Graduate Curriculum Approval Form
Changes to Graduate Majors

Degree Program CIP Code   30.1101
Degree *(i.e. M.A., Ph.D., etc.):*   MA
Name of Major *(e.g. Biology)*   Gerontology
Name of affected Concentration(s) *(e.g. Botany)*   None
Proposed Effective Term *(e.g Fall 2017)*   Fall 2018
Faculty Contact   Brianne Stanback
Email   bstanback@usf.edu

APPROVALS	Name	Signature	Action	Date
Dept. Chair	Brent Small, Ph.D.		☑ Approve ☐ Not approved ☐ Comments attached	9/15/17
School Committee Chair (if applicable)			☐ Approve ☐ Not approved ☐ Comments attached	
College Committee Chair	DEBRA DOBBS, Ph.D.	Debra Dobbs	☑ Approve ☐ Not approved ☐ Comments attached	9/20/17
College Dean/ Associate Dean	Catherine Batsde	Catherine Batsche	☒ Approve ☐ Not approved ☐ Comments attached	9/21/17
Concurrence*	Dept: Chair:		☒ Not Applicable ☐ Concurs ☐ Doesn't concur ☐ Comments attached	
Grad Council	☐ Approve ☐ Not approved ☐ Tabled ☐ Comments	Graduate Studies	☐ Approve ☐ Disapprove	

Summary of Changes – Select all that apply:

Admissions Section:

☐ Admission Deadlines

☐ To "fall admissions only"

☐ From Regular to Direct Receipt Admissions

☐ From Direct Receipt to Regular Admission

☒ Admission Requirements (

Curriculum Requirements

☒ Current Curriculum Requirements

    ☒ Core

    ☐ Add New Concentration, Specialization, or Track

    ☐ Delete Concentration, Specialization, or Track

    ☐ Thesis/Dissertation

    ☒ Comprehensive/Qualifying Exam

☐ Other: _____

UPDATE CATALOG COPY
Attach the current Catalog Copy, with the requested revisions shown using Track Changes.
If the only change is to the Admission Deadline revised Catalog Copy is not required– just specify the change below (e.g. current deadline/new deadline). All other changes require Catalog Copy. To obtain the most current catalog, email cdh@usf.edu.

Submission for approval: When submitting the request for approval, send a scan of the signature form, including the brief response section (page 2), and the updated Catalog Copy in Word (not in PDF).

<u>Degree: MA   Major: Gerontology</u>

<u>Concentration (if applicable):</u>

<u>BRIEF RESPONSES TO THE FOLLOWING:</u>

Why are these changes necessary?

The MA in Gerontology is among the oldest programs in the U.S. and has been dedicated to training leaders in aging throughout Florida. Over the 50 years of the program, the field has changed as have the needs of our students and the communities they serve. Our students are interested in gaining specialized knowledge and skills in applied gerontology, healthy aging, and wellness, already reflected in updates to our course materials. As further evidence of the shift, the state of Florida has placed strategic emphasis on gerontology because of the demand for individuals educated to serves older Floridians.

The following is a summary of the changes:

1. Replacing comprehensive examinations with a capstone research project in order to facilitate more applied learning;
2. Reducing the number of credit hours to complete the degree from 36 to 30 to streamline coursework based on feedback from program alumni, key employers, and a market assessment of similar programs;
3. Reconfiguring the core course requirements for the degree to include course credit for the capstone;
4. Making the GRE examination optional for applicants who either have a 3.25 or higher GPA for all work completed as an undergraduate student, a 3.5 or higher in a completed master's degree program, or a completed doctoral degree (including professional degrees such as the JD and MD), all from a regionally accredited institution; and
5. Requiring two letters of reference as part of the admissions requirements for the program.

We now have the ability to provide all degree requirements both as traditionally offered courses and courses delivered online to give our students flexibility in how they complete their program of study, while retaining some opportunities for internships and directed research experiences for students local to USF.

<u>FOR ANY NEW CURRICULUM (New Concentration, Track, Specialization, Grad Certificate, etc.), answer the following:</u>

6. How does this align with USF System and State University System strategic goals (with particular focus on BOG's "areas of strategic emphasis")?

7. What is the demonstrated need and demand? (in the context of statewide and regional enrollment/degree productivity, including USF institutions, SUS, and FSC), making compelling reasons for "necessary duplication," if appropriate.

8. What is the potential impact of new degree programs and new program majors on existing programs in the USF System? *(Including new concentrations, tracks, specializations, etc.- if there are any existing offers, please address impact)*

9. Are there adequacy of resources (faculty, space, equipment, graduate assistants, staff, library etc. – the leveraging of shared resources across and between institutions will be important). Programs will not be considered contingent upon legislative budget requests

10. Quality assurance and commitment to any requisite accreditation.

Once College has approved, scan and email this Approval Form, and the revised Catalog Copy in Word to Graduate Studies by the deadline posted online
http://www.grad.usf.edu/graduate-council.php . For questions, contact cdh@usf.edu

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