

Academic, Research and Student Success Committee Meeting August 21, 2025

Program Closures

University of Houston

- Bachelor of Arts in French
- Bachelor of Arts in Interpreting and Translation
- Bachelor of Arts in Creative Writing
- Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology

Bachelor of Arts in French

Based on the national decline in language majors and current enrollment trends at UH, the College will stop enrollment of new majors and teach out the remaining students currently enrolled in the program. Students will be informed in their current classes and via email by the program director and individual professors. The academic advisor will also inform students during advising sessions. Prospective students will receive up-to-date information about the French program via the website, which is in the process of being revised, as well as promotional flyers and staff tables at freshman orientation events. Faculty will continue offering French classes to the B.A. in World, Cultures, and Literatures and minor students. They will also continue to teach language courses that fulfill the language requirement for B.A. degrees in the College. Community partners at various institutions (Rice, UT, TSU) as well as the French Consulate General in Houston will be informed via email. The program will be discontinued in 2026.

Bachelor of Arts in Interpreting and Translation

The department and college reevaluated the program's sustainability considering recent core faculty departures and its small enrollment. Given these realities, the department determined that it is no longer feasible to deliver the degree. The College will stop enrolling new majors and teach out the program to the remaining majors. Students, faculty, and staff were notified by email in February 2025 that the program was beginning a gradual closure due to budget and hiring priorities. Faculty who teach in and direct the program were notified in January 2025. One of the three faculty is resigning her full-time position with the university and has been offered adjunct sections to cover courses during the teach-out period. The other faculty can remain in their positions and teach the American Sign Language courses that fulfill the language requirement for B.A. degrees in the College. Notices for community partners were added to the department website in April 2025. The program will be discontinued in 2028.

Bachelor of Arts in Creative Writing

The THECB unilaterally eliminated the hyphenation of degree programs in late 2017 and changed the B.A. in English-Creative Writing to B.A. in Creative Writing. This change was never requested or approved by the department. The program has not been offered since 2018.

All existing students were transferred to the B.A. in English. No students are currently enrolled in the program. The current request for closure of the program is administrative, with no impact on faculty or students.

Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology

In 2017, the THECB eliminated the B.S. in Kinesiology and turned the degree's four tracks into standalone B.S. degrees (Exercise Science, Sports Administration, Fitness and Sports, and Human Nutrition and Foods). While the degree is no longer in the undergraduate catalog, it was never formally removed from the university's program inventory. The current request for closure of the program is administrative, with no impact on faculty or students.

University of Houston-Clear Lake

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management
- Master of Science in Environmental Management
- Master of Arts in Literature
- Master of Science in Multicultural Studies in Education
- Master of Science in Statistics

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

In spite of strong workforce demand for trained nurses, the program has not been able to capitalize on this trend with enrollment declining from 40 students in Fall 2020 to 30 students in each of past three years. During AY2023, AY 2024, and AY 2025, only 10 of the 52-course sections offered during Fall or Spring enrolled more than 10 students. These enrollment numbers are insufficient to maintain a viable program. Moreover, increased competition from lower-cost community college programs remains a key challenge for the university. Over the past three years, the RN-BSN program has operated at a loss. Combined revenue from statutory and designated tuition totaled \$334,314. In contrast, annual program salaries exceed \$240,000 per year, making the program financially unsustainable. UHCL will continue to offer all the classes required until students graduate or transfer to another program. The faculty advisors for the program will work with the students to ensure the timely completion of the required courses. The academic advisor will contact the students by email and regular mail to set up a schedule for individualized advisement throughout the teach-out period and to develop a completion plan. The Program Director and academic advisor will contact currently enrolled students by email and regular mail to announce the program closure. There are no students with lapsed enrollment. There are no prospective students. Faculty were notified of program closure at a meeting of the college program directors and at a general faculty meeting. Nursing faculty met with the Dean to discuss the closure recommendation. The recommendation was shared with all tenured and tenure-track Nursing faculty. The program closure has no faculty/staff impact. Faculty will teach in the Master of Science in Nursing Education and Leadership program. The College will provide written notice of the closure to the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing and ensure compliance with all accreditation requirements. UHCL and Alvin Community College (ACC) have a Concurrent Enrollment Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in effect

for the BSN. UHCL will provide written notification of non-renewal of the MOU to ACC. The program will be discontinued in 2027.

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management

Program closure is requested due to declining student enrollment. Enrollment decreased by about 36% in four years and its total semester credit hours fell by 42% over the same period. In addition, impending faculty turnover is a significant factor contributing to the decision to close the program. For the past three years, tuition revenue has not covered the cost of faculty salaries. UHCL will continue to offer all the classes required until students graduate or transfer to another program. The faculty advisors for the program will work with the students to ensure the timely completion of the required courses. The academic advisor will contact the students by email and regular mail to set up a schedule for individualized advisement throughout the teach-out period and to develop a completion plan. The Program Director and academic advisor will contact currently enrolled students by email and regular mail to announce the program closure. There are no students with lapsed enrollment. There are no prospective students. Faculty were notified of program closure at a meeting of the college program directors and at a general faculty meeting. Program faculty met with the Dean and the College Curriculum Committee to discuss the closure recommendation. A copy of the recommendation was shared with the faculty members. There is one associate professor, and one senior lecturer assigned to the program. Both faculty members have opted to participate in UHCL's Voluntary Separation Incentive Program with a termination date of May 31, 2026. The program will be discontinued in 2027.

