GRADUATE PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
PATRICK HADLEY, CHAIR
MEETING AGENDA for
Date/Time: **January 10, 2023 at 11:00 AM Eastern Time via Zoom**
Join Zoom Meeting (Notice: Meeting will be recorded)
https://westga-edu.zoom.us/j/86840806051

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I. Call to Order

II. Minutes from November 15 meeting: Approved (via Google poll that concluded on November 28, 2022)

III. Program and Course Proposals

    A. College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry

        1. Department of English, Film, Language, and Performing Arts

            a) Music Education Educator Certification Program

                Request: Deactivate Existing Program

                Rationale: There are no students currently enrolled in the program.

All classes were part of our normal undergraduate music education sequence which has since been moved (at least partially) to the daytime. This prohibits people with provisional teaching positions to take all of the necessary coursework. The music faculty voted in August to terminate the program.

B. College of Education

1. Department of Counseling, Higher Education, and Speech Language Pathology

   a) Speech Language Pathology, M.Ed.

   Request: Modify Program

   Rationale: We would like to change the admissions criteria for the program to increase equity and access for prospective students. Specifically, we will no longer require the GRE but will require completion of the CASPER Test. We will require two letters of recommendation as opposed to three.

2. Department of Educational Technology and Foundations

   a) School Library Media Certificate in Instructional Technology, Media, & Design

   Request: Modify Program

   Rationale: Currently, the School Library Media (SLM) Certificate allows a student who does not hold a Georgia professional certificate to pursue the program while, concurrently, obtaining initial professional certification (through the Georgia Professional Standards Commission [GaPSC]) by completing four courses. However, after the revision of the SLM M.Ed. from a 36-hour program to a 30-hour program, it is more efficient for such a student, who is pursuing initial certification and preparation to serve as building-level school library media specialists in PK-12 schools, to pursue the M.Ed. program. Therefore, we propose removing the option to take the four, additional pre-requisite/co-requisite courses and limiting the SLM Certificate to students who

already hold a Georgia professional certificate in any field. To do this, we request two changes: 1. Adding a Georgia professional certificate in any field as a requirement for admission. 2. Removing the option to concurrently pursue the SLM Certificate and initial certification (by the GaPSC) by way of the four, additional courses (i.e., removing courses tied to initial certification from the program of study page: CURR 6575, EDRS 6301, CEPD 6101, SPED 6706).

3. Department of Literacy and Special Education

    a) READ 6705 Comprehensive Final Exam for M.Ed. in Reading Instruction

    Request: Add New Course

    Rationale: Currently, the program faculty are notified by the Office of the Registrar with a list of tentative program graduates at the end and beginning of each semester. After we receive this list, the literacy faculty reach out to every student listed via their UWG email to provide them with specific instructions on how to register and prepare for their required Comprehensive Final Exam. Notices of the exam are also posted by all literacy faculty in their current graduate level READ courses. However, even with these two methods of notification in place, each semester one to two students on the tentative program graduates list do not register for the exam on time. Having a zero-credit placeholder course will help us ensure every student on the tentative program graduates list registers and completes the Comprehensive Final Exam required for graduation.

    b) Special Education, Ed.S.

    Request: Modify Program

    Rationale: The EDS-SPED degree is designed to meet the needs of teachers certified in Special Education who have completed a

master's degree in special education. The program consists of a minimum of 27 graduate credit hours, including an Exit Examination and Research Project. Students who do not have a master's degree in special education may qualify for entrance to the program through the completion of two 3-credit hour prerequisite courses, or proof of a minimum of three years of full-time experience as a special educator or school-based experience as a speech-language pathologist. In this program, candidates will be required to read, write, and research the major topics in Special Education. Candidates enroll in 15 hours of 7000 and 8000 level special education Content Specialization courses, and 12 hours of special education research. Most of the required courses include a designated artifact that is utilized as a part of the assessment plan for each candidate. Students may begin the program any semester. During the initial advising session, a projected sequence of courses is developed for each student. Any changes in the projected sequence need to be determined jointly between student and advisor in order for the student to be able to complete the program in a timely manner.

C. University College

    1. Department of Civic Engagement and Public Service

        a) Criminology, M.A.

        Request: Modify Program

        Rationale: The Criminology MA program is making modifications to both tracks: 1) Both tracks will now require CRIM 6233 Ethics in Criminal Justice as a core course, and 2) The Criminal Justice Administration track will require CRIM 6284 Graduate Capstone course to exit the program under this track (to replace the current comprehensive examination).

IV. New Business

A. Graduate School Policy Proposal

1. Academic Standing (see separate document in PDF)

    B. Chair-Elect Selection (Chair for 2023-24 Academic Year)

        1. Candidates must be a Faculty Senators

V.   Announcements

    A. GPC Meeting Schedule for Spring Semester 2023

        1. Tuesday, February 7th from 9:30 am – 11:00 am

        2. Tuesday, March 7th from 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

        3. Tuesday, April 4th from 9:30 am – 11:00 am

VI.   Adjourn