

**ADDENDUM TO AGENDA
UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON COURSES AND CURRICULA
September 6, 2019**

1. Welcome
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Course proposals by college/school
4. Degree proposals by college/school

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Addition	BAS	Bachelor of Applied Sciences - General Studies
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APPROVAL FORM FOR

DEGREE PROGRAMS

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

NOTE: This form is a cover sheet that must accompany the degree program change proposal. The actual proposal should be prepared in accordance with format requirements provided in the *Guide and Format for Curriculum Proposals* published by the UCCC. Both cover sheet and proposal should be submitted, along with all required copies, to UCCC, Garner Hall, Room 279, Mail Stop 9702.

College: _____ **Department:** N/A

Contact Person: Dr. Peter Ryan **Mail Stop:** 9723 **E-mail:** ryan@provost.msstate.edu

Nature of Change: New Degree **Date Initiated:** 8/22/2018 **Effective Date:** 1/1/2019

Degree to be offered at: Mississippi State University

Current Degree Program Name: Bachelor of Applied Science

Major: Applied Science **Concentration:** _____

Summary of Proposed Changes:

This new degree program will provide a pathway toward the completion of a four-year degree for students who may have successfully completed the Associates in Applied Science (AAS) degree from a SACSCOC accredited community college in the state of Mississippi or comparable regionally accredited community college from another state. It has several similarities to the Bachelor of University Studies (MSU Adult Learner Program) and the Bachelor of Applied Technology, however, it is primarily targeted toward students who have earned the AAS degree and who lack the current credits to qualify for these programs. It provides an option similar to the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies program, for students who pursue a technology path in community college or the military. The proposed new degree is intended for students who have completed the Associates of Applied Science (AAS) degrees at a two-year college with the additional flexibility to include earned military credits. Students will be able to apply up to 45 hours of approved technical course work from the AAS degree toward the Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) degree. Military credits from Military Transcripts may be accepted for academic credit if approved by the American Council on Education or have been evaluated and approved by the home academic unit awarding the course credit. The same would apply if a student is seeking credit for experiential or competency-based learning, the academic unit awarding the credit would need to evaluate the documentation supporting this kind of petition.

Approved: Peter L. Ryan (Academic Affairs) **Date:** August 29, 2019
 Department Head

Chair, College or School Curriculum Committee

Dean of College or School

Chair, University Committee on Courses and Curricula

Chair, Graduate Council (if applicable)

Chair, Deans Council

IHL Action Required

SACS Letter Sent

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL as outlined by the IHL Board Policy 523 Applied Baccalaureate degree.

PROPOSED Degree Description	
Degree: Bachelor of Applied Sciences Major: Applied Sciences Concentration: General Studies	
<p>The applied baccalaureate degree is specifically intended to serve the needs of adults who have completed a technical associate degree program, such as an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) from a SACSCOC accredited community college in the state of Mississippi or comparable regionally accredited community college from another state, including Community College of the Airforce. The applied baccalaureate degree is an accelerated pathway designed to assist adult learners who need additional education to advance their careers. Building upon the AAS or other technical associate degree program, the applied baccalaureate degree prepares adult learners to assume leadership roles and make a greater contribution in the workplace.</p> <p>The minimum number of hours required in the applied baccalaureate degree is 120 credit hours, which may include 60 hours of credit with a 2.0 GPA earned as part of the AAS degree. No more than 25% of the 120 credits hours may be earned through prior learning assessment and/or competency-based learning. Of the 120 credit hours, 30 shall be completed in residence at the Mississippi State University and 30 shall be upper-division credit. Thus, the delivery format of courses for the program may be offered via face-to-face, distance education and/or through hybrid (Campus 1, 2, and 6 may teach face-to-face and hybrid, while Campus 5 will teach online) instruction. Thus, Mississippi State University respectfully requests distance education format approval along with face-to-face format instruction.</p>	
<p>The concentration in General Studies is a degree completion program intended for students who have completed an AAS degree with flexibility to include up to 45 hours of technical or earned military credits and seek a pathway toward completion of a Bachelor's degree through a program of study that is individually tailored to their chosen career or academic plans.</p>	
PROPOSED CURRICULUM OUTLINE	Required Hours
General Education (MSU)	15
General Education (AAS)	15
University Specified Courses PSY 1013 General Psychology	15
Technical Credit Transfer	45*
Upper Division Courses	30
TOTAL HOURS	120**

*Technical core hours will be completed at the junior-college level or as military credits.

