

**Graduate Council Meeting Agenda**  
2:00 PM, 11 February 2021

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://mercer.zoom.us/j/92398579135?pwd=NmRMWG1RUmhaMFAxN3MzbWIRcmNHQT09>

**Meeting ID: 923 9857 9135**

**Passcode: 565188**

**Welcome and Attendance:**

<b>Business:</b>	Vijaya Subrahmanyam; Jeff Hall	<b>Pharmacy:</b>	J. Phil Bowen; Martin D'Souza; Susan Miller
<b>Education:</b>	Jeff Hall, Justin Ballenger, Loleta Sartin	<b>Professional Advancement:</b>	Colleen Stapleton; Tyler Wilkinson
<b>Engineering:</b>	Sinjae Hyun	<b>Theology:</b>	Rob Nash
<b>Health Professions:</b>	Leslie Taylor; Nannette Turner	<b>Institutional Effectiveness:</b>	Susan Malone, Kelly McMichael
<b>Law:</b>	Scott Titshaw	<b>Institutional Research:</b>	Sarah May
<b>Libraries:</b>	Kim Eccles	<b>Registrar:</b>	Alba Rodriguez-Mitchell; Sara McCommon, Diana Hill, Lashunda Walker
<b>Medicine:</b>	Andrea Meyer Stinson; Christy Bridges	<b>Bursar:</b>	Kandy Cook
		<b>Financial Planning:</b>	No attendance from Financial Planning
<b>Music:</b>	Richard Kosowski	<b>Center for Teaching &amp; Learning:</b>	Susan Codone
<b>Nursing:</b>	Omolara Fyle-Thorpe; Tammy Barbe; Vicki Black	<b>Provost Office:</b>	Keith Howard, Lisa Snow

**Approval of Minutes**

Graduate Council meeting minutes, 15 October 2020. Open for discussion. No corrections or adjustments were noted. Action: Motioned and Approved

**Academic Proposals**

**COP – M. D'Souza**

Ph.D. & Pharm D. Ph.D.	Program & Course Revisions	<p>COP proposes to renumber 6 courses in the current Ph.D. program from 800 level to 700 level courses in order to accommodate the new MS program. This revision will permit students completing the MS program to pursue a Ph.D. in their program seamlessly. The core classes will apply to the Ph.D. program.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PHA 808 Pharmacokinetics (3) Change Course number to PHA 708 PHA 842 Foundations in Pharmaceutical Sciences (5) Change Course number to PHA 742 PHA 843 Foundations in Research (3) Change Course number to PHA 743</p>	Action – Approved
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	PHA 844 Scientific Writing (3) Change Course number to PHA 744 PHA 845 Statistical Methods (3) Change Course number to PHA 745 PHA 897 Seminar (1) Change course number to PHA 797	
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### EDU – J Ballenger

MAT Elem	Program Change Course Change	MAT Elementary changes were discussed and decision was made to review rational and course descriptions in more detail with Tift faculty. The proposal will be presented in the next spring meeting, March 2021.	Action Tabled —
MAT	Course Change	Master of Arts in Teaching course changes was presented. Revise: EMAT 645 and delete EMAT 644.	Action – Approved
M.Ed.	Course Change	Propose to add an elective for the Master’s in Higher Education Leadership program for students interested in working in admissions. EDEL 620 Strategic Enrollment Management. Students can take either EDEL 614 Intercollegiate Athletics or EDEL 620.	Action – Approved
Ph.D.	Course Change	Chair approved addition to catalog during the Spring. Discussion followed. Tift will work with the Registrar’s office to discuss courses and hours in more detail. Proposal was tabled and Tift will bring back to next spring meeting in March.	Action – Tabled

