



The University of Georgia®

University Council
Athens, Georgia 30602

March 12, 2014

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2013-2014

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Pharmacy - Dr. Cory Momany

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Graduate School - Dr. Tracie E. Costantino

Ex-Officio - Provost Pamela S. Whitten

Undergraduate Student Representative - Ms. Hadley Dreibelbis

Graduate Student Representative - Ms. Margaret Robbins

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal to change the name of an Area of Emphasis and to terminate an Area of Emphasis under the major in Educational Psychology (M.A., Ed.S., and Ph.D.) will be an agenda item for the March 19, 2014, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Area of Emphasis Name Change under the major in Educational Psychology (M.A. and Ph.D.):

From: Quantitative Methods

To: Quantitative Methodology

Termination of the Area of Emphasis in Quantitative Methods under the major in Educational Psychology (Ed.S.)

Sincerely,

David E. Shipley, Chair
University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost Pamela S. Whitten
Dr. Laura D. Jolly



The University of Georgia

College of Education
Department of Educational Psychology

November 15, 2013
Dean Craig H. Kennedy
College of Education
University of Georgia
CAMPUS

Dear Dean Kennedy:

On November 15, 2013, the faculty of the Department of Educational Psychology met to vote on two matters related to the Educational Psychology area of emphasis in Quantitative Methods. These two actions include:

- (1) changing the name of the area of emphasis in Quantitative Methods from Quantitative Methods to Quantitative Methodology.
- (2) discontinuing the option for an area of emphasis in Quantitative Methods at the educational specialist (Ed.S.) level.

The faculty vote to support each of these two actions was 16 for, 0 against. Below you will find a rationale for each action. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

Stacey Neuharth-Pritchett, Ph.D.
Professor and Head

approved
Maureen Hassol CB

Rationale for Changing the Area of Emphasis to Quantitative Methodology.

The Quantitative Methods Area of Emphasis [QM] within the Department of Educational Psychology was previously called the REMS [Research, Evaluation, Measurement, and Statistics] program. On July 1, 2013 the area of emphasis was officially renamed Quantitative Methods. The faculty in the QM Area of Emphasis request a slight change of that name to "Quantitative Methodology". We believe that the word "methodology" better reflects our goals and mission to study quantitative methods (measurement and statistical models) to improve research in the social and behavioral sciences.

Rationale for discontinuing the option for an area of emphasis in Quantitative Methods (QM) at the Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) level.

The Department of Educational Psychology and Instructional Technology was reorganized in January 2013 and became the Department of Educational Psychology on July 1, 2013. Part of our work since the July 1 official configuration as the Department of Educational Psychology was to examine our degree and area of emphasis offerings, to rename elements that no longer fit with our reorganization, and to delete degrees and areas of emphasis which did not have student enrollment.

In examining data listed on the University of Georgia Institutional Research Unit Profile (data extracted on September 19, 2013), a number of degree options and area of emphasis options in the department were listed within that profile which should be removed. For example, additional proposals requesting the termination of Ed.D. programs have already been forwarded to Curriculum Systems for review.

Another option to be removed is the option to receive an Educational Specialist degree with an area of emphasis in Quantitative Methods. The rationale for the removal of this area of emphasis option centers on the lack of enrollment in that option over the last 12 years. For example, all current students in the Quantitative Methods area of emphasis in Educational Psychology are either enrolled in Master of Arts programs ($n = 1$) or Doctor of Philosophy programs ($n = 14$). No student has graduated with an Educational Specialist degree with an area of emphasis in Quantitative Methods in the last 12 years. An additional decision to warrant the termination of the Ed.S. area of emphasis option in Quantitative Methods is to better align our degree options with expected degrees in our field, typically a Doctor of Philosophy degree.

Because there are no students in the QM area of emphasis Ed.S degree, no plan is necessary to allow students to complete degree requirements. There will also be no impact of the termination of the area of emphasis option on the personal and professional lives of the faculty involved as all students are either in MA or Ph.D. programs. All faculty will retain their course loads and specific teaching assignments. We also anticipate no weakening of other degree programs or areas of emphases in the department because students are already enrolled in the more rigorous Doctor of Philosophy program in Educational Psychology with an area of emphasis in Quantitative Methods. Finally, there are no plans to subsequently reactivate or reinstate the area of emphasis option in Quantitative Methods at the Ed.S. level in Educational Psychology.