Department of Kinesiology, College of Education

Department of Health Policy and Management, College of Public Health

Department of Health Promotion and Behavior, College of Public Health

Level: Graduate

Proposed starting date for program: Fall 2014

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this certificate program is to establish UGA as a nationally recognized center for obesity-related graduate education for health professionals and practitioners by meeting these educational objectives: 1) increase understanding of the interdisciplinary nature of obesity and weight management; 2) demonstrate the need for transdisciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to solving the obesity epidemic; 3) develop skills that enable communication about evidence-based approaches to obesity prevention and management among health professionals and practitioners from a range of disciplines; 4) develop knowledge that will assist in advocacy for solutions to the problem of obesity; and 5) develop skills in identifying and/or participating in the clinical and/or research processes to address the problem of obesity and weight management. Meeting these goals will help prepare current and future health professionals who are equipped to address the problem of obesity and weight management from evidence-based, multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives that include nutrition, physical activity, behavioral management and counseling, environment, and policy perspectives. This Graduate Certificate will require courses that will be offered by UGA on campus; if demand becomes sufficiently high, then we will seek additional resources to develop and offer the courses through distance education (e-courses).

The College of Family and Consumer Sciences, in collaboration with the College of Education and the College of Public Health, propose a Graduate Interdisciplinary Certificate in Obesity and Weight Management for graduate students who are or aspire to be health professionals and/or practitioners in public health, policy, environment, counseling and behavior management, schools, foods, nutrition, dietetics, physical activity, medicine, pharmacy, nursing, and related disciplines. The economic costs of obesity are staggering, with medical costs alone exceeding

\$150 billion in the U.S. The annual cost of obesity in Georgia is estimated to be 2.4 billion (\$250 per Georgian each year), including direct health care costs and lost productivity from disease, disability, and death (GA DPH, 2010). More recent data compiled by UGA's Obesity Initiative Strategic Plan (2013-2018) indicates that the projected cost of obesity in Georgia is \$4.43 billion for 2013 in direct health care costs and lost productivity from disease, disability, and death. Georgia ranks an astonishing second in the prevalence of overweight and obese children ages 10 to 17 years (RWJF, 2012). Among adults in Georgia, 62.7% are overweight or obese, and Georgia ranks 24th in overall obesity prevalence and 18th in diabetes, physical inactivity, and hypertension (RWJF, 2012). According to the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (2012), nutrition, physical activity, behavior, environment, and policy are among the important targets for prevention and treatment of obesity and will also be the primary topics in the proposed certificate.

To begin to address the problem of obesity in Georgia, the University of Georgia launched its Obesity Initiative in 2011 with a focus on research and public engagement. It quickly became clear that there is a need for obesity-related education and instruction. Thus, the goal of this Graduate Certificate is to provide advanced training related to the prevention and management of obesity and obesity-related disorders for health professionals and practitioners pursuing careers in the areas of public health, policy, environment, counseling and behavior management, schools, foods, nutrition, dietetics, physical activity, medicine, pharmacy, nursing, and related disciplines. An interdisciplinary survey course will serve to integrate the major topics. Electives include a clinical or research course that will facilitate experiential learning for the students (for example, through the UGA Clinics where practicums and internships can be fulfilled if desired by students as electives on page 8-9) or electives from other departments across campus. This program will be sufficiently flexible to permit students to tailor the focus of their course selections to their particular interest in obesity as health professionals and practitioners.

Students will complete five courses (15 credits) and one survey course (1 credit) for a total of 16 semester hours of graduate-level courses to meet the requirements of the Certificate Program. Students can be non-degree seeking or degree seeking, but must have completed an undergraduate degree from an accredited institution to be considered for admission to this Graduate Certificate program.

This Graduate Certificate is necessary because it provides instruction across several of the key targets for obesity prevention and management. The University of Georgia is uniquely poised to offer this certificate because of the strength of its faculty in teaching and research across the basic and applied sciences related to obesity. Graduate students who complete this certificate will be able to provide leadership as health professionals and practitioners for multi- and interdisciplinary approaches to obesity and weight management in community, school, and/or clinical settings.

