

Graduate Council Meeting Minutes

<https://mtsu.zoom.us/j/82406790478>

November 22, 2024

1:00 pm

Graduate Council Chair: Dr. Sally Ann Cruikshank

Members Present: Alyson Lischka, Carol Nies, Stephen Salter, Joel Collao, Frank Lambert, Lisa Pruitt, Pam Morris, Patrick Richey, Jeremy Winters, Dan Morrell, Hongbo Zhang, Sally Ann Cruikshank, Barbara Lancaster, Helen Binkley, Sanjay Asthana, Kim Evert

Members Absent: Anatoliy Volkov, Don Roy, Frank Lambert, Kera Reynolds, Kim Ward

Visitors Present: Christine Crisp, Amy Harris

I. Call to order Dr. Sally Ann Cruikshank 1:00pm

II. Committee Reports

A. Curriculum Changes – Dr. Pam Morris

Motion was made to approve the proposals. The motion was seconded and approved.

B. Graduate Faculty Status – Dr. Dan Morrell

Motion was made to approve the applications. The motion was seconded and approved.

C. Program Reviewer – Dr. Carol Nies

Motion was made to approve the external reviewers for Criminal Justice. The motion was seconded and approved.

III. New Business

A. Appeal Advisory Committee of the Graduate Council

A call for volunteers from the Graduate Council was issued to select three members, including at least one graduate student, to participate in an appeal committee. Dr. Hongo Zhang, Dr. Barbara Lancaster, and Joel Collao have graciously volunteered to serve in this capacity.

IV. Motion to Adjourn - Dr. Sally Ann Cruikshank 1:05pm

MINUTES
2024-2025 Graduate Council Subcommittee
November 15, 2024
ZOOM - <https://mtsu.zoom.us/j/87504291199>
10:00 a.m.

Call to Order: Pam Morris 10:01am
Present: Pam Morris, Sanjay Asthana, Alyson Lishka, Lisa Pruitt

Absent: Kim Evert

Visitors Present: Christine Crisp, Sandy Benson, Paula Calahan, Mitzi Brandon, Robyn Ridgley, Scott Handy, Amy Harris, Tongia Key, Tyler Henson

Previously Tabled Proposals N/A

New Business N/A

Proposals

Proposal	Effective Date	Proposed Action	Detailed Explanation	Reference #
College of Basic and Applied Sciences				
Chemistry				
BMS - 6000 - Seminar in Biomedical Sciences	Summer 2025	New Course	The primary objective is to prepare students for a future in the biomedical sciences area. This preparation involves being aware of current trends in the field, being ready for applications and interviews, and considering alternative pathways as well as building connections within the area.	12
Discussion: A department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

Biomedical Sciences, M.S.	Summer 2025	New Program	This program would be the only public option in the state of Tennessee for a nonthesis M.S. degree in Biomedical Sciences aimed to prepare students either for professional school or direct	13
Discussion: A department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

Computer Science

CSCI - 6900 - Independent Study in Computer Science	Summer 2025	Course Change	Change the course number of CSCI 5600: Independent Study in Computer Science to CSCI 6900: Independent Study in Computer Science	14
Discussion: n/a				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

Geosciences

Geosciences, M.S.	Summer 2025	Change to admission, retention, progression, or graduation policy	Proposed change include adding language to expedite admission of internal MTSU students who have earned at least 75 hours while maintaining a 3.0 GPA. Admission requirements for external students will not change.	21
Discussion: n/a				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

College of Business

Accounting

ACTG - 6200 - International Anti-Money Laundering: Regulation and Compliance	Summer 2025	New Course	In this course, students will learn about the techniques and typologies of money laundering and terrorist financing and the fundamental features of global and U.S. regulatory regimes governing anti-money laundering (AML) and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (CFT) (commonly referenced together as AML/CFT), and develop skills in identifying risks and designing and assessing internal controls for AML/CFT.	1
Discussion: A department representative was available to answer questions.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

