SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

Academic and Student Affairs
Consent

AGENDA ITEM: 7 – A (1)

DATE: June 27-29, 2017

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SUBJECT: **New Certificate: DSU Graduate Certificate in Digital Humanities**

Dakota State University (DSU) requests authorization to offer a graduate certificate in Digital Humanities. The certificate will provide students with competency in bridging digital technology with the humanities. This interdisciplinary certificate applies to a variety of disciplines, including but not limited to humanities research, interactive media, data management, and written compositions. The certificate is a response to increasing emphasis on digital practices within humanities jobs and research. The certificate consists of 12 credit hours and includes three new courses.

DSU is requesting authorization to offer the certificate on campus and online.

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DRAFT MOTION 20170627_7-A(1): I move to approve DSU's graduate certificate in Digital Humanities as described in Attachment I.

SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS

New Certificate

UNIVERSITY:	DSU
TITLE OF PROPOSED CERTIFICATE:	**Digital Humanities**
INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:	**Fall 2017**
PROPOSED CIP CODE:	**24.0103**
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	**DENGL**
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	**College of Arts and Sciences**

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

_____   3/6/2017
Institutional Approval Signature   Date
President or Chief Academic Officer of the University

1. **Is this a graduate-level certificate or undergraduate-level certificate (*place an "X" in the appropriate box*)?**

   Undergraduate Certificate   ☐   Graduate Certificate   ☒

2. **What is the nature/purpose of the proposed certificate?**

   Digital Humanities is an interdisciplinary academic field that brings digital technology to bear on the study of anthropology, classics, history, geography, language and literature, law and politics, the performing arts, philosophy, religion, and the visual arts. Dakota State University's Certificate in DH aims to support the university mission, within the larger BOR system, to stay at the forefront of digital and technological humanities teaching and research, and to increase connections with the community, business, and government agencies. The digital humanities certificate will challenge students to learn new skills and engage in professionalizing activities, concentrate digital expertise in the English for New Media degree program and connect humanities studies and teaching across Arts and Sciences programs in the South Dakota BOR system.

   General Nature of the Proposed Program

Advances in computing and digital technology have transformed every discipline at the university level, including the humanities. The Certificate in Digital Humanities will provide graduate students with the necessary methods and skills for conducting humanities research in digital environments. Specifically, the certificate will provide graduate students in the humanities and social sciences with skills in interdisciplinary collaboration, project-based research, and theoretical principles and best practices for digital humanities research.

The proposed curriculum is 12 credit-hours of coursework, delivered so that students can complete the certificate fully online. For humanities professionals already working in their respective fields or in compatible degree programs at other BOR institutions, it is expected that they could complete the certificate while simultaneously taking other graduate courses or working full-time within a reasonable timeframe of one to two years.

3. **Provide a justification for the certificate program, including the potential benefits to students and potential workforce demand for those who graduate with the credential.[1]**

Work in can take a variety of forms, including: digital editing; creating research archives; data mining and large-scale textual analysis; data visualizing; multimodal writing and design principles; using tools and technologies to study relationships between people and places; tool building and software development for humanities research; and creating interactive environments and games with a humanist focus.

