

Graduate Programs Committee (GPC)

AGENDA

Date: Tuesday, October 31, 2017
Time: 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Location: School of Nursing—Conference Room 200

I. [Approval of Minutes: October 3, 2017](#) (click/scroll to see minutes below)

Discussion: Changes/Modifications/Corrections

Action:

II. **Course/Program Additions, Modifications, Deletions:**

ACTION ITEMS:

A. **College of Education**

1. [Early Childhood Through Secondary Education Department](#) (Click for CSS submission)

Originator: Jill Drake

Program/Course: *STEM Education Endorsement*

Request: Add New Program

Details:

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission approved this new STEM Education Endorsement program to prepare Georgia education professionals to model STEM content pedagogy in the field and at the grade level of their base certification. This endorsement is available to education professionals across the state. Improving STEM Education is not only a state initiative but a national initiative as well. The STEM Education endorsement program is designed for educators holding a level four (4) or higher renewable professional certificate in any teaching, service, or leadership field. Graduate students may enroll in the program as a part of an existing graduate program or as a stand-alone program.

Rationale:

The adoption of this endorsement may attract educators to the University of West Georgia and increase graduate enrollment. The adoption of this endorsement is also important to the Department of Early Childhood Through Secondary Education in seeking to offer

relevant, up-to-date programs of study. [Click to see Program of Study—or scroll below.](#)

INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. College of Arts + Humanities

1. [English + Philosophy Department](#) (Click for CSS submission)

Originator: Patrick Erben

Program/Course: *Master of Arts with a Major in English*

Request: Modify Existing Program (Description)

Details:

Copy to be added to the program description in the catalog: "Applicants to the M.A. in English with an overall or major GPA of 3.5 and above in a B.A. program in English (completed in the last 10 years) are exempt from the GRE requirement." This sentence should be inserted after:

"Applicants should also demonstrate proficiency by achieving a minimum score of 500 on the verbal portion of the GRE and 4.5 on the GRE analytical writing test."

Rationale:

Bringing our admissions practice into line with other programs in the college and the state.

III. New Business

- A. Proposal to Amend "Residency" Definition for University Sponsored Exchange and Study Abroad Coursework ([click here to view proposal or scroll below](#))—**Dr. Maria Doyle, Director of Education Abroad**
- B. Graduate School Updates (any new information or points of interest)—**Dr. Denise Overfield, Dean + Associate Vice President—UWG Graduate School**

IV. Adjournment

Faculty Senate – Graduate Programs Committee... 2017-2018 Member List

	Senate Members	
Webb, Susan Hall (Chair)	swebb@westga.edu	Senate—RCOB (2018)
Varga, Matt	mvarga@westga.edu	Senate--COE (2018)
Bertau, Marie Cecile	mbertau@westga.edu	Senate—COSS (2020)
Khodkar, Abodollah	akhodkar@westga.edu	Senate—COSM (2020)
Vasconcellos, Colleen	cvasconc@westga.edu	Senate--COAH (2020)
	Faculty Members	
Berding, Christy	cberding@westga.edu	SON (2018)
Rogers, Shelley	shelley@westga.edu	Library (2018)
Skott-Myhre, Kathleen	kskott@westga.edu	COSS (2018)
Austin, Adrian	aaustin@westga.edu	RCOB (2019)
Fain, Christi	afain@westga.edu	COE (2019)
Genz, Janet	jgenz@westga.edu	COSM (2019)
Harrison, Rebecca	rharriso@westga.edu	COAH (2019)
	Administrators	
Overfield, Denise	doverfie@westga.edu	Administrator – Dean, Graduate School (Associate VP)
Jenks, David	djenks@westga.edu	Administrator- Associate VP for Academic Affairs
	Student	
Hogle, RaeAnna	rhogle1@my.westga.edu	Student Representative
GPC Group Email: fs-gp-list@westga.edu		

MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, October 3, 2017
Time: 12:30 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Location: School of Nursing—Conference Room 200

