

## **Graduate Programs Committee Agenda**

**Wednesday, April 8, 2:00 p.m., HUM 235**

**Addenda:** <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1yi4N7rSj7QpWKOk9ZZCWsY19kPKMiyP3>

### **I. Approval of March 11 Meeting Minutes**

### **II. Comprehensive Program Reviews**

- 1) MA English
- 2) MA History
- 3) MMUS Music
- 4) Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Museum Studies
- 5) Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Public History

### **III. Course/Program Additions, Modifications, Deletions:**

#### **Action Items:**

#### A) College of Education

##### 1) Department of Sport Management, Wellness, and Physical Education

##### a. Physical Education, M.Ed.

Originator: Brian Mosier

Request: Revise Program

Rationale: The Department of Sport Management, Wellness, and Physical Education in the College of Education at the University of West Georgia identifies the rationale below to reactivate the Master of Education with a Major in Physical Education:

1. This program will allow the Department of Sport Management, Wellness, and Physical Education to offer a fully online graduate degree program in Physical Education. Currently, there are only a few other institutions in the USG that offer a Master of Education with a Major in Physical Education online. This programmatic change would allow UWG to serve the needs of alumni around the state as well as other K-12 health and physical education teachers in rural areas in the state and in other regions. Many UWG alumni in Health and Physical Education, who potentially would have stayed at UWG or remained in the USG, have earned graduate degrees from other institutions in order to attain their professional aspirations.

2. The redesigned degree program includes ten required courses at three credit hours each. In this way, the program will be attractive to undergraduates in the current UWG Health and Physical Education program when considering furthering their education following graduation, while also being a viable option for others currently not

enrolled at UWG. The significance of having highly qualified health and physical education professionals degreed at the graduate level is apparent as the need for K-12 health and physical education teachers remains steady and/or continues to increase in Georgia. A graduate degree in Health and Physical Education will likely increase motivation to remain in the current field.

3. Health and Physical Education program faculty have developed professional, working relationships with numerous K-12 health and physical education teachers in Georgia, several of whom are district coordinators and advocates for the profession. This degree will allow the program faculty to further develop and increase the number of meaningful relationships with practicing professionals. This enhanced network of K-12 teachers and administrators can promote new and innovative collaborative research efforts, including the potential for externally funded projects, and a stronger community of UWG graduates in the fields of health and physical education.

4. The COE at UWG has experienced significant growth in its online graduate education programs and several programs have gained national recognition. This degree program will further establish UWG and the USG as a leader in online programming for education professionals.

B) College of Science and Mathematics

1) Department of Biology

a. BIOL - 5425 - Fire Ecology

Originator: Christina Lark

Request: Add Course

Rationale: This course will serve as an upper level biology elective and discipline specific writing course option. It provides a unique opportunity for students to learn the importance of fire in southern ecosystems and hands-on experience of course concepts. The training they receive will improve our student's career placement as natural resource agencies and environmental consultants in the region extensively use fire management techniques.

b. Biology - 5427 - Conservation Biology

Originator: Christina Lark

Request: Add Course

Rationale: This course will serve as an upper level biology elective and discipline specific writing course option. Besides the content, the course delivers valuable training in scientific research methods and communication. Currently, there does not exist a course in biology that solely focuses on conservation and sustainability. This course provides student interested in natural resource management, ecology, and environmental consulting with needed career skills and content.

2) Department of Mathematics

- a. MATH - 6984 - Computational Mathematics Capstone  
Originator: Michael Gordon  
Request: Add Course  
Rationale: This one-hour course is a capstone course for students in the Computational Mathematics Certificate program.
- b. MATH - 6985 - Discrete Mathematics Capstone  
Originator: Michael Gordon  
Request: Add Course  
Rationale: This one-hour course is a capstone course for students in the Discrete Mathematics Certificate program.
- c. MATH - 6987 - Statistics Certificate Capstone  
Originator: Michael Gordon  
Request: Add Course  
Rationale: This one-hour course is a capstone course for students in the Statistics Certificate program.

**Information Items:**

A) College of Education

- 1) Department of Communication Sciences and Professional Counseling  
Higher Education Administration, Ed.D.  
Originator: Matthew Varga  
Request: Change department name to “Department of Counseling, Higher Education, and Speech Language Pathology”