

# COLLEGE OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION

Dean - *Yoshitaka Iwasaki*

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The College of Health, Education, and Social Transformation (HEST) was established in 2021 to serve students, faculty, and staff whose efforts aim to improve individual, societal, and policy outcomes. The college was formed by combining the previous College of Education, College of Health and Social Services, and the Department of Sociology from the College of Arts & Sciences. In the Spring of 2023, the college added the Borderlands and Ethnic Studies Department. We offer stackable credentials, certificates, minors, and degrees in the following areas: borderlands and ethnic studies; communication disorders; counseling and educational psychology; kinesiology; nursing; public health; social work; sociology; and teacher preparation, administration, and leadership (TPAL).

## General Undergraduate Requirements

1. Complete at least 120 - 132 acceptable credits, including a minimum of 48 credits in courses numbered 300 or above. NMSU Viewing the Wider World (VWW) classes are included in the 48-credit hour requirement.
2. The minimum GPA varies per degree program. Please refer to your department/school for application, admission, or program GPA requirements. Each department has information about minimum GPA, program prerequisites, and program-specific testing requirements. Application to a HEST program does not automatically end in acceptance.
3. Satisfy New Mexico general education requirements. The HEST Undergraduate Resource Center and the Center for Academic Advising and Support Services (CAASS) have detailed degree maps, program information, and curricula.
4. All students, including transfer students, must complete the last 30 semester credits required for the baccalaureate degree within the New Mexico State University system. Students in the four-year Servicemen's Opportunity College Program are not exempt from this regulation.
5. Students interested in teacher preparation (including secondary education minors), nursing, social work, and public health programs must apply and be accepted into these programs based on a set of

prerequisites and a competitive admission process. For information about these application and admission processes, please refer to each department's information in this catalog.

6. In addition, if department faculty determine that a student is performing below expected program standards in a particular skill, that department may require that a remediation plan be developed to promote student success.

## General Education Requirements (non-teacher education programs)

1. Ten credits in General Education Area I: Communication
2. Three to four credits in General Education Area II: Mathematics
3. Ten to eleven credits in General Education Area III/IV: Laboratory Science and Social/Behavioral Sciences
4. Three credits in General Education Area V: Humanities
5. Three credits in General Education Area VI: Creative and Fine Arts
6. Three to four additional credits from a General Education Elective

## General Education Requirements (teacher education programs)

1. Ten credits in General Education Area I: Communication
2. Three credits in General Education Area II: Mathematics
3. Eleven credits in General Education Area III/IV: Laboratory Science and Social/Behavioral Sciences
4. Three credits in General Education Area V: Humanities
5. Three credits in General Education Area VI: Creative and Fine Arts
6. Three additional credits from a General Education Elective (HIST 1110G United States History I or HIST 1120G United States History II)

HEST programs may require more credit hours or additional courses specific to the major. Check the departmental pages for degree requirements in each program of study.

While the ultimate responsibility for planning an academic program in compliance with university, college, and departmental requirements rests with the student, the College recognizes the importance of sound and accessible advising for academic programs. Students formally admitted to a HEST major are provided academic advising within the department of that major. Students not formally admitted to a professional studies program are advised by CAASS.

## Transferring Undergraduate Courses

Certain courses within the curricula offered by HEST programs have been identified as transferable from NMSU to other public two-year and four-year institutions in New Mexico. The equivalent course at other institutions can be identified using the common course number. Similarly, students from other institutions can use the common course number to identify education courses that can be transferred to NMSU.

The School of Nursing offers the New Mexico Nursing Education Consortium (NMNEC) state-wide.

## Pre-professional Programs

NMSU offers several programs for students to transfer into professional schools throughout the university. The pre-professional programs administered by the HEST are pre-nursing, pre-social work, and pre-public health sciences. Students new to NMSU or working on completing their departmental prerequisites can declare a pre-professional major in HEST. Once prerequisites have been satisfied, an application process specific to each major is required. Application details and requirements are available through the "Academic Departments" link on the HEST website (<https://hest.nmsu.edu/>) and the Central Advising Center (CAASS).

## Graduate Work

HEST offers curricula leading to the degrees of:

- Master of Arts,
- Master of Science,
- Specialist in Education,
- Doctor of Education
- Doctorate of Nursing Practice,
- Doctor of Philosophy.

Those interested in pursuing graduate degrees should consult the Graduate Catalog for full information at <https://catalogs.nmsu.edu/nmsu/graduate-school/>.