Present: A. Austin; C. Berding; M. Bertau; C. Fain; J. Genz; R. Harrison; R. Hogle; D. Jenks;
A. Khodkar; D. Overfield; S. Rogers; K. Skott-Myhre; M. Varga

Guest(s): S. Molesworth-Kenyon (Biology Department)

Absent: C. Vasconcellos

I. **Approval of Minutes:** September 5, 2017

Discussion: Changes/Modifications/Corrections

Action: **Approved/Passed**

Motion: R. Harrison; Second: A. Austin

II. **Course/Program Additions, Modifications, Deletions:**

ACTION ITEMS:

A. College of Social Sciences

1. Psychology Department

Originator: Neill Korobov

Program/Course: *Ph.D. in Psychology: Consciousness + Society*

Request: Modify Existing Program (Action Item)

Action: **Approved/Passed**

Motion: M. Varga; Second: C. Berding

Details:

Add **PSYC 8581 Independent Project** to list of approved electives. May be repeated for up to 12 credits. NOTE: The limit to the number of times this course number could be repeated has been an impediment to student progression toward graduation.

Rationale:

This is to modify the list of approved electives and to offer students ability to develop course content specific to academic area of interest and/or specialty.

B. College of Science + Mathematics

1. Biology Department

Originator: Sara Molesworth-Kenyon
Program/Course: **BIOL 5727: Essentials of Immunology**
Request: Modify Existing Course (Description)
Action: **Approved/Passed**
Motion: M. Varga; Second: M. Bertau

Details:

Seeking **Essentials in Immunology (BIOL 5727)** be modified by inclusion of a laboratory component. These changes are reflected in the modified course description below:

Essentials of Immunology (BIOL 5727) is designed as an introduction to the immune response. The student will obtain a broad, comprehensive understanding of the principles of immunology. The course will focus on a detailed study of antigen-antibody interactions, humoral immunity, and cell-mediated immunity. Medically important syndromes, including AIDS, will be discussed to reinforce the principles of immunology. A laboratory component is included for the exploration of clinical immuno-diagnostic techniques.

Rationale:

The addition of the **BIOL 5727** laboratory course will cover a wide variety of experimental techniques geared towards development of the advanced skills required for a career within the field of immunology.

2. Biology Department

Originator: William Kenyon
Program/Course: **BIOL 5728: Bacterial Pathogenesis**
Request: Modify Existing Course (Description)
Action: **Approved/Passed**
Motion: M. Varga; Second: A. Austin

Details:

Bacterial Pathogenesis (BIOL 5728) be modified by inclusion of a laboratory component. These changes are reflected in the modified course description below:

Bacterial Pathogenesis (BIOL 5728) is intended to familiarize graduate students with advanced topics in medical microbiology and the study of infectious disease. The course includes detailed

discussions of factors involved in the infectious disease process, epidemiology, host defenses, and bacterial virulence factors. In addition, graduate students will be required to analyze and critique articles from the scientific literature, to compose a synopsis of their literature research, and orally present their work to the class. The laboratory component will focus on methods routinely used to isolate, culture, and identify bacterial pathogens. Graduate students will be required to present articles from microbiology journals and lead classroom discussions.

Rationale:

The addition of a laboratory component will give graduate students the opportunity to experience a more focused, and in-depth, laboratory in pathogenic bacteriology, making them more competitive in the job market.

3. Biology Department

Originator: Sara Molesworth-Kenyon

Program/Course: **BIOL 5729: Medical Virology**

Action: **Approved/Passed**

Motion: R. Harrison; Second: S. Rogers

Details:

Seeking **Medical Virology (BIOL 5729)** be modified by inclusion of a laboratory component. These changes are reflected in the modified course description below:

***Medical Virology (BIOL 5729)** is designed as an introduction to viruses that are involved in human disease. The student will obtain a broad, comprehensive understanding of the principles of virology using specific medical examples. The course will focus on a detailed study of the viral structure, replication, gene expression, pathogenesis, and host defense. A laboratory component is included for the exploration of clinical techniques.*

Rationale:

The addition of the **BIOL 5729** laboratory course will cover a wide variety of experimental techniques geared towards development of the advanced skills required for a career within the field of virology.

