

Preparing Today's Students for Tomorrow's World

Changes to Academic Program Offerings at Shawnee State

As part of our annual program review process developed in 2016, we're making changes to our academic offerings at Shawnee State, based on student demand and forecasted workforce needs. These recommendations include programs that will be discontinued, added, or expanded.

Why make changes?

To better align our degree programs with student needs and market demands.

Our primary goal is always student success. We want to ensure that our programs prepare graduates for the changing world of tomorrow. As industry needs change quickly, it's more important than ever that we continually review our academic programs – and even the way in which we deliver them.

To maximize limited resources.

We want to operate as efficiently as possible. One of our goals is to reallocate resources from programs with low enrollment (in some cases as low as 2 students) to those with higher student demand. We also want to better align the number of our programs to our institution's size.

To comply with state mandates and initiatives, as well as accreditation standards. Ohio has directed universities to review and address low enrollment programs. Our accreditors also want to see that we are continually reviewing our offerings and aligning our degrees with student and market demands. In response, the SSU Board of

Trustees has directed us to develop processes that ensure that this type of review continually occurs.

What is the process for determining program changes?

The Academic Affairs Program and Curriculum Working Group (AAPC) makes recommendations based on enrollment thresholds established by the Ohio Department of Higher Education and metrics developed and approved by the University Faculty Senate (UFS). The group's recommendations are then sent to department chairpersons of the programs impacted to allow for feedback. Based on this feedback, the group may then adjust their recommendation before sending it to the Educational Policies and Curriculum Committee (EPCC) for their recommendation to the UFS. The Academic Resource Management Committee (ARMC) makes recommendations for program additions based on faculty proposals, student demand, and review of financial data.

What degree offering changes have been made?

Below is a comprehensive list of program changes in 2017 and 2018, along with information that will help advisors, recruiters, administrators, and faculty assist students in making plans.

Program	Change	Rationale	Plan
Two-year associate degrees in fine arts, social sciences, English & humanities, individualized studies, pre-engineering, and mathematics	Discontinued	Low enrollment and demand for 4-year options made 2-year options obsolete.	Teach out through 2018 No students entered 2017
Four-year bachelor's degree in athletic training	Discontinued	Accrediting body modified requirements and is changing entry-level professional degree to a master's degree.	Teach out through 2020 No students entered 2017
Actuarial science concentration in four-year mathematics degree	Added	Workforce demands from Ohio's insurance industry.	Enrolled students 2017 Ramping up recruitment efforts
Dual licensure program in teacher education – early childhood/special education	Added	Student demand and interest.	Enrolled students 2017 Ramping up recruitment efforts
Online visual impairment licensure for Ohio teachers	Added	State-wide need. Workforce and student demand high.	Enrolling students 2018 Ramping up recruitment efforts
Bachelor's degree in international relations	Discontinued	Declining student demand. Alternative program in political science.	Teach out through 2021 No students entering 2018 Ramping up recruitment efforts for political science
Concentration in physics within BS in natural science	Discontinued	Low student demand. Low enrollment.	Teach out through 2021 No students entering 2018 Communicating continuation of BS in Natural Sciences degree and physics courses, just not declared physics concentration
Bachelor's degree in philosophy and religion	Discontinued	Low student demand. Low enrollment.	Teach out through 2021 No students entering 2018
	Discontinued	Low student demand. Low enrollment.	Teach out through 2021 No students entering 2018

Concentrations in ceramics, drawing and painting within BFA in studio arts			Communicating continuation of degree and art courses, just not declared concentrations
Two-year and four-year degrees in legal assisting	Discontinued	Declining enrollment. Declining industry needs.	Teach out through 2019 for AAB Teach out through 2021 for BS No students entering 2018 Working on better aligned pathway through certificate and possibly pre-law degree.
Two-year associate's degree in plastics engineering technology	Discontinued	Low enrollment. Demand for 4-year degree greater than 2-year option. New plastics 2-year option under development.	Teach out through 2019 No students entering 2018 Ramping up recruitment efforts for four-year degree
Digital Appalachian Studies certificate program	Added	Regional need. Student demand and interest.	Enrolling students 2018 Ramping up recruitment efforts
Online RN to BSN	Expanded	Workforce and student demand very high.	Enrolling students 2018 Ramping up recruitment efforts
Online Master's of Mathematical Sciences	Expanded	Student demand for full online.	Enrolling students 2018 Ramping up recruitment efforts
Industrial Management stackable programs	Added	Workforce and student demand.	Enrolling students 2019 Ramping up recruitment efforts
Occupational Therapy Doctorate	Proposed	Workforce, student and licensure demand.	Enrolling students 2019 Ramping up recruitment efforts
Online four-year bachelor's in health science	Added	Workforce and student demand.	Enrolling students 2019 Ramping up recruitment efforts
Occupational Therapy Assistant satellite program	Waiting final approval.	Improved student access.	Enrolling students at Southern State Spring 2019
English Composition track in Master's in Curriculum & Instruction	Pending	Student demand.	Targeting 2019