Master of Science in Environmental Management

Program closure is requested due to declining student enrollment. Enrollment has dropped 63% from 2020-24, and 69% since its peak in Fall 2019. Semester credit hours also declined by 61% over the same period. For the 2024–2025 academic year, the estimated capacity utilization of course sections was about 30%. While small classes can be pedagogically valuable, consistently low fill rates signal that resources are underutilized. In addition, impending faculty turnover is a significant factor contributing to the decision to close the program. UHCL will continue to offer all the classes required until students graduate or transfer to another program. The faculty advisors for the program will work with the students to ensure the timely completion of the required courses. The academic advisor will contact the students by email and regular mail to set up a schedule for individualized advisement throughout the teach-out period and to develop a completion plan. The Program Director and academic advisor will contact currently enrolled students by email and regular mail to announce the program closure. There are no students with lapsed enrollment. There are no prospective students. Faculty were notified of program closure at a meeting of the college program directors and at a general faculty meeting. Program faculty met with the Dean and the College Curriculum Committee to discuss the closure recommendation. A copy of the recommendation was shared with the faculty members. There is one associate professor, and one senior lecturer assigned to the program. Both faculty members have opted to participate in UHCL's Voluntary Separation Incentive Program with a termination date of May 31, 2026. The program will be discontinued in 2027.

Master of Arts in Literature

Program closure is requested due to low student demand. In addition to a declining enrollment trend, over 80% of the students are part-time, the average time to completion is seven terms, and the program faculty are resistant to offering the degree online. None of the current program faculty specialize in American literature, which is a significant concern given that many graduates seek employment in regional school districts and community colleges. Given current budget projections and competing resource needs, the College is unlikely to have the resources to assign an additional tenure-track line to the Literature program in the foreseeable future. UHCL will continue to offer all the classes required until students graduate or transfer to another program. The faculty advisors for the program will work with the students to ensure the timely completion of the required courses. The academic advisor will contact the students by email and regular mail to set up a schedule for individualized advisement throughout the teach-out period and to develop a completion plan. The Program Director will contact currently enrolled students by email and regular mail to announce the program closure. There are no students with lapsed enrollment. There are no prospective students. The decision to close this program was made in consultation with faculty. The Curriculum Committee received this information via an informational item, and it was shared at the monthly College faculty meeting. Faculty will continue to teach in the B.A. Literature and the M.A. Humanities. The program will be discontinued in 2027.

Master of Science in Multicultural Studies in Education

Program closure is requested due to low student demand. The program is unsustainable despite efforts to increase enrollment. The program has shown a decreased enrollment from 7 students in 2020 to 3 students in 2024. There are currently 4 students in the program. Recruitment efforts have not yielded a growth in enrollment in this program over the past 5 years. Over the past three years, the program has offered courses totaling 126 credit hours. The tuition collected for these credit hours was \$72,337.86. During the same period, faculty salaries amounted to \$398,572.00. This comparison shows that faculty salaries exceeded tuition revenue, indicating a loss in revenue and a minimal return on investment. UHCL will continue to offer all the classes required until students graduate or transfer to another program. The faculty advisors for the program will work with the students to ensure the timely completion of the required courses. The academic advisor will contact the students by email and regular mail to set up a schedule for individualized advisement throughout the teach-out period and to develop a completion plan. The Program Director will contact currently enrolled students by email and regular mail to announce the program closure. There are no students with lapsed enrollment. There are no prospective students. The decision to close this program was made in consultation with faculty. The Curriculum Committee received this information via an informational item, and it was shared at the monthly College faculty meeting. The faculty members consist of an Assistant Professor and Professor of Multicultural Studies. The Assistant Professor has been non-renewed and given a one-year terminal contract for 2025-2026. If approved by the Board of Regents, the Professor will be given a one-year terminal contract for 2025-2026. The program will be discontinued in 2027.

Master of Science in Statistics

Program closure is requested due to low student demand. The program is unsustainable despite efforts to increase enrollment. The number of majors in the program was eight in Fall 2022, seven in Fall 2023, and six in Fall 2024. UHCL will continue to offer all the classes required until students graduate or transfer to another program. The faculty advisors for the program will work with the students to ensure the timely completion of the required courses. The academic advisor will contact the students by email and regular mail to set up a schedule for individualized advisement throughout the teach-out period and to develop a completion plan. The Program Director will contact currently enrolled students by email and regular mail to announce the program closure. There are no students with lapsed enrollment. There are no prospective students. The decision to close this program was made in consultation with faculty. The Curriculum Committee received this information via an informational item, and it was shared at the monthly College faculty meeting. The program faculty will continue to teach in the B.A. and B.S. Mathematical Sciences programs. The program will be discontinued in 2027.