

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 2, 2023

Present: Amy McGlothlin, Barbara Cormier, Becky Copper Glenz, Daniel Sarefield, David Weiss, Deborah Stone, Denise Bertrand, Denise Sargent, Kyle Moody, Lynn D'Agostino, Nermin Bayazit, Nirajan Mani, Xuzhou Chen and Yang Liu.

Visitors: Beverley Hollingsworth and Elena Arranz Alonso.

Motion to open meeting: Kyle Moody

Second: Becky Copper-Glenz

Review of the Minutes from October 5, 2023

Motion to review: Nirajan Mani

Second: Daniel Sarefield

Motion to Approve Minutes: Amy McGlothlin

Second: Dan Sarefield

Vote: Unanimous

Non-Substantive Program Change Request Review: No new changes

Proposals:

SGOCE 23-24-06 - Graduate Program Change - CAGS in Interdisciplinary Studies: Individualized Concentration - Education

(Denise Sargent) The IDIS CAGS program used to sit in IDIS and they wanted to move it to Education because all of the students are teachers and they're all getting their CAGS teaching in Massachusetts. If they get 30 credits beyond their Masters, or if they complete the program they move up the pay scale, it's an incentive for them. We would like to change just the name of the program to CAGS in Educational Studies. Educational Studies. We have undergraduate Educational Studies, we thought this would be more attractive to potential students.

(Nermin Bayazit) Would going to the non-substantive change fit in that category?

(Denise Sargent) No, I already asked.

(Nermin Bayazit) Motion to accept proposal SGOCE 23-24-06.

Motion to Approve: Deborah Stone

Second: Amy D'Agostino

All in Favor:

Vote: 15

Abstain: 1

SGOCE 23-24-07 - New Program Proposal - M.Ed. Curriculum and Teaching - TESL (Non-Licensure) - Education.

(Lynn D'Agostino) We already have a TESL (Teaching English as a Second Language) certificate program which is 6 courses, this is combining the Graduate certificate program with the Curriculum and Teaching Master's degree. The courses already fit together, this is just making it official that TESL can be a concentration and that would then go on to their degree. Teaching students have asked for this, and they would like to come here and get a TESL degree. While this is still Curriculum and Teaching the concentration is TESL so it fits our Curriculum and Teaching Non-Licensure degree. It has an option for 6 content and pedagogy electives, the TESL courses fit in there two of them fit a curriculum spot in a literacy spot. With this, teachers can add on their TESL license, but we're not endorsing that so it's still a non-licensure program but it's meeting a need that a lot of districts in Massachusetts have right now though people from outside of Massachusetts could still have interest in this program.

(Daniel Sarefield) How will this impact the certificate program? Do you see closing out the certificate program or will those two programs still run?

Lynn D'Agostino: We would still run both. There are those that don't want 2 Master's degrees and just want the certificate and then some people want the Master's degree in TESL. It would also flow into our 4+1 program very well. That's been a huge interest of our current licensure program; students get their Masters in one year. They don't want to add on SPED. If they're already Elementary, a lot of students have said they want to add on TESL. This would fit into that program. I think that we would keep both. We will wait and see if the certificate program starts to dwindle.

(Nermin Bayazit) Is there any concern to keep both of them?

(Lynn D'Agostino) I don't know on the University side if it's a problem to have the two different options because course wise it's the same just if students only want 6 courses they would take the certificate if they want to hold a Masters they have that option too.

(Nermin Bayazit) Are there new courses or sections?

(Lynn D'Agostino) No.

(Barbara Cormier) It looks like there are at least two CIP codes that are listed and there can only be one.

(Lynn D'Agostino) Okay, I didn't know that.

(Barbara Cormier) I would just need to know which one to use.

(Lynn D'Agostino) I don't know what the CIP codes are. I think I just looked them up and said these fit.

(Barbara Cormier) Right, which is basically what we do. Go to the CIP code site and look them up if we have to and just pick the best guess of what fits. Would you have put the one that seemed most likely first because we can see that one.

(Lynn D'Agostino) Yeah, so just go with that one.

(Daniel Sarefield) Is this the same program we already have? Why don't we use the original program and give them something like a degree? I feel like it is not necessary. Just let them go with the credits they want.