There is an absence of certificates like the one proposed. The professional organization, The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, has two certificates that are only available to dietetics professionals (Certificate of Training in Adult Weight Management Program, <http://cdrnet.org/weight-management-adult-program>, Certificate of Training in Childhood and Adolescent Weight Management, <http://cdrnet.org/weight-management-childhood-adolescent->

program), but these do not offer the breadth and depth of topics in the proposed Graduate Certificate that is multi- and interdisciplinary in nature to be of interest to a wide range of health professionals and practitioners. While there are numerous research centers and institutes at universities that focus on obesity, we did not identify any certificates in a university setting like the one proposed. Thus, we expect the establishment of the Graduate Interdisciplinary Certificate in Obesity and Weight Management to attract high-quality graduate students and established health professionals and practitioners to the University of Georgia.

The certificate will be implemented in fall 2014. Over time it is predicted that an increase in credit hour production may result from students interested in obtaining an online certificate in Obesity and Weight Management from UGA.

The initial Certificate Director will be Dr. Leann Birch, William P. Flatt Professor in Childhood Obesity, Department of Foods and Nutrition, College of Family and Consumer Sciences (who joined UGA in January 2014), in collaboration with the Steering Committee composed of Dr. Joan G. Fischer, Associate Professor and Director, Dietetics Didactic Program, Department of Foods and Nutrition; Mary Ann Johnson, Professor and Graduate Coordinator, Department of Foods and Nutrition, College of Family and Consumer Sciences; Dr. Linda Campbell, Professor, Department of Counseling and Human Development Services, and Dr. Ellen Evans, Associate Professor, both from College of Education; and Dr. Neale R. Chumbler, Professor and Department Head, Department of Health Policy and Management, College of Public Health. Administrative responsibility for the program will rotate among the three colleges every three years (e.g., the Program Director). Initial administrative responsibility for the program will be in the Department of Foods and Nutrition, College of Family and Consumer Sciences, with Dr. Leann Birch assuming this responsibility. It is expected that 30 students will complete this Graduate Certificate annually. A fourth college, the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, was asked to sign off on this Certificate because they are contributing at least one course elective, and graduate students from the field of agriculture may be interested in pursuing this certificate (e.g., Department of Food Science and Technology and Department of Agricultural and Environmental Economics).

When fully implemented, this certificate is expected to be a valuable credential for current and future health professionals and practitioners from diverse fields, including public health, policy, environment, counseling and behavior management, schools, foods, nutrition, dietetics, physical activity, medicine, pharmacy, nursing, and related disciplines.

Response to the Criteria for All Programs

The criteria that proposed new programs are expected to meet in order to be approved and implemented within the University of Georgia are listed below. Please provide sufficient explanation as to how the proposed program satisfies each criterion.

1. *The purpose and educational objectives of the program must be clearly stated, and must be consistent with the role, scope, and long-range development plan of the institution.*
 - A. *State the purpose and educational objectives of the program and explain how the program complements the role, scope, and long-range development plan of the institution.*

The purpose of this certificate program is to provide interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary graduate training of the factors affecting etiology, prevention, and treatment of obesity. A successful certificate program in combination with the research and outreach components of UGA's Obesity Initiative will help to establish UGA as a nationally recognized center for obesity-related graduate education for health professionals and practitioners by meeting these educational objectives. Our specific objectives are to: 1) increase understanding of the transdisciplinary and interdisciplinary nature of obesity and weight management; 2) demonstrate and meet the need for multi-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary approaches to solving the obesity epidemic; 3) develop skills that enable communication about evidence-based approaches to obesity prevention and management among health professionals and practitioners from a range of disciplines; 4) develop knowledge that will assist in advocacy for solutions to the problem of obesity; and 5) develop skills in identifying and/or participating in the clinical and/or research processes to address the problem of obesity and weight management. Meeting these goals will help prepare current and future health professionals who are equipped to address the problem of obesity and weight management from evidence-based, multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives that include nutrition, physical activity, behavioral management and counseling, environment, and policy perspectives. This Graduate Certificate will equip current and future health professionals with the tools to enhance the goals of the UGA Obesity Initiative which seeks to address adult and childhood obesity and its related diseases, as well as advance research and outreach to improve the health of Georgia's citizens and decrease the cost of health care in the state (<http://obesity.ovpr.uga.edu/>). Given the dearth of such training nationally, it is likely that this Graduate Interdisciplinary Certificate in Obesity and Weight Management can become a model for the nation. This proposed Graduate Certificate represents a response to increased interests of health professionals and academia, as well as individuals, families and society for practitioners trained in obesity prevention and management. There is no inconsistency in this proposal related to the role, scope, and long-range development plan for the department, college, or university as a whole.

