



The University of Georgia

University Council
Athens, Georgia 30602

March 13, 2015

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2014-2015

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Undergraduate Student Representative - Mr. William Heaton

Graduate Student Representative - Ms. Lauren E. Mullenbach

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal to revise the name of the major in Research and Evaluation Methodologies (Ph.D.) to Qualitative Research and Evaluation Methodologies (Ph.D.) will be an agenda item for the March 20, 2015, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

William K. Vencill, Chair
University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost Pamela S. Whitten
Dr. Rahul Shrivastav

NAME CHANGE JUSTIFICATION FORM

School/College: College of Education

Department: Lifelong Education, Administration, and Policy

Major Name Change:

<u>Current Major Name</u>	<u>Degree</u>
Research and Evaluation Methodologies	Ph.D.

<u>Proposed Major Name</u>	<u>Degree</u>
Qualitative Research and Evaluation Methodologies	Ph.D.

Justification:

The Ph.D. program in Research and Evaluation Methodologies was proposed as a cooperative partnership between the Qualitative Research program in the Department of Lifelong Education, Administration, and Policy and the area of emphasis in Quantitative Methodology in the Department of Educational Psychology. Three areas of emphasis were to be part of the cooperative degree program: qualitative research, quantitative research, and evaluation. The length of time between the initial construction of the degree program and its subsequent approval and implementation has witnessed a change in market demand for the quantitative research area of emphasis of the Research and Evaluation Methodologies degree. Specifically, students with an interest and focus area in Quantitative Methodology are better served with a doctoral degree in Educational Psychology with an area of emphasis in Quantitative Methodology. Because of the number of advanced statistical, research, measurement, and evaluation courses required to have market-ready skills are greater than those required in the Research and Evaluation Methodology degree, students have been counseled to pursue that area of emphasis in the Department of Educational Psychology. Over the last year, no students have enrolled in the Research and Evaluation Methodologies degree with an area of emphasis in Quantitative Research further suggesting a need to eliminate that option. This change would also clearly communicate to applicants the correct pathways for all applicants who seek doctoral study in Research and Evaluation Methodologies. That is, students interested in Quantitative Methodology would pursue that option in the Department of Educational Psychology. Students interested in Qualitative Research or Evaluation would pursue those areas in a revised program titled Qualitative Research and Evaluation Methodologies.