



October 31, 2025

TO: Ken Barish, PhD, Chair, Academic Senate, UCR Division

FROM: Adam Godzik, Ph.D., Chair, Faculty Executive Committee, UCR School of Medicine

SUBJECT: **[Campus Review] Proposed Regulation Change: *Changes to UCR Regulations 2, 3, and 4: : 2–Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts or Master of Science, and Master of Administration; 3–Requirements for the Degree of Master of Fine Arts; 4–Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy***

Dear Ken,

The SOM Faculty Executive Committee has reviewed the Proposed Regulation Change: *Changes to UCR Regulations 2, 3, and 4 : 2–Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts or Master of Science, and Master of Administration; 3–Requirements for the Degree of Master of Fine Arts; 4–Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy*

The FEC discussed and sent the changes to be reviewed by the SOM MPH, MS and PhD programs. Attached is the response from the MPH program.

Yours sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
  
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Adam Godzik, Ph.D.  
Chair, Faculty Executive Committee School of Medicine

**From:** [Cristina Gonzalez](#)  
**To:** [Kaushali Mendonca](#); [Adam Godzik](#); [Mario Sims](#); [Mark Wolfson](#)  
**Subject:** RE: [Campus Review] (Proposed Regulation Change) Changes to UCR Regulations 2, 3, and 4: 2-Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts or Master of Science, and Master of Administration; 3-Requirements for the Degree of Master of Fine Arts; 4-Requirements  
**Date:** Friday, October 31, 2025 4:27:39 PM  
**Attachments:** [25-26. CR. UCRRegs2,3,and4Master+PhD.pdf](#)  
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[image006.png](#)

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Hi Kaushali and Dr. Godzik,

Thank you for allowing the MPH Program team to review the proposed changes. We appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback. I've copied Dr. Sims and Dr. Wolfson for any additional input. Our team didn't have an opportunity to review this document together but given Monday's deadline for FEC response, I thought that I'd share some points and bring them to your attention.

Below are several points that may impact the proposed revisions to the new Section 3.1:

- **Integrative Learning Experience (ILE) – PBHL 289**

The MPH Program incorporates the CEPH accreditation requirement for an Integrative Learning Experience (ILE) through the *PBHL 289: Capstone or Thesis* course. This is a 4-unit, degree-required course currently pending Senate approval. Students may enroll in the course for up to three attempts (maximum of 12 units) if additional time is needed to complete their project.

*Note: Some programs on campus do not have a designated thesis course and may instead use 297 or 299.*

- **PBHL 297 and PBHL 299 Research Courses**

Separately, the MPH program has also received approval for *PBHL 297: Directed Research* and *PBHL 299: Research for Capstone or Thesis*. These courses do not have a limit on the number of times they can be taken; however, only up to 8 units may count toward elective credits.

**Concerns:**

- The proposed revisions appear to limit these courses to a maximum of 12 units.
- The revisions also suggest that PBHL 299 may no longer be used for capstone projects. This change would restrict MPH students from enrolling in PBHL 299 to conduct research supporting their capstone project. The program would prefer to maintain this option for capstone students.

- **Concurrent Enrollment Option for Electives**

The MPH Program currently allows students to fulfill an elective requirement by enrolling in an **undergraduate public health-related course concurrently with PBHL 292**. The 292 course elevates the rigor to the graduate level, and students must obtain program approval prior to enrollment.

**Question:**

The updated language appears to indicate that the Graduate Council must

approve these exceptions. Would the MPH Program need to submit a formal program update to retain this option? We are concerned that routing these approvals through the Graduate Council could delay student progress toward graduation if we are unable to offer this flexibility directly through program approval.

We welcome guidance from the Faculty Executive Committee and the Academic Senate regarding these questions and appreciate their support in ensuring the proposed revisions align with program needs and accreditation standards.

New	<p><u>3.1</u> <u>Master's Unit Requirements</u></p> <p><u>Unit limitations applicable to all Master's degree objectives are included here. Degree requirements, including units and available plans, for specific master's degree objectives are listed beginning in 3.1.1.</u></p> <p><u>Plan I (Thesis) – A maximum of 12 units may be in directed research or graduate research for the thesis (297/299). Programs may reduce this maximum below 12 units.</u></p> <p><u>Plan II (Capstone) – A maximum of 12 may be in directed research (297). None may be in graduate research for the thesis or dissertation (299). Programs may reduce this maximum below 12 units.</u></p>
	<p><u>No units from 001-099, 291, 300 or 400 level may be used to complete the unit minimum for any Master's degree, unless approved by the Graduate Council.</u></p>

Warm regards,  
**Cristina Gonzalez, MHL**  
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 UCR School of Medicine  
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