**30 hours must be taken at Mississippi State University.

Program of Study at Mississippi State University

Subjects – General Core*	Credit Hours
English Composition (I and II)	6
Math (Algebra, Trigonometry, Statistics)	3 to 9
Humanities	6
Social /Behavioral Sciences	6
Sciences with Laboratory Exercises	6
Fine Art	3
Total General Core	30 to 36
University Requirements	
Emphasis (one, two or three areas)**	30 to 36 (two emphases 15-18 h; three emphasis 10h-12)
Speech	3
University Degree Competency (Computer Literacy, Junior/Senior Writing)	6 (requirement may be met in upper level emphasis courses)
University Core Electives***	12-30
General Electives (may include technical and experiential learning credits)****	24-45
Total Credit Hours*****	120

*General Core, 15 credits may be earned as parts of Applied Associates Degree

**Upper-Division Courses required

***University Core Elective substitutions with upper level courses may be approved by the Associate Provost in consultation with the relevant academic unit on a case-by-case basis. Upper level courses approved may be additional courses that correspond to an emphasis area that is not represented on the University Core.

****Experiential Learning (job experience) credits not to exceed six semester credit hours, while up to 45 technical credits will be completed at the Community/Junior College level or as military credits.

*****Must include 30 Credits in residence

For a student to receive academic credit for technical credits, military credits or job-related experiential learning, the appropriate academic unit may need to evaluate the relevant supporting documentation for such credits on a case by case basis. To earn the degree, the student must meet all the program requirements as outlined above, and graduate at a minimum with an MSU GPA 2.00 and an overall GPA 2.00. In the case of military credits, those approved by the American Council of Education may articulate over to the student's transcript.

JUSTIFICATION

The proposed Bachelor of Applied Sciences is intended to provide students who have completed Associates of Applied Science (AAS) degree a pathway toward completion of a four-year degree. The degree will allow the transfer of up to 45 technical credits from the AAS degree, and/or prior learning assessment and/or competency-based learning (military credits, experiential learning). The General Studies concentration allows students, in close consultation with an academic adviser, to select up to three emphasis areas aligned with their preferred career or academic plans. The initial market for this program will primarily be students from technical programs at Mississippi community colleges, military personnel, and veterans.

The BAS is designed to complement the successful "Complete 2 Compete" (C2C) initiative launched by the Mississippi Institutes of Higher Learning and endorsed by Mississippi Governor's Office. Mississippi Public Universities, the Mississippi Community College Board and the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges are partners in the effort to identify target groups, implement adult learner services and re-engage adult students to help them complete their degrees.

To date, Mississippi State University has received thousands of inquiries regarding the C2C program, however, many of these potential students fall outside the parameters of the C2C initiative. Many do not have the requisite 90 hours of credits. The BAS will provide an additional pathway to degree completion for some of these adult learners. It is modeled to some degree on the existing Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Studies program but is geared toward those who have pursued technical credentials at community colleges and through the military, but would not meet the criteria for the BSIS program.

According to data gathered by the IHL, of Mississippians who attended a public university or community college in the past 15

years, approximately 20,000 can earn a Bachelor's degree with some additional course work. The precise numbers for the East Central Mississippi region are not known, but given the presence of four local community colleges and the proximity of two military facilities (Key Field and Meridian Naval Air Station) there should be a significant market for adult learners seeking to complete their undergraduate education.

The degree will be offered through Campus 2, Campus 5 with the ability of students to take courses they may need through Campus 1 and Campus 6. The degree program will be housed in the Office of the Provost and Executive Vice President and the baccalaureate will be awarded through the Division of Academic Affairs as is currently the case for the C2C University Studies degree and the B.A.T. degree.

SUPPORT

It is anticipated that this program will be revenue-generating once it is up and running.

ADVISING

Ms. Kristi Dearing, Coordinator of Advising and Transfer Partnerships at MSU-Meridian, is already involved with screening C2C applicants and will be an important resource for identifying potential candidates for the new BAS and providing initial advising for Campus 2 students.

Ms. Kali Dunlap, Coordinator of Advising, Center for Distance Education, will coordinate the advising of those students who elect to complete the degree online.

The Meridian Campus Advisement Center will partner with the Center of Distance Education in advising students and Ms. Dearing and Ms. Dunlap will co-chair the program advisory committee (to be established).

FACULTY RESOURCES

The courses are currently being offered through the Meridian Campus, Online and through Starkville and Gulf Coast campus. Faculty are in place teaching those courses students are most likely to take. Given the open-ended nature of the B.A.S degree, potentially all faculty members could be involved in instruction via their regular course offerings. Some additional courses and emphases may also be available via Distance Education.

LIBRARY RESOURCES

Considering the current MSU Meridian Hardin Libraries on the College Park and Riley Campuses, the MSU main campus holdings, online resources, and availability of inter-library loan services, the MSU library is currently adequate to support this degree.

PROPOSED 4-LETTER ABBREVIATION

BASG?

