

Graduate Program Change Proposal

Form Procedure

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Department/Committee Information

The main contact person for the Graduate Curriculum Committee should fill out this form.

Requestor Name:

* Nancy Murray

Members of the Graduate Curriculum Committee:

Lynn D'Agostino: Chair
Jescah Apamo-Gannon
Dustin Halterman
Nancy Murray
Denise Sargent

Department / Unit Developing:

* Education



Department Chair:

* Dr. Denise Sargent

* dsargen5@fitchburgstate.edu

Academic Dean :

Dr. Mojdeh Bayat

mbayat@fitchburgstate.edu

Program Chair

The Program Chair for this request is among the people listed above.

* ☒ Yes
☐ No

Program Information

This proposal refers to a (check all that apply): ☐ Certificate Program ☒ Teacher Licensure Program ☐ Degree Program

Does the program run on a cohort model? ☐ Yes
☒ No

Will additional faculty be needed, day/adjunct? ☐ Yes
☒ No

Briefly describe program change to the existing program as it will appear in university catalog:

* One of the courses currently required within the Early Childhood Education (PreK-2) program is EDUC 7023: Education Foundations: Theory and Practice. This course will now become a prerequisite to the program. This course is often waived due to similar courses taken at the undergraduate level and is already a prerequisite for the Special Education Graduate Licensure programs.

The course SPED 8008: Emotional, Behavioral, and Autism Spectrum Disorders will be removed from the program in order to make room from an additional course. The important content within this course will be added to the already existing content in SPED 7024: Understanding Disabilities and Diversity.

By moving EDUC 7023 to a prerequisite and removing SPED 8008 the following courses can be added to the program without increasing the number of required credits:

---EDUC 8500: Development Assessment in Early Childhood (this was a course in the program and is needed to differentiate the program from Elementary Education)
----EDUC 7XXXX: Classroom Management

Population/anticipated enrollment/staffing plan (i.e., Who/how many will program serve?)

* As of Fall 2024 there are currently 22 active students enrolled in the Early Childhood (PreK-2) Licensure Program

Rationale and expected outcomes for program change:

* The suggested changes are proposed to address the following state requirements:

1. The new Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Guidelines for the Professional Standards for Teachers that came out in June 2024 have specific PSTs addressing the creating of positive learning environments including management. Exit surveys data has consistently demonstrated a need for additional content in the area of classroom management from our teacher candidates. The removal of SPED 8008: Emotional, Behavioral, and Autism Spectrum Disorders enables us to add the Classroom Management course without increasing credit requirements within the program.

2. In order to prepare for the next DESE Program Approval it is important to have a minimum of one course differentiating the ECE program from the Elementary Ed licensure program. Therefore, by reinstating EDUC 8500: Development Assessment in Early Childhood we are meeting these needs. (This course would replace EDUC 7023: Education Foundations: Theory and Practice)

How does this change affect the departments Learning Outcomes for the program? List any changes that need to be made.

This change does not affect the departments Learning Outcomes for the program.

Implementation plan (what semester will new policy/policy change begin; will change be phased in)

The plan will begin in the Fall of 2025.

An old and new plan of study must be included with this proposal (Please use template for program revision).

If new courses are proposed or major changes are made to existing courses, submit a Graduate Council New Course Approval form.

Old Plan of Study Attached here.

Early Childhood Template.pdf

New Plan of Study Attached here

Attach any letter(s) of support from professional agencies or others within or outside the university.

Signatures

...3032333135

Nancy Murray

Requester Signature:

10/16/2024

Date

...3839353734

Moideh Bayat

Academic Dean Signature:

03/21/2025

Date

...3234393033

Denise Largent

Department Chair Approval:

03/16/2025

Date

...3538323332

Becky Copper Hlenz

SGOCE Dean Signature:

03/26/2025

Date

Graduate Council

The Graduate Council Chair Signature indicates that the Council has discussed this proposal and has decided it should move forward.

Graduate Council Chair Signature Date

Notifications

Approval of the President

Date

SGOCE Dean Initials

Date

Reviewed by the Registrar:

Date

Name of Concentration, Program: Early Childhood Education (PreK-2) -Initial Licensure

Old Plan of Study			New Plan of Study		
Required Courses	Pre-practicum Hours	Credits	Required Courses	Pre-practicum Hours	Credits
Course number: Title of Course			Course number: Title of Course		
EDUC 7023: Education Foundations: Theory and Practice	15	3	PREREQUISITE: EDUC 7023: Education Foundations: Theory and Practice	15	3
EDUC 7003: Educational Issues in Child Development	10	3	EDUC 7003: Educational Issues in Child Development	10	3
			EDUC 8500: Development Assessment in Early Childhood for all Learners Already Exist		3
SPED 7024: Understanding Disabilities and Diversity		3	SPED 7024: Understanding Disabilities and Diversity		3
EDUC 7645: Reading: Curriculum, Assessment, Planning, and Teaching (Gateway 1)	20	3	EDUC 7645: Early Literacy and Language Arts in the PreK-6 Classroom (Gateway 1) (Course Changes) (Gateway 1)	20	3
EDUC 7650: Language Arts: Curriculum, Assessment, Planning, and Teaching	20	3	EDUC 7650: Advanced Instruction and Assessment in Literacy and Language Arts in the PreK-6 Classroom (Course Changes)	20	3
EDUC 7649: Science and Social Studies: Curriculum, Assessment, Planning and Teaching	20	3	EDUC 7649: Science and Social Studies: Curriculum, Assessment, Planning and Teaching for all Learners	20	3
EDUC 7640: Mathematics: Curriculum, Assessment, Planning, and Teaching (Gateway 2)	20	4	EDUC 7640: Mathematics: Curriculum, Assessment, Planning, and Teaching for all Learners (Gateway 2)	20	4

SPED 8008: Emotional, Behavioral, and Autism Spectrum Disorders (Remove)		3	EDUC 7XXXX Classroom Management new course		3
EDUC 7096: Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) (Targeted Feedback State Requirement)		3	EDUC 7096: Sheltered English Immersion (SEI) (Targeted Feedback State Requirement)		3
SPED 9200: Consultation and Collaboration Strategies		3	SPED 9200: Consultation and Collaboration Strategies		3
EDUC 9300: Educational Research		3	EDUC 9300: Educational Research		3
EDUC 9004: Practicum Application and Research Seminar		2	EDUC 9004: Practicum Application and Research Seminar		2
EDUC 9400: Practicum in Early Childhood		3	EDUC 9400: Practicum in Early Childhood		3
TOTAL CREDITS FOR PROGRAM		39	TOTAL CREDITS FOR PROGRAM		39