



**SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS**

**New Certificate**

UNIVERSITY:	SDSU
TITLE OF PROPOSED CERTIFICATE :	Community Development
INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION :	2018&2019 Academic Year
PROPOSED CIP CODE	45.1101
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	Sociology& Rural Studies
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	Arts, Humanities & Social 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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Institutional Approval Signature  
 President or Chief Academic Officer of the University

\_\_\_\_\_  
 5/4/2018  
 Date

1. Is this a graduate level certificate or undergraduate level certificate?  
 Undergraduate Certificate       Graduate Certificate

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

The proposed certificate in Community Development will provide a grounding in the evidence based practice of community development. Community development is a practice based profession and an academic discipline that promotes participative democracy, sustainable development, human rights, equality, economic opportunity and social justice. This includes the organization, education and empowerment of people within their communities. These may be communities based on locality, identity or interest, in urban and rural settings.<sup>1</sup> SDSU offers all of the courses within the M.S. in Sociology- Community Development Specialization. The Community Development program is delivered through the Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (Great Plains IDEA). The master's degree and graduate certificate are offered in collaboration with University of Nebraska Lincoln, Kansas State University, Iowa State University and North Dakota State University.

This program is intended for students already working in the field and is designed to provide them with access to cutting edge practice and research, so they can improve their own practice. The program also includes components to assist students in connecting with existing networks and professional organizations to support their practice and to link them to new and emerging practices that may benefit their work.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gpidea.org/program/communitydevelopment>

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.<sup>2</sup>

In April 2017, the Great Plains IDEA Department Heads/Chairs and faculty approved the graduate certificate in Community Development. Integrating certificates into existing master's programs is supported by the Great Plains IDEA leadership.

The proposed certificate will aid those already working in the field in securing advanced positions. The field of community development is broadly defined to include employment in government, education, nonprofits, agencies and organization in the private sector, and those working in areas such as housing, economic development, business, health/wellness, local foods, and arts-related development. Employers now show a preference for graduate education related to the field of community development. More specifically, a graduate certificate in community development is ideal for professionals working in additional areas such as:

- x Anti-poverty programs
- x Applied sociology
- x Community, regional and local planning departments
- x Cooperative extension services
- x Natural resource management
- x Non-profit organizations focusing on community enhancement
- x Parks and recreation
- x Public administration
- x Tribal programs

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics anticipates job growth in fields where the master's degree would be useful. However, most of the students seeking the graduate certificate are already employed and seeking advancement within their occupation.

Occupation	National Growth Forecast	State Forecast
Planners with master's degrees <sup>3*</sup>	13%	6%
Social and community managers <sup>4</sup>	18%	8.1%
Health educators/community health workers <sup>5</sup>	12.2%	10.4%
Training and development <sup>6</sup>	11%	7%
Environmental scientists and specialists <sup>7</sup>	12%	12.4%

\*The program is not accredited. The students mostly work in rural areas or in economic or community development.

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 primary intended audience will be people working in the field of community development who desire to improve their job prospects, strengthen opportunities for promotion, and/or improve current practice in the field. It is anticipated that students who are enrolled in Great Plains IDEA programs other than the M.S. in Sociology may choose to take this certificate as an add-on to their program. In addition, students who do not complete the M.S. in Sociology Community Development Specialization may opt the certificate.

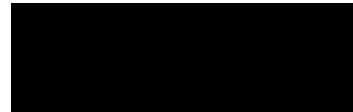
5. List the courses required for completion of the certificate in the table below<sup>8</sup>

Prefix	Number	Course Title	Credit Hours	New (yes, no)
CD	601			



	Yes/No	If Yes, identify delivery methods <sup>1</sup>	Intended Start Date
Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods)	Yes	Online	2018-2019 Academic Year

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)? <sup>12</sup>

	Yes/No	If Yes, identify delivery methods	Intended Start Date
			

Appendix A  
Community Development Certificate – Student Learning Outcomes