- B. *Describe the interdisciplinary nature of the proposed program. Which school(s) or college(s) and department(s) will be involved in the development of the program? Describe the expected stage of development for this program within five years.*

The three colleges that are involved with management of this Graduate Certificate are the College of Education (Department of Counseling and Human Development Services, Department of Kinesiology), the College of Family and Consumer Sciences (Department of Foods and Nutrition), and the College of Public Health (Department of Health Promotion and Behavior, Department of Health Policy and Management). This Graduate Certificate is interdisciplinary through the involvement of four colleges, at least one department or unit in each college, and course offerings from each of the colleges (the fourth college providing a course is the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, Department of Food Science and Technology). The expected state of development for this program within five years is to be graduating at least 30 students annually.

2. *There must be a demonstrated and well-documented need for the program.*
- A. *Explain why this program is necessary.* Georgia has the second highest prevalence of obesity in the nation among children aged 10 to 17 years. The UGA Obesity Initiative seeks to address this problem of obesity through research and outreach programs. This instructional initiative of a graduate interdisciplinary certificate will provide training to current and future health professionals and practitioners to enhance their ability to prevent and manage obesity in community, school, and clinical settings.
 - B. *In addition, provide the following information:*
- 3. *Semester/Year of Program Initiation:* fall 2014.
 - 4. *Semester/Year Full Implementation of Program:* fall 2017.
 - 5. *Semester/Year First Certificates will be awarded:* fall 2015.
 - 6. *Annual Number of Graduates expected (once the program is established):* 20 to 30.
 - 7. *Projected Future Trends for number of students enrolled in the program:* increase to more than 60 enrolled and more than 30 graduates per year when distance education (e-courses) are implemented.
3. *There must be substantial evidence that student demand for the program will be sufficient to sustain reasonable enrollments in the program.*

Provide documentation of the student interest in the program, and define what a reasonable level of enrollment is for a program of this type. Provide evidence that student demand will be sufficient to sustain reasonable enrollments.

We collected data from several sources regarding potential demand. From an online survey of currently enrolled graduate students (n = 42 respondents, fall 2012), 90.5% of those from the Department of Foods and Nutrition indicated an interest and 82.6% of those from the College of Public Health indicated an interest in this Graduate Certificate.

In an informal survey, more than 60% of 25 students enrolled in a nutrition and chronic disease graduate course in fall 2012 indicated an interest in pursuing this type of certificate. Also, the Department of Foods and Nutrition has frequent requests for more obesity-related content in our curriculum, and many of our master's and doctoral graduates are employed in positions that require a broad-based understanding of obesity and weight management, such as in bariatric surgery practices, school nutrition, food assistance programs, and clinical nutrition services in hospitals and out-patient clinics.

In an informal survey among undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in the pilot course in weight management coaching in the Department of Kinesiology (n = 25, fall 2012), 60% indicated an interested in this type of certificate. Students in this course were from several departments, including Kinesiology, Health Promotion and Behavior, and Foods and Nutrition. They suggested that this certificate present the information for non-specialists in each field (e.g., exercise for non-kinesiology majors); special populations, including children and older adults; cultural issues in weight management; psychology; teaching and education methods; chronic disease management; obesity-related pharmacology; budget and economics as it relates to program developing and obtaining funding and grants; health communications; and journalism.

