

GRADUATE PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
CONNIE BARBOUR, CHAIR
MEETING AGENDA for
DATE/Time: – **January 12, 2021 at 10:30 - Noon**

- I) Call to Order
- II) Approval of Minutes – November 5th, 2020 (the schedule 11/23 meeting was cancelled as there was no agenda items).
- III) Program and Course Proposals

A) College of Arts, Culture, and Scientific Inquiry

i) Department of Anthropology, Psychology, and Sociology

(a) PSYC - 8887 - Advanced Practicum in Psychology

REQUEST: Modify course – change variable credit hours to non-variable

RATIONALE: Propose changing course variable credit hours (1-3 may repeat time 1 for total of 6 hours) to non-variable 3 credit hours (not repeated). At the end of last year, the PhD Committee in consultation with the former Department Chair and colleagues involved closely in training the PhD students toward teaching voted to continue with the best practice followed for many years, which amounts to a total of 6 credits between both courses (4+2); additionally, the Committee voted to even that total of 6 between the two semesters and thus to assign 3 Credit Hours to each of these two courses (PSYC 8887 and PSYC 9087) taught in a row (3+3). The reasons are: a) fairness for all students: avoiding different total loads of Credit Hours between the two courses that can still emerge from the current language (e.g. 4+3, or 4+1, or 4+2); b) transparency towards the students' workload from the start; c) acknowledging the need of novice teachers for regular and continuous feedback and other complex work about their actual teaching that requests more than 2 hours per week: this, in turn, means that the fall course PSYC 8887 must be fixed to 3 Credit hours and PSYC 9087 reduced from 4 to 3 Credit Hours. See also my first proposal about PSYC 9087.

(b) PSYC - 9087 - Teaching Practicum

REQUEST: Modify course – decrease from 4 to 3 credit hours

RATIONALE: see rationale above

(c) Psychology, Ph.D.

REQUEST: modify program – increase total credit hours from 60 to 64

RATIONALE: The PhD Degree is changing its total number of Credit Hours required for graduation from 60 to 64. The course work must total 60 credit hours. This remains unchanged, as well as the curriculum. The remaining 4 Credits Hours are obtained through enrollment in "PSYC 9999 - Dissertation", which is an existing course. This change is necessary to align with other PhD programs and degrees and be in compliance with SACSCOC. The change herewith proposed does not change anything in the actual curriculum nor in the program description nor in the assessment schema. For the language to use in the catalog, including new sub-headers, please see attachment for clarification.

(d) SOCI - 6286 – Internship

REQUEST: Modify course – repeatable credit hours (3 credit hours; may repeat x one for a total of 6 hours)

RATIONALE: Rationale for change in course description: The previous course description referred to placing students in internships and "areas of concentration." The MA program facilitates and assists in finding internships, but we do not "place" students. In addition, students do not have formal areas of concentration and this term is a potential source of confusion. (Passed by Sociology faculty in October 2020)

Rationale for allowing students to repeat the course once with permission from the sociology head of graduate studies: Allowing 6 possible credit hours of internship make the sociology MA more comparable to other social science programs at UWG and other sociology MA programs in this region. Requiring permission from the head of graduate studies to repeat the course will ensure that students are taking an appropriate combination of internships and coursework. Jill Drake and the registrar's office have advised that there is no way to code a course in Banner to require permission from the head of graduate studies. They recommended requiring instructor approval; the instructor will be able to monitor if students taking the course a second time have the required permission. (Passed by Sociology faculty in February 2020)

B) College of Education (COE) – NONE

C) Richards College of Business (RCOB) - NONE

D) Tanner Health System School of Nursing (THSSON) - NONE

E) University College

IV) Information Items

A) Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in European Union Studies (University College)

i) REQUEST: Termination of certificate

ii) RATIONALE: Since its implementation, there have been no students enrolled in the certificate program. There is no evidence of student demand for the program and there have been significant logistical issues with UWG's ongoing participation in USG's consortium program. The program is already deactivated, and we are now requesting its termination. The courses taught in this certificate program can be taught by faculty at the University of West Georgia.

V) New Business

VI) Old Business

A) Send proxy if unable to attend the meeting that month

B) Upcoming scheduling for Spring 2021 – meetings will be held virtually

i) February 9th at 10:30 am

ii) March 9th at 10:30 am

April 6th at 10:30 am