BLAW - 6510 - Introduction to Law and the U.S. Legal System	Summer 2025	New Course	The course provides a general introduction to law, legal terminology, and the U.S. legal system, with an emphasis on the major legal principles, the functions of the federal and state court systems, and the procedural steps involved in litigating a dispute.	8
<p>Discussion: A department representative was available to answer questions. Proposals 8, 9, 10, and 11 considered together.</p> <p>Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.</p>				

BLAW - 6530 - Survey of Selected Business Law Topics	Summer 2025	New Course	This course surveys the legal rights and potential liabilities of businesspersons with an emphasis on identifying and communicating findings of legal issues in areas including, but not limited to torts, business and cyber-crimes, internet and social media law, creditor-debtor relations and bankruptcy, immigration and labor law, consumer protection, environmental law, antitrust, securities regulation, intellectual property, and administrative law.	9
<p>Discussion: A department representative was available to answer questions. Proposals 8, 9, 10, and 11 considered together.</p> <p>Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.</p>				

BLAW - 6540 - Employment Law	Summer 2025	New Course	This course provides an overview of current employment laws, administrative regulations, and judicial decisions and a detailed examination of employers' and employees' legal rights and responsibilities.	10
<p>Discussion: A department representative was available to answer questions. Proposals 8, 9, 10, and 11 considered together.</p> <p>Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.</p>				

BLAW - 6590 - Professional Project	Summer 2025	New Course	Culminating course for the business concentrations in the MS in Legal Studies degree, which students should take in their final semester. The professional project will be a substantial piece of independent research or a significant professional project requiring students to utilize their content knowledge to identify, research, prepare a written artifact, and engage in a professional presentation, oral argument, debate, conference or other activity on a timely legal issue in their industry related to their concentration.	11
Discussion: A department representative was available to answer questions. Proposals 8, 9, 10, and 11 considered together.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

Legal Studies, M.S.	Summer 2025	New Program	The proposed program will prepare working professionals who need to sharpen their understanding of the law but do not need or want to pursue a more extensive Juris Doctor (JD) degree with relevant knowledge of the U.S. legal system and basic legal principles in the general areas of contracts, critical legal thinking, legal ethics, writing and case analysis; allow students to develop in-depth knowledge in one of three concentrations: Business Law; Compliance, Anti-Fraud, and Anti-Money Laundering; or Entertainment.	22
Discussion: A department representative was available to answer questions. Final NAPP will be added once proposal has been approved through all channels.				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

Economics and Finance

Finance, M.S.	Summer 2025	Change to admission, retention, progression, or graduation policy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remove the requirement for the GMAT exam. 2. Remove the requirement for a statement of purpose only for MTSU Finance undergraduate students. The statement of purpose will remain for all other students applying from MTSU and for outside students. 	20
Discussion: n/a				

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

College of Education

Educational Leadership

YOED - 5510 - Clinical Practice-Secondary	Summer 2025	Course Change (title and description)	Name change needed to better reflect the clinical experience designed for those preparing for the secondary education classroom.	26
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Discussion: College of Education representative was available to answer any questions for all COE proposals.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Administration and Supervision, Instructional Leadership Concentration, M.Ed.	Summer 2025	Change to curriculum of existing major (including concentrations), minor, or certificate Program hours change Change to admission, retention, progression, or graduation policy	1) Creation of a core set of courses that are required for all concentrations in the program. The core includes four common courses. 2) Update course offerings within concentrations to eliminate overlap between the MEd and EdS Administration & Supervision programs. 3) Reduction of credit hours from 33 to 30. 4) Update admissions and degree requirements.	2
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Discussion: n/a

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Administration and Supervision, Agricultural Education Leadership Concentration, M.Ed.	Summer 2025	Termination of Program	The Agricultural Leadership concentration is being terminated due to low enrollment.	3
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Discussion: n/a