Together this information suggests that demand will be sufficient to sustain reasonable enrollments and that a multi- and interdisciplinary approach would be of interest across multiple departments and colleges.

In addition, provide the following information:

To what extent will minority student enrollments be greater than, less than, or equivalent to the proportion of minority students in the total student body?

We expect that minority student enrollment will be equivalent to the proportion of minority students in the total student body.

4. *The design and curriculum of the program must be consistent with appropriate disciplinary standards and accepted practice.*

Provide the following information:

A. Present a detailed curriculum outline of the program listing specific course requirements (to include programs of study, course prefix, number, and title).

Required Core for Foundational Knowledge to Achieve Obesity Literacy, 10 credits; these core courses will be offered at least once every two years so that the program can be completed within 2 years

- Nutrition – choose one of the following:

- FDNS 4240/6240 Nutrition and Obesity Across the Lifespan, 3 credits, undergoing review, Dr. Mary Ann Johnson, instructor
- FDNS 8570 Metabolism and Physiology of Food Intake, Energy Balance, and Obesity, 3 credits, Dr. Claire de La Serre
- Physical Activity – choose one of the following:
 - KINS 4500/6500 Physical Activity, Exercise and Obesity Across the Lifespan, 3 credits, undergoing review, Dr. Ellen Evans, instructor
 - KINS 8300-8300L Exercise, Obesity, and Cardiometabolic Diseases, 4 credits, course title change in process, Dr. Nathan Jenkins, instructor
- Policy: HPAM 7050 Health Policy and Obesity, 3 credits, undergoing review, Dr. Neale R. Chumbler, instructor
- Survey: FDNS(KINS)(HPAM)(HPRB)(ECHD) 8595 Survey of Obesity and Weight Management, 1 credit, undergoing review, instructor will vary

Electives, 6 credits:

Recommended for learning in a variety of disciplines, as well as for the application of foundational knowledge in applied, clinical, and/or research settings.

- Any of the courses listed under the required core that are not already taken
- ECHD 4020/6020 Interpersonal Relationships (includes motivational interviewing), 3 credits, approved, Dr. Linda Campbell, instructor
- ECHD 9110 Approaches in Cognitive-Behavioral Therapies, 3 credits, approved, Dr. Linda Campbell, instructor
- ECHD 8125 Introduction to Health Psychology, 3 credits, approved, Dr. Bernadette Heckman, instructor
- FDNS/HDFS 6260 Childhood Obesity, 3 credits, undergoing review, Dr. Leann Birch and Dr. Caree Cotwright, instructors
- FDNS(KINS) 4220/6220 Nutrition in Physical Activity, Exercise, and Sport, 3 credits, approved, Dr. Kelly Pritchett, instructor
- FDNS(KINS) 7940 Nutrition, Physical Activity, Exercise, and Sport Internship, 3 credits, approved, instructors are in KINS and FDNS, e.g., Drs. Kelly Pritchett, Mary Ann Johnson, Ellen Evans, others

- FDNS(KINS) 8230 Advanced Nutrition in Physical Activity, Exercise, and Sport, 3 credits, approved, Dr. Kelly Pritchett, instructor
- FDST 7070E Functional Foods, 3 credits, approved, Dr. Louise Wicker, instructor
- KINS 4300/6300 Exercise Epidemiology, 3 credits, approved, Dr. Rod Dishman, instructor
- KINS 4310/6310 Exercise Prescription for Special Populations, 3 credits, approved, Dr. Robert Pritchett, instructor
- KINS 4640/6640-4640L/6640L Scientific Principles of Conditioning and Fitness, 4 credits, approved, Dr. Robert Pritchett, instructor
- KINS 4600/6600 Measurement and Surveillance of Physical Activity, 3 credits, approved, Dr. Michael Schmidt, instructor
- KINS(FDNS) 4700/6700 Weight Management Coaching, 3 credits, 9/24/13 undergoing Graduate School review, Dr. Ellen Evans, instructor
- KINS 7310-7310L Clinical Exercise Physiology, 4 credits, approved, Dr. Robert Pritchett, instructor
- KINS(HPRB)(FDNS) 7600 Public Health Physical Activity and Nutrition Interventions, 4 credits, approved, Dr. Jennifer L. Gay, instructor
- 7000, 7300, 9000, 9300, or other course numbers that involve internships, practicums, and/or service learning may be approved as electives. These courses should be obesity-related as certified in writing by the supervising faculty member (with at least 50% of the course is related to obesity)
- With prior approval by the Steering Committee, courses from other departments and programs can be approved for this Graduate Certificate and at least 50% of the course should be related to obesity (as verified in writing by the instructor of the course)
- With prior approval by the Steering Committee, other courses can be approved for this Graduate Certificate as they become available

