

Graduate Programs Committee (Jairus-Joaquin Matthews, Chair)

Action Items:

All items were approved unanimously

A. College of Education

1. Post-Baccalaureate Initial Non-Degree Certification Early Childhood Education

Request: Delete Program Request

Rationale: Since we now have the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) Elementary program, which leads to initial teacher certification in Georgia in grades PK-5, the non-degree initial certification program in elementary education should be deleted. There are no active students currently enrolled in the program.

Appendix

2. Reading Instruction M.Ed.

Request: Graduate Revise Program Request

Rationale: The Georgia Professional Standards Commission rules state that non-degree granting certification-only Tier I Educational Leadership programs may be taken only by those who already hold a master's degree. In compliance with this policy, we have removed all Tier I EDLE courses from our Program of Study, including Option 3 (Educational Leadership) in Area III (Area of Specialization).

Appendix

3. Secondary Education, Ed.S., Concentrations in Biology, Broad Field Science, Chemistry, English, History, Economics, Mathematics, Physics, and Political Science

Request: Graduate Revise Program Request

Rationale: The Educational Leadership Department revised their program and created new class numbers and our program needs to reflect that. We are also creating a new course SEED 8100 that will take the place of EDRS 6342, which will provide a greater focus on research literature and project preparation for students.

Appendix

4. SEED 8100 Reading and Research in Secondary Education

Request: Graduate New Course Request

Rationale: Our students need an additional semester to read and review literature in order to have appropriate background knowledge to develop and carry out a practice-based investigative project or professional development. We have found that an extra semester of support will result in better outcomes for students.

Appendix

5. *SPED - 7700 - Dyslexia: Advanced Methods and Instructional Strategies*

Request: Graduate New Course Request

Rationale: This course is being created to replace SPED 6500, which is a part of the Dyslexia Endorsement sequence. Currently, SPED 6500 is the only course in the Dyslexia Endorsement sequence that is a 6000-level course. This creates a barrier for Ed.S. students who may want to add the Dyslexia Endorsement as an elective because the current 6000 level course can not be applied to their program of study. To remove this barrier, the Special Education Department is creating this course as a 7000 level.

Appendix

6. *Sport Management, M.,S. Concentrations in Intercollegiate Athletics Administration, Sports Analytics*

Request: Graduate Revise Program Request

Rationale: Rationale: Eliminate recommendation letters from the application process. We aim to streamline the application process to make it more efficient for both applicants and the admissions team. The majority of our prospective students consistently meet all the requirements, and we have found that additional layers of support are not required for making informed admissions decisions. By simplifying the process, we can reduce unnecessary steps while maintaining the integrity and thoroughness of our evaluations, allowing us to focus on assessing the most critical aspects of each application.

B. College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences

1. *Master of Music with Concentrations in Music Education and Music Performance*

Request: Graduate Revise Program Request

Rationale: Most doctoral programs in music do not require the completion of a master's thesis for admission; many doctoral programs in music education allow students to submit other writing

samples in lieu of a master's thesis for admission. Although one may argue that any removal of a thesis option is a "significant departure" for a program, historically fewer than 5% of UWG MM completers have chosen the thesis option and multiple UWG MM holders have completed doctoral work without a UWG thesis. The music program believes removing the thesis option will help it better align its musical expertise and resources to student music learning overall; for these reasons, the music program requests the deletion of the thesis option from its MM program.

[Appendix](#)

## 2. [Sociology M.A.](#)

Request: Delete Program

Rationale: The provost deactivated this program in March 2024 (please see attached letter) and admissions were stopped at that time. All students in the program have been informed of this change and the teach out plan (please see attached) is being enacted.

[Appendix](#)