Expected Demand for graduates in South Dakota
Master's degrees are increasingly being seen as a necessary for entry-level jobs in the humanities, from writing and editing to curriculum development and information and instructional design technology support staff, to positions at libraries, archives, and museums. The South Dakota Partnership for 21st Century Skills State Initiative and the work of the State Advisory Board over the last nine years emphasizes the expected demand and need for university graduates in South Dakota to present to employers 21st century skills in technology and innovation. The Certificate in DH responds to this need for both graduates from university Arts and Sciences programs and employers seeking high-level competency in technology and humanities skills.
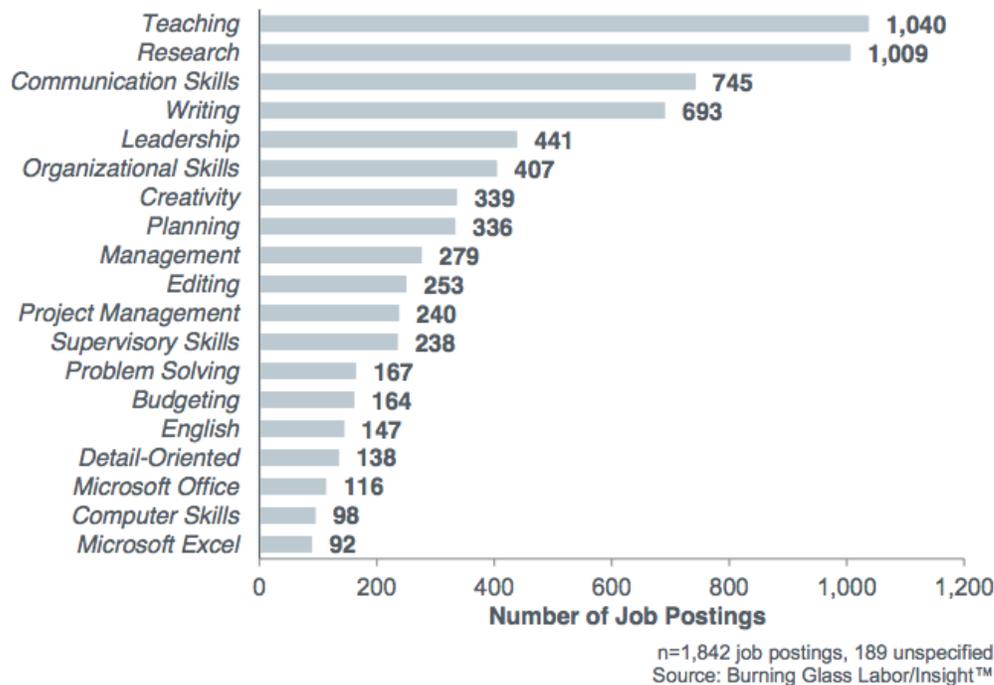
In 2014, the Education Advisory Board's (EAB) Continuing and Online Education Forum (COE) completed a *Demand Analysis Report for Masters in Digital Humanities*. The report indicates that digital humanities graduate programsprovide students with "necessary technical and theoretical skills to apply computational technologies to the arts, humanities, and cultural heritage." The report indicates a growing trend in job postings for applicants with digital humanities competencies, stating: "national demand has grown by 200 percent between January 2011 and June 2014."

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[1] For workforce related information, please provide data and examples; data sources may include but are not limited to the South Dakota Department of Labor, the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Regental system dashboards, etc.

Top Baseline Skills in Greatest Demand for Digital Humanities-related Jobs
National Demand, August 2013 to July 2014

Skill	Number of Job Postings
Teaching	1,040
Research	1,009
Communication Skills	745
Writing	693
Leadership	441
Organizational Skills	407
Creativity	339
Planning	336
Management	279
Editing	253
Project Management	240
Supervisory Skills	238
Problem Solving	167
Budgeting	164
English	147
Detail-Oriented	138
Microsoft Office	116
Computer Skills	98
Microsoft Excel	92

n=1,842 job postings, 189 unspecified
Source: Burning Glass Labor/Insight™

"Top Baseline Skills," EAB COE *Demand Analysis Report for Masters in Digital Humanities,* 2014

Need for the Proposed Program
Professional areas seeking skills in digital humanities reflect a large portion of the South Dakota job market, for both local and online employers, including schools, colleges and universities, libraries and educational services companies. The "Growth and Change in South Dakota Labor Markets: An Assessment of the State's Labor Market Imbalances in a Weak National Recovery" published by Drexel University's Center for Labor Markets and Policy in May 2014 argues that there is an increasing need for graduates :

> The long-term shift of employment from goods producing to service producing industries in South Dakota has resulted in strong job gains in college labor market occupations. Especially rapid growth occurred in the health professions, computer/mathematical and engineering occupations, life, physical and social sciences and in managerial/business and finance professions. This growth increased employment most rapidly among those with a bachelor's or master's degree, while employment among those who had not earned a high school diploma plummeted. (5-6)

To meet the demands and needs of students and of the job market, the Certificate in Digital Humanities at Dakota State University offers a cutting-edge innovative asset to the current graduate program offerings in the SDBOR university system. Currently, DSU offers one of the very few undergraduate Digital Humanities programs in the nation: the BS in English for New Media. While the availability of graduate programs is growing, the majority of Graduate Certificate Programs and graduate degrees in DH are currently only available at the doctoral level.

Digital Humanities research and grant funding are key components of strategic initiatives in graduate education funded by both the Andrew W. Mellon foundation and the Modern Language Association. Trends in academic employment suggest that there has been a forty-three percent increase in Digital Humanities positions listed by the Modern Language Association from 2008-2012. The establishment of the Office for Digital Humanities within the granting agency the National Endowment for the Humanities is further evidence of growth in this area. The Mellon Foundation has awarded more than 17 million dollars in grants to support Digital Humanities research and curriculum development. The proposed Certificate in Digital Humanities at Dakota State University responds to both professional and intellectual opportunities worldwide. Currently, there are no graduate certificates or programs in Digital Humanities offered at any of the South Dakota BOR universities.

