



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

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University Council

October 15, 2021

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2021-2022

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Undergraduate Student Representative – Matthew Jue

Graduate Student Representative – Sarah Burns

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the Mary Frances Early College of Education to terminate the Graduate Certificate in Dyslexia on the Athens campus only will be an agenda item for the October 22, 2021, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Susan Sanchez, Chair
University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost S. Jack Hu
Dr. Rahul Shrivastav

PROPOSAL FOR DEACTIVATION OR TERMINATION OF AN ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Date: February 22, 2021

School/College: Mary Frances Early College of Education

Department/Division: Communication Sciences and Special Education

Program (Major and Degree): Graduate Certificate in Dyslexia

Which campus(es) offer this program? Athens and Online (the certificate will still be offered online)

Deactivation or Termination? Termination of the Athens campus only

Proposed Effective Date: Spring 2022

Last date students will be admitted to this program: Fall 2019

Last date students will graduate from this program: Fall 2020

Program Abstract:

The Graduate Certificate in Dyslexia provides students with in-depth knowledge related to the field of reading and language development, assessment, instruction, and individual differences. The certificate program provides pre- and in-service teachers as well as related services professionals with the knowledge and skills necessary to teach reading to students with dyslexia and other struggling readers. Completion of the Graduate Certificate in Dyslexia requires 16 semester hours of specific reading and language-related coursework, a 1-week (30 hr.) Orton-Gillingham Training, and a 7-week summer practicum in Intensive Reading Interventions in which students will demonstrate proficiency in working in small groups or one-to-one with students at risk for or who are experiencing reading difficulties. Upon completion of the program, students in the certificate program will be prepared to sit for the International Dyslexia Association's Structured Literacy Certification examination. The Graduate Certificate in Dyslexia is intended for those who hold a bachelor's degree in Education or a related field (e.g., psychology, speech pathology, or social work).

1. State the reasons for terminating the program, and provide copies of any relevant documents.

The Graduate Certificate in Dyslexia is no longer offered face-to-face. As of fall 2018, the program is offered as an online program only (see <https://online.uga.edu/degrees-certificates/graduate-certificate-dyslexia>). The department does not have the resources to offer both in-person and online versions of the required courses, and there was a greater need for the online option. The in-person courses have not been offered since the online program was approved, and there are no plans to offer the face-to-face courses in the foreseeable future.

2. What will be done to minimize the impact of the termination of the program upon the personal and professional lives of the faculty and staff involved? Include specific information on: a) how faculty and staff will be notified of the deactivation or termination, and b) how faculty and staff will be reallocated.

The final student graduated from the Athens campus certificate in December 2020, but faculty and staff are still offering the program online.

3. What will be done to ensure that deactivation or termination of the program does not weaken other programs (graduate, undergraduate, or professional) for which the department may be responsible?

Current enrollment in the equivalent Online Graduate Certificate in Dyslexia (fall 2020 enrollment: N=46), with little or no enrollment in the face-to-face program, shows that there will be no negative impact on the online program if the face-to-face is terminated.

Documentation of Approval and Notification

Proposal: Termination of the Graduate Certificate in Dyslexia Athens campus only

College: Mary Frances Early College of Education

Department: Communication Sciences and Special Education

Proposed Effective Term: Spring 2022

Department:

- Communication Sciences and Special Education Department Head, Dr. Cynthia Vail, 2/22/21

School/College:

- Mary Frances Early College of Education Dean, Dr. Denise Spangler, 2/22/21
- Mary Frances Early College of Education Associate Dean, Dr. Stacey Neuharth-Pritchett, 3/22/21

Graduate School:

- Graduate School Associate Dean, Dr. Anne Shaffer, 8/31/21