UGA Clinics where practicums and internships can be fulfilled. These are examples that can be pursued as electives if desired by the students. The faculty and staff listed below support offering their sites for this purpose.

- Aspire Clinic, College of Family and Consumer Sciences, Megan R. Ford, M.S., Coordinator
- Center for Counseling and Evaluation, College of Education, Linda F. Campbell, Ph.D., Director

- Center for Physical Activity and Health, College of Education, Ellen M. Evans, PhD, Director
 - University Health Center (e.g., counseling, health promotion), Jean E. Chin, Executive Director
 - Workplace Health Group, College of Public Health, Mark Wilson, Director
- 3) *Identify which aspects of the proposed curriculum already exist and which constitute new courses.*

This information is provided above in the list of Required and Elective courses.

2) *Identify model programs, accepted disciplinary standards, and accepted curricular practices against which the proposed program could be judged. Evaluate the extent to which the proposed curriculum is consistent with these external points of reference and provide a rationale for significant inconsistencies and differences that may exist.*

We relied on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for topical areas to include in this certificate because traditional academic disciplinary standards have not yet been developed.

3) *If program accreditation is available, provide an analysis of the ability of the program to satisfy the curricular standards of such specialized accreditation.*

Not applicable.

Faculty resources must be adequate to support an effective program.

- A. *Define the size, experience, and specializations of the full-time faculty needed to support an effective program. Identify the extent to which such faculty resources currently exist at the institution, and what additions to the faculty will be needed to fully implement the program. Specify how many full-time faculty will provide direct instructional support to this program.*

More than ten existing faculty will provide direct instructional support to this program and will teach the required and elective courses. Their experience ranges from the Assistant Professor to the Professor level, they are from six departments in four colleges, and have the range of specializations needed to support an effective program. Therefore, faculty resources currently exist at the institution to fully implement the program, and no additional faculty are needed at this time. More than 100 faculty at UGA are engaged in obesity research (basic and applied) and outreach across the UGA campus (see <http://obesity.ovpr.uga.edu/affiliated-units/>) who can provide instructional support for internships, practicums, and service learning experiences.

- B. *In addition, for each faculty member directly involved in this program, list:*
1. *Name, rank, degrees, academic specialty, educational background*

<i>Name</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Degree</i>	<i>Academic Specialty</i>	<i>Educational Background</i>
Leann L. Birch	Professor	Ph.D.	Childhood Obesity and Human Development	Developmental psychology, ingestive behavior
Clifton A. Baile	Professor	Ph.D.	Foods and Nutrition, Animal and Dairy Science	Obesity, nutrition, biotechnology, agriculture
Linda F. Campbell	Professor	Ph.D.	Counseling Psychology	Counseling, psychology, cognitive behavioral therapies
Caree Cotwright	Assistant Professor	Ph.D., R.D.	Foods and Nutrition	Community intervention programs targeting childhood obesity
Neale R. Chumbler	Professor	Ph.D.	Health Policy and Management	Health policy
Claire de La Serre	Assistant Professor	Ph.D.	Foods and Nutrition	Metabolism and physiology of food intake, energy balance and obesity
Ellen M. Evans	Associate Professor	Ph.D.	Kinesiology	Obesity, physical activity, exercise, weight loss, body composition, aging
Jennifer L. Gay	Assistant Professor	Ph.D.	Health Promotion and Behavior	Physical activity, health promotion, behavior, obesity
Bernadette D. Heckman	Associate Professor	Ph.D.	Counseling Psychology	Health psychology
Mary Ann Johnson	Professor	Ph.D.	Foods and Nutrition	Food, nutrition, chronic disease, obesity
Kelly Pritchett	Assistant Professor	Ph.D., R.D.	Foods and Nutrition	Sports nutrition, weight management
Michael Schmidt	Associate Professor	Ph.D.	Kinesiology	Childhood obesity, physical activity/fitness and cardiometabolic diseases
Louise Wicker	Professor	Ph.D.	Food Science and Technology	Food science, technology, functional foods, product development