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Administration and Supervision, Higher Education Concentration, Ed.S.	Summer 2025	Change to curriculum of existing major (including concentrations), minor, or certificate Change to admission	Creation of a core set of courses that are required for all concentrations in the program. The core includes four common courses. Update course offerings within concentrations to eliminate overlap between the MEd and EdS Administration & Supervision programs Update admissions and degree requirements.	4
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Discussion: n/a

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Administration and Supervision, Higher Education Concentration, M.Ed.	Summer 2025	Change to curriculum of existing major (including concentrations), minor, or certificate Program hours change Change to admission, retention, progression, or graduation policy	1) Creation of a core set of courses that are required for all concentrations in the program. The core includes four common courses. 2) Update course offerings within concentrations to eliminate overlap between the MEd and EdS Administration & Supervision programs. 3) Reduction of credit hours from 33 to 30. 5) Update admissions and degree requirements.	5
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Discussion: n/a

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Administration and Supervision, Instructional Leadership Concentration, Ed.S.	Summer 2025	Change to curriculum of existing major (including concentrations), minor, or certificate Program hours change Change to admission, retention, progression, or graduation policy	1) Creation of a core set of courses that are required for all concentrations in the program. The core includes four common courses. 2) Update course offerings within concentrations to eliminate overlap between the MEd and EdS Administration & Supervision programs. 3) Reduction of credit hours from 33 to 30. 4) Update admissions and degree requirements.	6
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Discussion: n/a

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Administration and Supervision, Leadership in Teaching Data Literacy Concentration, Ed.S.	Summer 2025	New Concentration	The state of Tennessee, along with other states, are increasing requirements for K12 educational agencies to ensure students are equipped with computer science and data literacy types of thinking and understanding. This concentration will allow for MTSU to support the growing needs of these systems and doing so through the ALSS program is a perfect fit given its priority given to leading immediate change in schools to enhance success.	7
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Discussion: Correction made to THEC form so core classes match Degree plan

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Elementary and Special Education

EDST - 6700 - The Art and Science of Teaching: How We Learn	Spring 2025	New Course	This course focuses on a variety of aspects related to preparation, background, skills, and knowledge needed to effectively meet the needs of diverse populations enrolled in PreK-12th classrooms	16
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Discussion: Proposals 16, 17, and 18 considered together.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

EDST - 6710 - Assessment for Learning	Spring 2025	New Course	Assessment for learning prepares new teachers to use multiple methods of assessment to monitor learning progress, guide decision-making, and enhance student learning.	17
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Discussion: Proposals 16, 17, and 18 considered together.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

EDST - 6720 - Managing Learning Environments	Spring 2025	New Course	Managing Learning Environments assists new teachers with expanding knowledge regarding the many facets of managing diverse classrooms including strategies, approaches, and interventions for an effective classroom environment.	18
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Discussion: Proposals 16, 17, and 18 considered together.

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

ELED - 5510 - Clinical Practice-Elementary	Summer 2025	Course Change	Changing the name and the description of the course as well as changing the Grading method to pass/fail to align with the YOED 5510 grading system (and all other clinical practice courses)	19
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Discussion: n/a

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Literacy, M.Ed.	Summer 2025	Change to admission, retention, progression, or graduation policy	Applicants seeking admission to the Master of Education program in Literacy must have an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or higher or a minimum of twelve hours at the graduate level with a GPA of 3.00 or higher. Applicants must have a valid teaching license for admission to the program and complete an interview with the program coordinator or one or more of the program faculty. Under special circumstances, the licensure requirement for entrance to the degree program may be waived for highly qualified applicants.	23
Discussion: n/a				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

Literacy, M.Ed.	Summer 2025	Change to curriculum of existing major (including concentrations), minor, or certificate	Add READ 6460 - Content Literacy as an elective to the present Literacy, M.Ed. degree program.	24
Discussion: n/a				
Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.				

