

Health Services Management (HSM) and Health Information Management (HIM) students:

We want to keep you up-to-date on curriculum changes our School has made to our programs that has been implemented for the 2020-21 academic year. The changes were to rationalize our programs, and make them more meaningful for prospective students and simpler to understand for potential employers.

On the surface, the changes may seem significant, however, they **will not affect you completing your degree.**

What are the 'big' changes?

1. The Bachelor of Health Administration (BHA) HIM and HSM programs will become a single/stand-alone BHA program.

As of Fall 2020, the individual HIM and HSM programs are longer be offered. All students admitted as of 2020 are enrolled into a Bachelor of Health Administration (this is the program of study and the graduation outcome). To make this change, we had to close one program, HIM. Therefore, no more students will be admitted to the BHA HIM program. In addition to this change, the HSM program was revised, to become the new 'stand-alone' Bachelor of Health Administration (BHA) program. This revised program will continue to be certified by the University Association of Programs in Health Administration ([AUPHA](#)).

2. A revised, single/stand-alone BHA curriculum.

The HIM and HSM curricula had become very similar in the past several years in terms of course number and content. The main difference was that HIM students were admitted with HIM certification (CHIMA) or significant IT/IM background, which they then complemented with mostly management and evaluation courses. We made some changes to strengthen the HIM content in the common core of the revised BHA program. CHIM 305 (Introduction to Health Informatics) has been added as a required course in the revised BHA program.

What does this mean for current students?

Current HSM students:

- Current BHA HSM students will continue to complete their program. As of Fall 2020 graduation/convocation, all eligible to graduate BHA HSM students will be awarded a Bachelor of Health Administration degree. The change in the graduation award reflects the revisions made to the program effective Fall 2020.

- Students who may be unable to complete their required curriculum as published in the undergraduate calendar, will be considered for course substitutions. Careful planning in the selection of courses can help with the completion of required courses.
- CHSM 306 (Management, Leadership & Decision Making) will no longer be a core course requirement in the revised BHA curriculum. Current BHA HSM students who require this course as part of their curriculum will take CMHR 405 (Organizational Behaviour), as the course substitute. Students that have already taken CMHR 640 as a replacement for CHSM 306 need not take CMHR 405. This new replacement, CMHR 405, commencing Fall 2022 replaces the previous course substitution of CMHR 640.

Current HIM students:

- Current BHA HIM students will continue to complete their program. All BHA HIM students eligible to graduate will continue to be awarded a Bachelor of Health Administration, Health Information Management.
- Students who may be unable to complete their required curriculum as published in the undergraduate calendar, will be considered for course substitutions. Careful planning in the selection of courses can help with the completion of required courses.
- CHIM 302 (Health Information Systems Management) will no longer be a core course requirement in the revised BHA curriculum. Current HIM students who require this course as part of their curriculum are encouraged to take CHIM 302. If this is not possible, students will take CHIM 305 (Introduction to Health Informatics) as the course substitute for CHIM 302. CHIM 406 & CHIM 407 (Practicum Seminar and Practicum) will be replaced with the HSM Practicum course equivalents, CHSM 418 & CHSM 419.

It is important that students' academic record of courses completed, substituted, etc. be kept up-to-date to reflect accurate details needed in the assessment for graduation. Students are advised to consult with their Student Advisor as soon as possible when considering completing a course as a substitution. Complete information on when and how to apply for a [Course Exception \(Directive/Substitution\)](#) is found here.

Please see [Tentative Course Schedule](#). Course offerings are subject to change on a year-to-year basis.

We're here to answer any questions or address any concerns you may have. Please feel free to email your Student Advisor at ask.hsm@ryerson.ca.

Thank you,

School of Health Services Management