



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

University Council

October 10, 2025

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2025-2026

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Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the Mary Frances Early College of Education to terminate the Area of Emphasis in 6-12 Secondary Teaching and the Area of Emphasis in P-5 Elementary Teaching under the major in Reading Education (M.Ed.) online will be an agenda item for the October 17, 2025, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Susan Sanchez, Chair

cc: Provost Benjamin Ayers

Dr. Marisa Anne Pagnattaro

PROPOSAL FOR TERMINATION OF AN AREA OF EMPHASIS

Date: April 17, 2025

School/College: Mary Frances Early College of Education

Department/Division: Language and Literacy Education

Areas of emphasis to be terminated: 6-12 Secondary Teaching
P-5 Elementary Teaching

Major(s) and degree(s) the area of emphasis offered under? Reading Education (M.Ed.)

Which campus(es) offer this area of emphasis? Athens and Online; this proposal is to terminate on the online campus only

Proposed effective date: Spring 2026

Last date students will be admitted to this area of emphasis: Not applicable

Last date students will complete this area of emphasis: Not applicable, no students enrolled

Program Abstract:

Provide a brief summary of the area of emphasis being proposed for termination.

The Area of Emphasis in 6-12 Secondary Teaching and the Area of Emphasis in P-5 Elementary Teaching were utilized by teachers who did not want specific content emphasis, such as new and digital literacies or children's literature and language arts. Thus, the courses were reading specific or covered literacy content as well as pedagogical content.

1. Why is this area of emphasis being proposed for termination?

There are five areas of emphasis under the online Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Reading Education. Over the last five years, the number of candidates enrolling in the Area of Emphasis in 6-12 Secondary Teaching and the Area of Emphasis in P-5 Elementary Teaching have declined, indicating that there is not a need for differentiation for the credential. Therefore, the department proposes to terminate the Area of Emphasis in 6-12 Secondary Teaching and the Area of Emphasis in P-5 Elementary Teaching under the major in Reading Education (M.Ed.) on the online campus only.

The remaining online areas of emphasis in New and Digital Literacy (6-12), New and Digital Literacy (P-5), and Children's Literature and Language Arts garner sufficient interest. Data for each emphasis are displayed in the table below.

	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Fall 2022	Fall 2023	Fall 2024
Reading Education (M.Ed.) Online					
Children's Literature and Language Arts	2	2	0	1	1
New and Digital Literacy 6-12	2	2	1	2	4
New and Digital Literacy P-5	3	10	15	18	11
6-12 Secondary Teaching	3	2	0	0	0
P-5 Elementary Teaching	6	3	0	0	0
Total	16	19	16	21	16

2. What will be done to ensure that termination of the area of emphasis does not weaken the major(s) under which it is offered?

The major will continue to be offered with three existing areas of emphasis that have enrollment.

3. How will faculty and staff be notified of the termination? Will termination of the area of emphasis have any impact on the faculty and staff offering the area of emphasis?

Faculty from the Department of Language and Literacy Education advanced this proposal as part of a review of their programs that was part of a college-wide Curriculum Review and Enrollment Forecast. There is no impact on the faculty and staff. Other courses within the major can absorb the enrollment of the candidates who would have taken courses associated with these two areas of emphasis.

4. How will students be notified of the termination? How will students currently in the area of emphasis be advised to complete the requirements?

There are no students currently enrolled in those areas of emphasis.

5. What plans, if any, are there for subsequent reactivation of the area of emphasis?

There are no plans for reactivation of these two areas of emphasis.

6. Provide a revised program of study/Bulletin layout of the major's requirements once the area of emphasis has been removed.

Reading Education (M.Ed.) Online

Area of Emphasis in 6-12 Secondary Teaching

~~Required Courses (36 hours)~~

~~Choose 9 credit hour(s) from the following:~~

~~Educational foundation courses~~

~~Choose 12 credit hour(s) from the following:~~

~~Reading core courses~~

~~Choose 3 credit hour(s) from the following:~~

~~Research courses~~

~~Choose 12 credit hour(s) from the following:~~

~~LLED elective courses~~

~~Total = 36 hours~~

Area of Emphasis in P-5 Elementary Teaching

~~Required Courses (36 hours)~~

~~Choose 9 credit hour(s) from the following:~~

~~Educational foundation courses~~

~~Choose 12 credit hour(s) from the following:~~

~~Reading core courses~~

~~Choose 3 credit hour(s) from the following:~~

~~Research courses~~

~~Choose 12 credit hour(s) from the following:~~

~~LLED elective courses~~

~~Total = 36 hours~~

Area of Emphasis in Children's Literature and Language Arts

Required Courses (36 hours)

Choose 36 credit hour(s) from the following:

Courses that focus on relevant topics such as children's literature throughout the curriculum, culturally diverse literature, language and culture in the classroom, literacy and writing pedagogies, poetry for grades P-8, picture books as artistic, cultural, and academic artifact, as approved by the academic advisor and in concert with the students' interests and professional goals.

Total = 36 hours

Area of Emphasis in New and Digital Literacy 6-12

Required Courses (15 hours)

LLED 6010, Survey of Reading Instruction Pre-K through Grade 12 (3 hours)

LLED 6020, Practicum in Reading Instruction and Assessment (Clinic) (3 hours)

LLED 7110, Integrating Digital Resources in Literacy Education (3 hours)

LLED 7910E, New Literacies (3 hours)

LLED 8330, Popular Culture in Literacy Classrooms (3 hours)

Electives (21 hours)

Choose 21 hours of elective courses.

Total = 36 hours

Area of Emphasis in New and Digital Literacy P-5

Required Courses (15 hours)

LLED 6010, Survey of Reading Instruction Pre-K through Grade 12 (3 hours)

LLED 6020, Practicum in Reading Instruction and Assessment (Clinic) (3 hours)

LLED 7110, Integrating Digital Resources in Literacy Education (3 hours)

LLED 7910E, New Literacies (3 hours)

LLED 8330, Popular Culture in Literacy Classrooms (3 hours)

Electives (21 hours)

Choose 21 hours of elective courses.

Total = 36 hours

Documentation of Approval and Notification

Proposal: Proposal to terminate the Area of Emphasis in 6-12 Secondary Teaching and the Area of Emphasis in P-5 Elementary Teaching under the major in Reading Education (M.Ed.) online

College: Mary Frances Early College of Education

Department: Language and Literacy Education

Proposed Effective Term: Spring 2026

School/College:

- Head of the Department of Language and Literacy Education, Dr. Allison Nealy, 4/17/2025
- Mary Frances Early College of Education Dean, Dr. Denise Spangler, 4/17/2025
- Graduate School Associate Dean, Dr. Anne Shaffer, 9/22/2025