(Lynn D'Agostino) It's two separate things. It's the certificate that we already have fixed credits and then for the Master's Degree with the concentration. The students are asking for this so I've put it forward as a proposal.

(Nermin Bayazit) If I'm understanding correctly, the certificate courses are embedded in the Masters so that if they want to pursue a Master's degree there's an option for them to go beyond the certificate the same preparation in terms of TESL and expanded from a Curriculum and Teaching perspective and get their Master's degree. The certificate is just a certificate on TESL.

(Lynn D'Agostino) Correct. Yes.

(Nermin Bayazit) It's kind of the subset of the Masters.

(Lynn D'Agostino) It's not that they would get the certificate and then continue in the Masters. They would be accepted into the Masters and want to focus on the certificate with these TESL courses. So they're choosing one or the other.

(Deborah Stone) Can students get a certificate then decide they want to go on and get their Masters and then keep going and do both?

(Lynn D'Agostino) Yes, the proposal is not for any new courses. It's just for a new concentration.

(Nermin Bayazit) With the certificate, in terms of transfer of courses, they can transfer up to 9 credits into a graduate program, which is the Masters. Correct?

(Lynn D'Agostino) They can take 12 credits before being accepted into a program.

(Nermin Bayazit) Okay, so they can actually take their 12 credits into the Curriculum and Teaching if they decide to pursue the Master's degree, not just stay with the certificate and take the rest of the degree program and get their Masters with a concentration in TESL.

(Lynn D'Agostino) Yes, and this is the first one coming through. Our goal is to have more concentrations in the future. Having concentration helps the students have a clear pathway. So this is the first one we're proposing.

(Yang Liu) I think this is a very useful program because I know there are a lot of international students who want to learn how to teach English so they can get a lot of jobs and not in the USA. So I think this is a really good opportunity. Will this one be open to international students only in the USA?

(Lynn D'Agostino) It's all online. We've struggled before because online programs have not worked for international students.

(Yang Liu) Interesting because I think it's very popular. I have friends who want to get this kind of thing in the USA. So I think it's very popular. Eventually, you will get a lot of students if you open to international students because the job market is there, even myself. I want to take this course.

(Lynn D'Agostino) Yeah, it's open to them but if they need a visa for it, I don't think we can give a visa for this type of program.

(Yang Liu) Yeah, that's why I asked. I think they don't need to come to the USA but they can get a degree in the USA, this is purely online so they do not need a visa.

(Lynn D'Agostino) True.

(Yang Liu) I know the job market is very very big, National League so I think it's really good.

Motion to Approve: David Weiss

Second: Denise Sargent

All in Favor:

Vote: Unanimous

SGOCE 22-24-08 a program change proposal MGMT 9500 Capstone. Strategic Management - Business Administration.

(Beverly Hollingsworth) Previously we required 24 credits for students to take this Capstone course, and it has presented some problems for some students. The whole objective was to have the student take this course in their last semester with 24 and then they just needed 6 more credits. However, we have considered this to be an added benefit of this change. This would affect how our program is assessed by our creditors because they assess the 9500 course. To take the 9500 course, which is the last of 6 courses, we believe it would be beneficial for the students whatever they've studied in, the first five courses would be fresh in their mind. It would be not only about convenience, it would be very helpful to them to have those concepts and applications in their minds as they go into this Capstone course. So all we're requiring now is just 18 which would be the first 5 and any elective or specialized course.

(Barbara Cormier) This is really just a prerequisite change for this course, correct?

(Beverly Hollingsworth) Yes.

(Barbara Cormier) A total of 18 credits, correct? 15 credits from the program and then the elective.

(Beverly Hollingsworth) 15 from the core and requires a total of 18. The Capstone makes the 18.

(Barbara Cormier) Right.

(Nermin Bayazit) They need those core courses to be successful in this Capstone right and it doesn't change?

(Beverley Hollingsworth) No, it doesn't change.

(Nermin Bayazit) Okay.

(Beverley Hollingsworth) Because the Capstone is the only course that is assessed by our creditors.

Motion to Approve: David Weiss

Second: Kyle Moody

All in Favor:

Vote: Unanimous

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(Nermin Bayazit) Any other items from the floor?

Motion to Adjourn: Becky Copper-Glenz

Second: Kyle Moody

Vote: Unanimous

(Nermin Bayazit) Our next meeting is December 7th.