Educational Leadership and Elementary and Special Education

Curriculum and Instruction, M.Ed. (includes MAT split into MAT and MED and DTL conc. termination)	Summer 2025	Change to curriculum of existing major (including concentrations), minor, or certificate Program hours change Change to admission, retention, progression, or graduation policy Termination of program	1. Separate the concentrations into two degree programs. Two concentrations will remain in the MEd Curriculum & Instruction – Elementary Education and Teaching and Innovation in PK-16. Three concentrations will be encompassed in a MAT in Teaching – Elementary Education (currently Elementary Initial Licensure), English as a Second Language, and Secondary Education (currently Secondary Education Licensure Path). The MEd C&I will be housed in Womack Educational Leadership. The MAT will be housed in Elementary & Special Education. 2. Terminate the Digital Teaching and Learning concentration. (included in Ed Leadership submission) 3. Create a core set of courses for each program. Three new courses are being proposed for the core of the MAT. 4. Remove courses from each concentration to reduce the number of credit hours for each program and associated concentrations. 5. Update admission and degree requirements to provide consistency across concentrations for each program.	15
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Discussion: n/a

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

University College

University Studies

Professional Studies, M.P.S. (All Concentrations)	Summer 2025	Change to admission, retention, progression, or graduation policy	1. allow all students who graduate with a 3.0 GPA or higher to be unconditionally admitted to the Master of Professional Studies program. 2. allow students with a GPA under 3.0 to submit a portfolio of works (resume and essay) to be considered for admission to the Master of Professional Studies program. * Note: All applicants will be required to submit transcripts. MTSU transcripts will automatically be pulled. The MPS program would like to opt into the Lightning Track.	25
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Discussion: n/a

Committee Action: A motion was made to approve the proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

Adjournment: Pam Morris 10:37 AM

Graduate Council - Faculty Status Subcommittee Minutes

<https://mtsu.zoom.us/j/82406790478>

November 15, 2024

1:00 PM

I. Call to Order: Dan Morrell 1:05pm

Members Present: Dan Morrell, Frank Lambert, Anatoliy Volkov, Helen Binkley, Sally Ann Cruikshank

Members Absent: N/A

Visitors Present: Amy Harris, Christine Crisp

II. Graduate Faculty Status

Adjunct

1. Perlson, Jordan- approved
2. Robertson, William - approved

Full

1. Da, Jun- approved
2. Goodin, Terry- approved
3. Moore, Todd- approved
4. Neupane, Suman- approved
5. Nies, Carol- approved
6. O'Brien, Keely- approved
7. Reineke, Jason- approved
8. Shinkareva, Galina- approved
9. Shulman, William- approved
10. Sprick Schuster, Steven- approved

Teaching

1. Branum Thrash, Caitlin- approved
2. Carleton, David- approved

III. Motion to Adjourn Dan Morrell 1:14pm

Graduate Council Program Review Sub-Committee Meeting
November 13, 2024
10:00 am

I. Call to Order – Dr. Kim Ward

Members Present – Kim Ujcich Ward, Patrick Richey, Carol Nies

Members Absent – Stephen Slater

Visitors Present – Christine Crisp

II. External Program Reviewers

A. Master's Criminal Justice

- Committee members had reviewed the eligibility criteria for external reviewers and Dr. Swartz's materials as a potential reviewer prior to the meeting.
- Discussion included that Dr. Swartz meets all 8 eligibility criteria.
- Carol moved **to recommend** Dr. Swartz as an external reviewer for the MCJ program review, seconded by Patrick.
- Vote 3-0 to recommend Dr. Swartz as an external reviewer for the Criminal Justice master's program review.

B. Additional Program Reviews

- Additional program reviews scheduled for this year have been postponed until next semester, so there will be no additional program reviewers to evaluate this semester.

IV. Motion to Adjourn -

Meeting adjourned at 10:06 am.