2. *Special qualifications related to this program*

All faculty have a background and expertise related to obesity that complements the disciplines of foods and nutrition, kinesiology, physical activity, counseling, behavior management, public health, health promotion and behavior, health policy and management, and food science and technology.

3. *Relevant professional and scholarly activity for past five years*

Collectively, faculty associated with the certificate program have maintained active programs of teaching and scholarly research appropriate to their professorial rank that includes university-level teaching and/or research publications in peer-reviewed journals appropriate to their discipline that are related to obesity and the required knowledge base for this Graduate Interdisciplinary Certificate in Obesity and Weight Management.

4. *Projected responsibility in this program and required adjustments in current assignments*

Faculty affiliated with this Graduate Certificate program will teach this coursework as part of their regular teaching assignments. Administrative responsibility for the program will initially reside in the Department of Foods and Nutrition, College of Family and Consumer Sciences, for three years. Then administrative responsibility will rotate among the three leading Colleges at three-year intervals (College of Education, College of Public Health, and College of Family and Consumer Sciences).

C. *Where it is deemed necessary to add faculty in order to fully develop the program give the desired qualifications of the persons to be added.*

Not necessary.

D. *Library, computer, and other instructional resources must be sufficient to adequately support the program.*

- a. *Describe the available library resources for this program and the degree to which they are adequate to support an effective program. Identify the ways and the extent to which library resources need to be improved to adequately support this program.*

All resources are sufficient. There is no need for improvement.

- b. *Likewise, document the extent to which there is sufficient computer equipment, instructional equipment, laboratory equipment, research support resources, etc. available to adequately support this program. Specify improvements needed in these support areas.*

Our respective units, departments, colleges, and faculty have the computer and instructional resources necessary to support this program.

E. *Physical facilities necessary to fully implement the program must be available.*

Describe the building, classroom, laboratory, and office space that will be available for this program and evaluate their adequacy to fully support an effective program. Plans for allocating, remodeling, or acquiring additional space to support the program's full implementation of the program should also be identified.

Our respective units, departments, colleges, and faculty have access to the classrooms needed to support this program. When student demand becomes sufficiently high, we will begin to offer the program in distance education formats (e-courses), expected within one year of initiation of the Graduate Certificate.

F. *The expense to the institution (including personnel, operating, equipment, facilities, library, etc.) required to fully implement the program must be identified.*

a. *Detailed funding to initiate the program and subsequent annual additions required to fully implement the program are needed below. Estimates should be based upon funding needed to develop an effective and successful program and not upon the minimal investment required to mount and sustain a potentially marginal program.*

We propose the following staffing and administration:

1-Staffing and administration:

- Program Director, one course release annually, initially Dr. Leann L. Birch, Professor, Department of Foods and Nutrition, College of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Staff Support, Year 1, 2, 3, 25% time, reports to Dr. Birch. Dr. Birch's staff assistant, whose responsibilities include providing support for research and education related to the Obesity Initiative, will provide support for the Graduate Certificate Program. This staff person will provide administrative support for admissions, course scheduling, facilitate communication among faculty and units involved in teaching across campus, and provide other instructional and administrative support for the Graduate Certificate program. We will seek additional support if demand for this Certificate program increases beyond our current expectations.

