



News Release

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Regents Approve New USD Minors and Certificates

SPEARFISH, S.D. – The South Dakota Board of Regents has approved two new minors at the University of South Dakota in specialized business fields to meet emerging employment trends.

Minors in business analytics and operations management will be available to students starting next fall. The minor in business analytics will focus on the use of computational technology and data to improve business decision making and operational effectiveness. An operations management minor will emphasize lean management, project management, and supply chain management as they are applied to business and industry.

Federal labor department projections through 2022 identify a 7 percent job growth for operations managers, while strong national job growth of 16 percent to 32 percent is estimated for business analysts.

New certificate programs at USD were also approved for graphic design and photography. Certificate programs usually require fewer credit hours to complete than a minor. They are developed by packaging a small set of courses that allow students to develop expertise within a focused area of study, addressing identified market and workforce development needs.

In addition, the regents gave initial approval for Black Hills State University and USD to develop plans for four new baccalaureate degrees. BHSU is looking to offer bachelor of fine arts degrees in photography, graphic design, and studio art, while USD is considering bachelor of business administration degrees in innovation and entrepreneurship and in operational analytics.

Both universities will return to the Board of Regents later for official approval of these degrees, once further planning for the new programs is completed.