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More Certificate Options Developed for Concentrated Study

SPEARFISH, S.D. – Six new certificate programs at South Dakota public universities have been approved, offering students a pathway to develop specialized expertise or seek career advancement.

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 to address identified market or workforce development needs.

These are the certificate programs approved today by the South Dakota Board of Regents and the number of credit hours each requires. Except for the health journalism certificate offered by SDSU, all of these programs will be available starting next month.

- **Black Hills State University**
 - Management (12 credit hours)
 - Management Information Systems (12 credit hours)
 - Entrepreneurial Studies (12 credit hours)
- **South Dakota School of Mines and Technology**
 - Global Engineering (9 credit hours)
 - Occupational Safety (9 credit hours)
- **South Dakota State University**
 - Health Journalism (9-12 credit hours, available Fall 2013)

In related news, **South Dakota State University** also seeks permission to develop a new master of mass communication degree to be offered exclusively online. This graduate degree is to be designed specifically for working mid-career professionals in the fields of journalism, advertising, and publications. If approved, the university's existing M.S. degree in communication studies and journalism, with a specialization in journalism, would then be limited to on-campus delivery. SDSU officials will prepare a plan and bring specifics back to the regents later for further action.