III. New Business

C. Nomination of GPC Committee Chair for 2018-2019 Academic Year

1. Postponed until next meeting when all committee members are present; The chair will request a brief bio from each senator eligible for the upcoming committee chair position for the next meeting.

D. Graduate School Updates (any new information or points of interest)

1. Hired a Director of Graduate Student Services, Rahmel Cowen.
2. The Graduate School was able to have two graduate student reps on SGA (Student Government Association).
3. Graduate Student Travel Grant Applications are now being accepted.
4. The Graduate School will award recruitment grants again this year.
5. UCM has developed a Graduate School campaign. Be sure to use #GoWestGoGrad in your social media.
6. The Graduate School will continue to work on the graduate assistantship hiring process.

IV. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

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Bertau, Marie Cecile	mbertau@westga.edu	Senate—COSS (2020)
Khodkar, Abodollah	akhodkar@westga.edu	Senate—COSM (2020)
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Skott-Myhre, Kathleen	kskott@westga.edu	COSS (2018)
Austin, Adrian	aaustin@westga.edu	RCOB (2019)
Fain, Christi	afain@westga.edu	COE (2019)
Genz, Janet	jgenz@westga.edu	COSM (2019)
Harrison, Rebecca	rharriso@westga.edu	COAH (2019)
	Administrators	
Overfield, Denise	doverfie@westga.edu	Administrator – Dean, Graduate School (Associate VP)
Jenks, David	djenks@westga.edu	Administrator- Associate VP for Academic Affairs
	Student	
Hogle, RaeAnna	rhogle1@my.westga.edu	Student Representative
GPC Group Email: fs-gp-list@westga.edu		

STEM EDUCATION ENDORSEMENT PROGRAM OF STUDY

Name: _____

ID#: 917

	HRS	GR	TRF/SUB
Required Courses	12 hrs		
Semester I – Summer	3		
ECSE 7274: Introduction to Community-Based STEM Education			
Semester II – Fall	6		
ECSE 7275: STEM Mathematics for Social Justice ECSE 7276: STEM Investigations through Ecojustice			
Semester III – Spring	3		
ECSE 7277: Designing Community-Based STEM Education			

Program Notes:

1. This program is designed for educators holding a level four (4) or higher renewable professional certificate in any teaching, service, or leadership field.
2. The courses in the STEM Endorsement are all offered fully online.
3. Candidates will be required to document clinical experiences in the grade band of their base teaching certificate as part of the requirements for completing this program. Securing field placement sites is the responsibility of the candidate.

Student signature: _____

Date:

Advisor signature: _____

Date:

Department Chair signature: _____

Date:

Early Childhood Through Secondary Education

College of Education

University of West Georgia

Last updated April 2017

Proposal to Amend Definition of “Residency” to allow for University Sponsored Exchange and Study Abroad Coursework

Add language to the University Catalog regarding the Requirement for Degrees:

"Students shall receive resident credit for University-sponsored studies abroad programs (including short-term and semester exchange programs) for which course registration and fee payment are effected through the University."

Notes:

- Currently, when students spend an exchange semester or year abroad with a UWG partner school, they are registered for credits *prior to departure* and they pay their tuition and campus fees directly to UWG. Thus, they remain UWG students while abroad.
- Academic partnerships between universities are each governed by a specific negotiated exchange agreement, signed by each university's president, that states that students remain residents of their home institution throughout the exchange.
- Students can participate in an exchange program for one semester or one academic year. We do not currently allow students to participate in exchanges for longer than that period of time. Graduate students who participate in exchange usually go for only a single semester.
- Students are advised that they should not participate in an exchange program in their final term at UWG.
- This change would not affect students who participate in non-UWG exchange programs: if we do not have a relationship with a foreign university that a student wants to attend, students must become transients for their time there so these hours would not count towards residency.