	First year	Second year	Third Year
<i>2-Operating costs – none.</i>	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
<i>3-Capital outlays – none.</i>			
<i>4-Library acquisitions – none.</i>			
<i>5-Total</i>	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000

- b. *Indicate the extent of student support (fellowships, assistantships, scholarships, etc.) available for this program, and evaluate the adequacy of this support. Assistantships funded from institutional (as opposed to sponsored) funds should be included in this funding analysis as well.*

We expect graduate students will be supported by graduate assistantships in their home departments.

We do not expect to provide assistantship support for non-degree seeking graduate students.

Commitments of financial support needed to initiate and fully develop the program must be secured.

- c. *Identify the sources of additional funds needed to support the program and the probability of their availability.*
- d. *Funds are adequate at this time and will first come from Dr. Leann Birch's start-up funds. As the directorship rotates among colleges, the UGA Obesity Initiative will obtain the needed funding (as per discussion with Dr. Clifton A. Baile, February 28, 2014). It is particularly important to include in this response the long-range plans for additional or expanded facilities necessary to support an effective program. Evaluate the timing and likelihood of such capital funding.*

If demand, enrollment, and completion are sufficiently high (e.g., > 30 graduates annually), then we will consider creating distance education (e-courses) of the high-demand courses and seeking additional resources if needed for this delivery mechanism.

10. Provisions must be made for appropriate administration of the program within the institution and for the admission to and retention of students in the program in keeping with accepted practice. Describe and evaluate the structure for the administration of the program. Explain the degree to which that structure is in keeping with good practice and accepted standards. Similarly, explain how and by what criteria students will be admitted to and retained in the program, and how these procedures are consistent with accepted standards for effective and successful programs.

The Program Director, Dr. Leann Birch, Department of Foods and Nutrition, College of Family and Consumer Sciences, will be responsible for appropriately administering the program within the institution. The Steering Committee, who will collaborate with the Program Director to ensure this Graduate Certificate reaches its full potential, will include faculty from the College of Family and Consumer Sciences (Dr. Joan G. Fischer, Associate Professor, Department of Foods and Nutrition; Mary Ann Johnson, Professor and Graduate Coordinator, Department of Foods and Nutrition), College of Education (Dr. Evans in the Department of Kinesiology and Dr. Linda Campbell in the Department of Counseling and Human Development), and the College of Public Health (Dr. Neale Chumbler, Department Head, Department of Health Policy and Management).

Admission of non-degree seeking and degree-seeking graduate students will follow procedures established by the UGA Graduate School. In order to be eligible to enroll in the program, an

applicant must be a non-degree seeking graduate student or a currently enrolled degree-seeking student in good standing in a graduate program at UGA. All applicants must seek approval from their major professor (the Program Director services as the major professor for non-degree seeking applicants), must submit a signed form to that effect (a form to be developed that must be signed by the student, major professor, and Program Director). Applicants will be reviewed by the Steering Committee. Applicants denied admission may reapply as early as the next semester and/or appeal to the Steering Committee. Retention in the program is dependent upon earning at least a “B” in all subsequent courses included in the Graduate Certificate.

In keeping with good practice and accepted standards, we propose the following timeline for the growth and development of this Certificate:

- Fall 2014, begin enrolling degree-seeking students
- Fall 2015, in addition, begin offering courses through distance learning (e-courses) to degree-seeking students
- Fall 2016, in addition, begin offering program through distance learning (e-courses) to non-degree-seeking students

References

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, <http://www.cdc.gov/obesity/adult/causes/index.html>, 2012.
- Georgia Department of Public Health, 2010 Georgia Data Summary, Obesity in Children and Youth, <http://health.state.ga.us/pdfs/epi/cdiee/DPH.Epi.7-20-11.pdf>.
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, F as in Fat: How Obesity Threatens America’s Future, page 17, <http://healthyamericans.org/assets/files/TFAH2012FasInFatFnlRv.pdf>, 2012.
- The University of Georgia, Obesity Initiative, Strategic Plan, 2013-2018, December 2012.