4. **Who is the intended audience for the certificate program (including but not limited to the majors/degree programs from which students are expected)?**

The Certificate in Digital Humanities is open to graduate students enrolled in graduate degree programs at any SD BOR institution, and is also available as a stand-alone (non-degree) post-baccalaureate certification. The certificate aims to attract students and scholars seeking to enhance and expand their ability to do humanities research with the application of digital technology.

5. **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):[2]**

Prefix	Number	Course Title *(add or delete rows as needed)*	Credit Hours	New (yes, no)
DHUM	601	Digital Humanities Methods, Practices, and Principles	3	Yes
DHUM	602	Interdisciplinary Reading Seminar in Digital Humanities	3	Yes
DHUM	710	Digital Humanities Practicum / Project, 2 semesters	6	Yes
		Subtotal	12	

* 3-6 credit hours *may* be substituted for courses in the required 12-credit core and can be drawn from the student's degree program coursework or from relevant project-based work experience. Course substitutions must be approved by the Certificate Program's Adviser and submitted through the official course substitution process.

Justification for curriculum deviation
The curriculum for the Graduate Certificate in Digital Humanities offers new courses not currently available at any of the SD BOR institutions. We see the certificate curriculum as a valuable addition for students enrolled at the graduate level in geography, history, English

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[2] Regental system certificate programs typically are a subset of the curriculum offered in degree programs, include existing courses, and involve 9-12 credits for completion. Deviations from these guidelines require justification and approval.

literature, political science and information science and other relevant disciplines, largely because the curriculum is not available within other degree programs.

We envision the proposed certificate curriculum as a subset of a graduate degree program, the MS in Digital Humanities. The College of Arts and Sciences at Dakota State University is currently in the process of developing an Intent to Plan for a Master of Science Degree in Digital Humanities. The 12-credit hour core included in this New Certificate proposal will correspond to the required program core of the MS in DH.

6. **On-line and Off-campus Delivery.** [3]

   A. **Complete the following charts to indicate if the university seeks authorization to deliver the entire certificate at any off-campus location (e.g., UC Sioux Falls, Capital University Center, Black Hills State University-Rapid City, etc.) or seeks authorization to deliver the entire certificate through distance technology (e.g., as an on-line program)?**

	Yes/No	*If Yes, list location(s), including the physical address*	*Intended Start Date*
Off-campus	No		Click here to enter a date.

	Yes/No	*If Yes, identify delivery methods*	*Intended Start Date*
Distance Delivery	Yes	Online, D2L	Fall 2017

   B. **Complete the following chart to indicate if the university seeks authorization to deliver more than 50% but less than 100% of the certificate through distance learning (e.g., as an on-line program)?**

	Yes/No	*If Yes, identify delivery methods*	*Intended Start Date*
Distance Delivery	Choose an item.		
Delivery Method (if applicable)			

7. **Additional Information:** *Additional information is optional. Use this space to provide pertinent information not requested above. Limit the number and length of additional attachments. Identify all attachments with capital letters. Letters of support are not necessary and are rarely included with Board materials. The University may include responses to questions from the Board or the Executive Director as appendices to the original proposal where applicable. Delete this item if not used.*

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[3] The accreditation requirements of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) require Board approval for a university to offer programs off-campus and through distance delivery.

Individual Student Outcomes and Program Courses

List specific individual student outcomes—knowledge and competencies—in each row. Label each column with a course prefix and number. Indicate required courses with an asterisk (*). Indicate with an X the courses that will provide the student with an opportunity to acquire the knowledge or competency listed in the row. All students should acquire the program knowledge and competencies regardless of the electives selected. Modify the table as necessary to provide the requested information for the proposed program.

	Program Courses that Address the Outcomes		
Individual Student Outcome	**DHUM 601 Digital Humanities Methods, Practices, and Principles***	**DHUM 602 Interdisciplinary Reading Seminar in Digital Humanities***	**DHUM 710 Digital Humanities Practicum / Project, 2***
Ability to integrate digitally driven research goals, methods, and media with discipline specific inquiry	X	X	X
Ability to understand, analyze, and use data	X	X	X
Develop critical savvy for assessing sources and data	X	X	X
Ability to use design critically			X
Ability to assess information and information technologies critically	X	X	X
Ability to work collaboratively			X
Develop technology skills	X	X	X
Applied experience	X	X	X

Expand the table as necessary to include all student outcomes. Outcomes in this table are to be the same ones identified in the text.