

ACADEMIC COUNCIL REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

- Recommendation
- Decision
- Discussion/Direction
- Information

DATE: 27 February 2024

FROM: Graduate Studies Committee

SUBJECT: Major Program Modification – Master of Arts and Master of Education in Education programs and Education in the Digital Age Graduate Diploma program.

COMMITTEE MANDATE:

In accordance with Section III, part c) of the Graduate Studies Committee (GSC) Terms of Reference, GSC has the responsibility to “examine proposals for new graduate degree and diploma programs, major changes to existing programs and to recommend their approval, as appropriate, to Academic Council”.

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION:

That pursuant to the recommendation of the Graduate Studies Committee, Academic Council hereby approves the Major Program Modification to the MA and MEd in Education programs and the Education in the Digital Age Graduate Diploma program.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:

The Faculty is proposing to:

1. Add in-class (CLS) and hybrid (HYB) as mode of delivery options to all of the EDST graduate level courses.

The Master’s program began as a hybrid program, then evolved to fully online in 2010 in response to student demand. These mode of delivery changes will offer flexibility for future international cohorts, special on-campus cohorts, or Summer Institutes. A key feature of our program has always been its flexibility. The requested program changes align with our focus on providing students with the flexibility to pursue graduate studies in a manner that best suits their needs and situation.

2. Remove the CV/resume submission requirement from applicants to the program.

In 2021, the Faculty of Education passed a minor program adjustment requiring the inclusion of a CV/resume for applicants to our M.A. program. At the time, SGPS required that we add the requirement for a CV/resume for all applicants (i.e., Standard and Non-Standard Applications) to all of our graduate programs (i.e., M.A., M.Ed., G.Dip.).

Since implementing this requirement, it has not been enforced. As such, we would like to remove this requirement for the academic calendar.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

No additional human resources required.

Classroom space may be required if in-person classes are offered.

TRANSITION PLAN:

The proposed changes will begin Fall 2024.

We do not have immediate plans to implement changes to the mode of delivery. However, by having multiple delivery mode options available, we are better situated to begin marketing our program to international student cohorts and local professionals for special cohorts or Summer Institutes.

Students will not be negatively impacted by any of the proposed changes.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL:

- ✓ FEd Curriculum Committee: 8 November 2023
- ✓ Faculty Council: 27 November 2023
- ✓ Graduate Studies Committee (for recommendation): 23 January 2024
- Academic Council (for approval): 27 February 2024

Feedback received from recruitment/marketing indicating considerable interest from international students for whom programming must contain substantive in-person opportunities. Feedback provided by current students to faculty also confirmed a strong desire for more choice and flexibility in course delivery.

NEXT STEPS:

Pending the approval of Academic Council, this change will be included in the 2024-2025 Academic Calendar.

SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:

- [Major Program Modification Proposal](#) – Graduate Diploma
- [Major Program Modification Proposal](#) – MA
- [Major Program Modification Proposal](#) - MEd
- FED Graduate Method of Delivery_Oct.2023*

*This file is available for download and review under the 'Files' menu within the Major Program Modification links above