**Appendix 8A: The Applied Baccalaureate Degree Program Proposal
(Submit Appendix 8A in both PDF and Word Document Formats)**

Institution: Mississippi State University

Date of Implementation:	Incremental, Six-Year Cost of Implementation:	Incremental, Six-Year Per Student Cost of Implementation:
Spring 2020	\$50,000/yr x 6 years = \$300,000	Not addressed in C2C Program Proposal#

Will it attract new students to the university? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Potential Six-Year, New Revenue: Not addressed in C2C Program Proposal#	Potential New, Six-Year Revenue Per Student: Not addressed in C2C Program Proposal#
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Program Title as will Appear on Academic Program Inventory, Diploma, and Transcript:	Six-Digit CIP Code:
Bachelor of Applied Science	30.0000

Name of Degree(s) to be Awarded:	Total Credit Hour Requirements to earn the degree:
Bachelor of Applied Science	120

List any institutions within the state offering similar programs:

All Eight Institutions will offer this degree program

Responsible Academic Unit(s):	Institutional Contact: Dr. Peter Ryan
Office of the Provost and Executive Vice President	Phone: 662-325-0730
	Email: ryan@provost.msstate.edu

Check one of the boxes below related to SACSCOC Substantive Changes.

Proposed Program is Not a Substantive Change **Proposed Program is a Substantive Change**

Program Summary: The applied baccalaureate degree is specifically intended to serve the needs of adults who have completed a technical associate degree program, such as an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) from a SACSCOC accredited community college in the state of Mississippi or comparable regionally accredited community college from another state. The applied baccalaureate degree is an accelerated pathway designed to assist adult learners who need additional education to advance their careers. Building upon the AAS or other technical associate degree program, the applied baccalaureate degree prepares adult learners to assume leadership roles and make a greater contribution in the workplace.

The minimum number of hours required in the applied baccalaureate degree is 120 credit hours, which may include 60 hours of credit with a 2.0 GPA earned as part of the AAS degree. Of the 120 credit hours, 30 shall be completed in residence at the degree-awarding institution and 30 shall be upper-division credit. Thus, the delivery format of courses for the program may be offered via face-to-face, distance education and/or through hybrid (Campus 1, 2, and 6 may teach face-to-face and hybrid, while Campus 5 will teach online) instruction. Thus, Mississippi State University respectfully requests distance education format approval along with face-to-face format instruction.

Chief Academic Officer Signature

Date

Institutional Executive Officer Signature

Date

Institution: Mississippi State University

1. Describe how the degree program will be administered including the name and title of person(s) who will be responsible for curriculum development and ongoing program review.

The program will be administered initially through the Office of the Provost and Executive Vice President under the direction of a Program Advisory Committee of the Faculty with the Associate Provost as a member of the committee. It is anticipated that the Academic Advising of those students who elect to enroll in a face-to-face, blended option will be handled by the faculty/staff on the Meridian Campus (Campus 2), while Academic Advising of students who elect to enroll as an online student will be handled by Academic Advisors in the Center of Distance Education (Campus 5).

The Coordinators of Academic Advising on the Meridian Campus (Ms. Kristi Dearing) and at the Center for Distance Education (Ms. Kali Dunlap) will manage the advising of returning Adult Learners with the Provost's Office initially having overall oversight of this program. The Coordinator of Advisement and Transfer Partnerships (Ms. Kristi Dearing) will have oversight on the Meridian Campus. Both Ms. Dearing and Ms. Dunlap will Co-Chair the Program Advisory Committee. Ms. Dunlap will also coordinate all Campus 1 (Starkville) programming needs for this degree.

To be eligible to enroll in the Bachelor of Applied Science, the intent is that a student should have earned the Associates of Applied Science degree with a cumulative GPA 2.00 at time of admission. The remaining course credit hours will be determined by the academic advisor in consultation with the adult learner student with the intent of meeting his/her career goals within the framework of the degree requirements. Academic Advisors will be identified for each campus to provide students with appropriate advising for the curriculum they will need to complete to meet the degree requirements.

2. Describe the educational objectives of the degree program including the specific objectives of any concentrations, emphases, options, specializations, tracks, etc.

The educational objectives of this degree are:

- 1) To provide eligible adult learners who may have completed the Associates of Applied Science degree or currently in an Associates of Applied Science degree program a pathway to attend Mississippi State University to complete the baccalaureate in Applied Science using up to 45 hours of earned Technical credits that may include approved military and up to six hours of experiential learning credits.
- 2) To individualize the curriculum to complete the degree to meet the needs and career goals of the returning adult learner.
- 3) To utilize up to three specific emphasis areas** to complete the degree program requirements and meet the individuals career objectives.
- 4) To provide the adult learner with an opportunity to successfully complete a baccalaureate degree in Applied Science that will position them favorably for advancement in their career goals.

**Curricula approved by the home Academic Units

3. Describe any special admission requirements for the degree program including any articulation agreements that have been negotiated or planned.

To be eligible for admission into this degree program, the student candidate must have earned a GPA of 2.00 or better on all transfer credits including technical and general education credits.

