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Date: April 10, 2020
To: All HIM Program Students
From: Terissia Bell, UAS HIM Program Director
Subject: UAS HIM Program Update – Curriculum Changes

As you plan for the fall semester, you may notice some of the Health Information Management (HIM) courses look different. I want to take this opportunity to explain the changes to you and help you understand how the changes will affect your course of study. If you are already enrolled in the HIM program, you are in the current or a previous catalog then these changes may not affect you unless you decide to change your catalog year or opt to take advantage of the new courses.

Background Information:

The Commission on Accreditation of Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM) accredits the UAS HIM AAS degree. CAHIIM sets standards for continued accreditation compliance; one of those standards is program curriculum. This includes Student Learning Outcomes or Competencies, in other words what the student is expected to know when they graduate with an AAS degree in HIM. It is the same standard for all programs across the United States.

The Commission on Certification for Health Informatics and Information Management (CCHIIM) manages and sets the strategic direction for certifications. Upon graduation from accredited associate degree programs students are eligible to sit for the Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT) certification examination. The examination is based on an entry-level job analysis of current newly credentialed RHITs. The RHIT exam has a different list of competencies from the academic curriculum competencies. It is important to study for the exam before taking it in case there is content that was not covered in the program curriculum.

CAHIIM and CCHIIM are separate entities from the American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA). The AHIMA Foundation sponsors the Council for Excellence in Education (CEE). The CEE is the leading force in education strategy for the HIM profession, guiding the workforce through improvements to education, coursework and the curricula of associate, baccalaureate, and graduate programs in HIM.

In response to AHIMA's HIM Reimagined (HIMR) initiative, AHIMA and CEE developed the 2018 Health Information Management Curricula Competencies and revised the required Blooms

Taxonomy Levels. The competencies aim to align HIM education with the skills and knowledge required to meet long-term future HIM workforce needs.

The CEE provided the new competencies to CAHIIM in March of 2019. CAHIIM informed all educational programs that they have until September of 2021 to implement the new curricula. The new curriculum requires six domains. The six domains in the 2018 curricula are:

- Domain I. Data Structure, Content, and Information Governance
- Domain II. Information Protection: Access, Use, Disclosure, Privacy, and Security
- Domain III. Informatics, Analytics, and Data Use
- Domain IV. Revenue Cycle Management
- Domain V. Health Law & Compliance
- Domain VI. Organizational Management & Leadership

Program Changes starting fall 2020

In May of 2019, the UAS HIM Faculty reviewed the learning outcomes for all of the HIM courses and determined the changes needed to reflect the new CAHIIM curriculum standard. You will see changes in the entire student learning outcomes in each course. These changes will be reflected in the catalog and in your syllabi.

Courses removed from HIM-AAS:

- HS 116 Mathematics in Healthcare
- BIOL 111 Human Anatomy and Physiology I
- BIOL 112 Human Anatomy and Physiology II

Courses added to the HIM-AAS are:

- HIM 117 Applied Healthcare Statistics
- HS 114 Fundamentals of Anatomy and Physiology
- PSY 111 Introduction to Psychology

HIM 117 will NOT count as a math elective for other programs and for a Baccalaureate degree. You will need to take another math class if you go on for a different degree.

Finally, HIM 282 is being added as a one credit CCS Exam prep course that can be taken but it is not required for the AAS program. It is only a requirement for the Coding Specialist Certificate.

The following table outlines the changes to the AAS degree.

Summary of Curriculum Changes			
Current Curriculum (Through Summer 2020 term)		New Curriculum (Beginning Fall Academic Year 2020/2021)	
WRTG 111 Writing Across Contexts	3	WRTG 111 Writing Across Contexts	3
WRTG 211 Writing in the Humanities or WRTG 212 Writing and the Professions	3	WRTG 211 Writing in the Humanities or WRTG 212 Writing and the Professions	3
COMM 111, 235, 237 or 241	3	COMM 111, 235, 237 or 241	3
BIOL 111 Anatomy & Physiology I	4	HS 114 Fundamentals of Anatomy & Physiology	4
BIOL 112 Anatomy & Physiology II	4	PSY 111 Introduction to Psychology	3
HIM 116 Mathematics in Healthcare	3	HIM 117 Applied Healthcare Statistics	3
HIM 101 Intro to Health Information Management	3	HIM 101 Intro to Health Information Management I	3
HIM 102 Intro to Health Information Management II	3	HIM 102 Intro to Health Information Management II	3
HIM 135 Medical Terminology	3	HIM 135 Medical Terminology	3
HIM 155 Coding I (Outpatient)	3	HIM 155 Coding I (Outpatient)	3
HIM 255 Coding II (Inpatient)	3	HIM 255 Coding II (Inpatient)	3
HIM 258 Coding III (Advanced)	3	HIM 258 Coding III (Advanced)	3
HIM 181 Intro to Healthcare Systems	3	HIM 181 Intro to Healthcare Systems	3
HIM 240 Legal Aspects of Health Information	3	HIM 240 Legal Aspects of Health Information	3
HIM 251 Quality Improvement & Project Management	3	HIM 251 Quality Improvement & Project Management	3
HIM 261 HIM Revenue and Financial Management	3	HIM 261 HIM Revenue and Financial Management	3
HIM 272 Pathophysiology/ Pharmacology	4	HIM 272 Pathophysiology/Pharmacology	4
HIM 280 Healthcare Management	3	HIM 280 Healthcare Management	3
HIM 289 Healthcare Information Technology	3	HIM 289 Healthcare Information Technology	3
HIM 281 RHIT Exam Prep	1	HIM 281 RHIT Exam Prep	1
HIM 291 Internship in Healthcare Management	2	HIM 291 Internship in Healthcare Management	2
Total Credits	63	Total Credits	62

Please call the advising office as soon as you are able to make your degree completion plans.

Advising Office in Sitka
(800) 478-6653 ext. 7717

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Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Terissia Bell
HIM Program Director

Websites for Reference:
CAHIIM www.cahiim.org
AHIMA www.ahima.org
CCHIIM www.ahima.org/certification