

OVERVIEW

Comprehensive Final Exam Spring, 2018

The purpose of the comprehensive final exam is to verify that all persons receiving the Master of Science in Health Services Administration degree are the persons who have taken the courses leading to that degree. We are already confident that this is the case with our program, yet we need to administer the comprehensive final exam as part of our accreditation process.

The exam is not for credit and it is graded as Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory. Any student whose performance on the written exam is not adequate to be considered satisfactory will be requested to verbally clarify answers on a conference call following the administration of the written exam.

The comprehensive final exam is comprised of six essay questions. Students are allowed up to one hour to complete each question. Once a question has been answered and submitted, students may proceed to the next question. There is no option to go back to a previous question once a subsequent question has been started.

Each question asks for a simple and straightforward analysis of an article or a blog post, a case study, or a problem that is presented in the question. The subject matter will be familiar to anyone who has taken the courses in the program. Questions are broad rather than narrow. Answers need not be lengthy. There is no need for a calculator or any other device or support material while taking the exam.

There is simply no way to study for this exam. It is not that kind of exam. For that reason, inquiries requesting some sort of special knowledge of “what is on the exam” cannot be answered, and they need not be answered. The material will be familiar material. Your ability to apply what you know to a particular context or situation is what we are testing.

The only date on which the exam will be administered in-person in Laramie is March 23. The exam will begin at 9am and will end at 4pm. There will be a one-hour break for lunch.

Due to the unanticipated and unwelcome (to all) rescheduling of the semester, we will develop a mechanism to deliver the comprehensive final exam online and on-demand (at a time of your choosing). Any student may opt for this online delivery mechanism and need not travel to Laramie for the exam. The logistics of the online option have yet to be ironed out with IT. The plan is to set up the exam in six independent one-hour segments; allowing one hour for each question, and permitting students to take each one-hour segment at a time of the student’s choosing. However, we will need to organize the exam in a way that IT supports, and that may end up being somewhat different from the current plan.