4. Describe the professional accreditation that will be sought for this degree program. If a SACSCOC visit for substantive change will be necessary, please note.

The student must meet at the very minimum the following requirements:

- 1) University General Core (includes Math/Science Elective) – 30 to 36 hours
- 2) University Degree Competency Requirements (Speech, Computer Literacy, Jr/Sr Level writing) – 9 hours

- 3) University Upper Level Course – 30 hours required
- 4) Emphasis/discipline Area(s) – 30 to 36 hours
- 5) General Electives – 23-45 hours (may include technical credits and experiential credits)

TOTAL = 120 hours

Special requirements such as clinical experience, internships/externships, co-op, field experience, practicums and/or thesis may be dependent upon the curricular pathway the returning adult learner student wishes to pursue consistent with the academic discipline. Given the anticipated diversity of adult learner students that may return to complete a baccalaureate degree in Applied Science, it is not possible to describe all the available academic curricular permutations an adult learner might pursue in the completion of the baccalaureate degree. Students curricular and program needs will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

Breakdown of Degree Requirements as outlined by Institutes of Higher Learning

Breakdown of Degree Requirements	Credit Hours
Technical Courses (industry-recognized credentials)	45
General Education Core (meets SACCCOC standards)	15
Applied Associates Degree	60 hours total
General Education Core (MSU)	15
University-specified courses	15
Upper Division Courses	30
Applied Baccalaureate Degree	120 hours total*

*30 hours must be taken at the institution awarding the degree

Program of Study at Mississippi State University

Subjects – General Core*	Credit Hours
English Composition (I and II)	6
Math (Algebra, Trigonometry, Statistics)	3 to 9
Humanities	6
Social /Behavioral Sciences	6
Sciences with Laboratory Exercises	6
Fine Art	3
Total General Core	30 to 36
University Requirements	
Emphasis (one, two or three areas)**	30 to 36 (two emphases 15-18 h; three emphasis 10h-12)
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University Degree Competency (Computer Literacy, Junior/Senior Writing)	6 (requirement may be met in upper level emphasis courses)
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such credits on a case by case basis. To earn the degree, the student must meet all the program requirements as outlined above, and graduate at a minimum with an MSU GPA 2.00 and an overall GPA 2.00. In the case of military credits, those approved by the American Council of Education may articulate over to the student's transcript.

5. Describe the curriculum for this degree program including the recommended course of study (appending course descriptions for all courses) and any special requirements such as clinical, field experience, community service, internships, practicum, a thesis, etc.

Not Applicable as this will be multi-disciplinary program.

6. Describe the faculty who will deliver this degree program including the members' names, ranks, disciplines, current workloads, and specific courses they will teach within the program. If it will be necessary to add faculty in order to begin the program, give the desired qualifications of the persons to be added.

Given the anticipated diversity and nature of the academic credentials of returning adult learner students, and the ability of each returning student to design an individualized curriculum, it is likely that faculty from all colleges, with the possible exception of the College of Veterinary Medicine, may be engaged in the delivery of courses associated with successful implementation of the degree program. Thus, providing the specifics of the name, ranks, discipline and work load of faculty assisting with instruction in the program will be difficult to provide. However, it is not anticipated that the hiring of additional faculty will be required to offer this program.

7. Describe the library holdings relevant to the proposed program, noting strengths and weaknesses. If there are guidelines for the discipline, do current holdings meet or exceed standards?

Current and newly acquired Library Holdings will more than adequately meet the needs of the students in the Applied Baccalaureate program.

8. Describe the procedures for evaluation of the program and its effectiveness in the first six years of the program, including admission and retention rates, program outcome assessments, placement of graduates, changes in job market need/demand, ex-student/graduate surveys, or other procedures.

Students will be assessed through successful completion of all course work, internships, and/or other academically relevant activity developed for the approved individualized curriculum in addition to meeting all the university core requirements for the degree. The success of the program will be determined by the number of adult learner students that return and enroll in the degree program versus the number of students that successfully complete a degree during the initial six-year period of the degree program.

9. What is the specific basis for determining the number of graduates expected in the first six years?

It is challenging to address the above question for this program as it is difficult to determine how many adult learners with an Associates of Applied Science degree will pursue this option. This particular question was not addressed on the C2C University Degree modified Appendix 8A. However, the opportunity for the adult learner with an AAS to earn a Bachelor's in Applied Science will markedly improve their advancement opportunities within the workforce to higher paying positions, particularly in management.

#Please note that the six-year incremental cost per student is not calculated nor is the six incremental revenue or the six-year incremental revenue per student as it is extremely challenging to estimate the level of interest in the BAS program. The six-year incremental cost is based on salary for an additional program coordinator that will be needed to assist with the coordination of this program. It is anticipated that this will be a revenue-generating program once up and running.