### NUR – T. Barbe

Ph.D.	Program Change Course Change	<p>The Ph.D. Nursing program began in 2009. Following a comprehensive program review, several changes were recommended. Program outcomes and evaluation strategies revisions reflect the more recent 2010 AACN Task Force on the Research-Focused Doctorate recommendations. Additionally, in response to student, faculty, and alumni feedback and the increasing length of student time in dissertation, an examination of curricular elements was needed. Course documents for all courses were simplified and clarified using best practices to enhance student learning.</p> <p>This revision does not change the total credit hours; however, the program’s minimum required semesters increased from 7 to 8 semesters. To date, no graduate has completed the program in seven semesters, and only 5 of the 40 graduates have completed in 8 semesters. The revised curriculum will begin in Fall 2021 with newly admitted students. Students already in the program will complete the current curriculum.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Course Changes:</p> <p>Delete (9)          NUR 805 Quantitative Research in Nursing, Education, and Healthcare, (3)          NUR 806 Qualitative Research in Nursing, Education, and Healthcare, (3)          NUR 809 Mixed Methods Research in Nursing, Education, and Healthcare, (3)          NUR 818 Leadership in Higher Education, (3)          NUR 822 Grant Writing, (2)          NUR 823 Applied Statistics and Measurement I, (3)          NUR 824 Applied Statistics and Measurement II, (3)          NUR 827 Dissertation Proposal Development, (2)          NUR 828 Advanced Data Management in Research, (4)</p> <p>Add (10)          NUR 830 Becoming a Nurse Scholar, (3)          NUR 831 Ethics in Nursing Research, (2)</p>	Action – Approved
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	<p>NUR 841 Research Design and Methods for Nursing Science I, (3)  NUR 842 Research Design and Methods for Nursing Science II, (3)  NUR 843 Research Design and Methods for Nursing Science III, (3)  NUR 844 Research Seminar, (2)  NUR 845 Research Synthesis, (3)  NUR 851 Applied Statistical Reasoning I, (3)  NUR 852 Applied Statistical Reasoning II, (3)  NUR 853 Qualitative Data Analysis, (3)</p> <p>Revise (5)  NUR 815 Dissertation Research, (1-6)  Change to course name  NUR 816 Foundations in Nursing Education, (3)  Changes to course description and outcomes  NUR 817 Nursing Program Development and Evaluation, (3)  Change to course name, course description, outcomes  NUR 825 Philosophical Influences on Nursing Science, (3)  Minor revision to course description and outcomes  NUR 826 Knowledge and Theory Development, (3)  Minor revision to course description and outcomes</p> <p>The student learning outcomes have been updated and they are working with Kelly McMichael on the assessment plan.</p>	
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### Other Business – Keith Howard

#### SACS COC Substantive Change Policy

Susan Malone provided an overview of the policy, effective January 1, 2021. The policy will change some of Mercer’s reporting. SACS has extended areas that need notification and the list has expanded as well. SACS recognizes three methods of delivery: traditional face to face, distance education, & competency based. . Discussion followed. Some colleges are working on proposals to change delivery methods. An example was given of changing face to face to a blended delivery method. Changes can’t begin until next January. If students begin programs advertised as face to face method, Mercer is required to complete program in the face to face delivery method for those students. Dr. Malone will load the policy to the curriculum website and you may contact her with questions.

#### Short-term COVID changes

Keith Howard reminded all about the notification requirement to graduate council. Council needs notification of limited changes made related to the COVID pandemic, during the period recognized as a pandemic. Short term changes due to COVID need to be discussed but do not require formal approval. Malone remarked that Mercer has a blanket approval to accommodate the COVID changes as long as they are temporary in nature during the pandemic. The distance learning addendum can be used to capture changes.

Andrea Meyer Stinson notified council of MFT630 course adjustment made to Diagnosis and Assessment in Family Therapy for the spring 2021 semester. Course times are 5:30-8:30 PM on Thursdays in Macon, and 9:00AM to 12:00 PM on Mondays in Atlanta. The change is limited to the four weeks of instruction where role play activities are used (weeks 2-5). During weeks 2-5 of MFT630, students learn specific assessments skills and protocols for assessing adults, children, couples, and families. To gain experience, students participate in semi-structured role plays of clinical skills with classmates. Due to COVID-19, it is not safe or feasible for students to complete these role-plays in the MFT clinic as they have traditionally done in the past. Additionally the use of masks as a safety precaution would impede student's ability to monitor and assess facial expressions, which is an important part of the assessment process.

To facilitate these role-play activities effectively, these four class sessions were held virtually in Zoom and breakout rooms were used to allow students to conduct role play activities in a setting which simulates providing telehealth services. Students recorded role plays and uploaded them into the LearningSpace video management system for feedback and review. This change impacts 14 students in Macon, and 12 students in Atlanta.

## **Graduate Curriculum Policies**

Keith Howard shared the Curriculum Standards Graduate Council document via zoom. The curriculum standards help identify important information as you consider submitting program and course changes within your academic units. The document also provides additional training and instruction as the council evaluates proposals. Howard discussed the highlights and referenced the website location for all to access.

The full document is located on the Provost site under the Curriculum tab.

[https://provost.mercer.edu/curriculum/curriculum\\_policy\\_documents/curriculum-policy-documents.cfm](https://provost.mercer.edu/curriculum/curriculum_policy_documents/curriculum-policy-documents.cfm)

**Adjournment 3:40 pm**