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 to UCCC Mail Stop 9702 (281 Garner Hall), Phone: 325-9410.

College: Education **Department:** Counseling, Educational Psychology and Foundations
Contact Person: Tawny McCleon **Mail Stop:** 9727 **E-mail:** tne1@msstate.edu

Nature of Change: Program Modification – Addition to Campus 2 and Campus 5 for School Psychology Concentration area, only; Addition to Course Elective EPY 9723
Date Initiated: 9/15/2022 **Effective Date:** Fall 2023

Current Degree Program Name: Educational Specialist
Major: Education **Concentration:** School Psychology

New Degree Program Name
Major: **Concentration:**

Summary of Proposed Changes:
1. Add Campus 2 approval for the School Psychology concentration area.
2. Add Campus 5 approval for the School Psychology concentration area.
3. Add EPY 9723 as an elective course.

Approved: **Date:**

Department Head — 1/10/2023

Dana Bruffhale Franz - Acd. Dual — Jan 9, 2023

JohnEric W. Smith, PhD — Digitally signed by JohnEric W. Smith, PhD Date: 2023.01.16 09:02:13 -06'00'

Chair, College or School Curriculum Committee

Kimberly R. Hall — Digitally signed by Kimberly R. Hall Date: 2023.01.17 15:32:44 -06'00'

Dean of College or School

Chair, University Committee on Courses and Curricula

Chair, Graduate Council (if applicable)

Chair, Deans Council

GRADUATE DEGREE MODIFICATION OUTLINE FORM

Use the chart below to make modifications to an existing Graduate Degree. All deleted courses and information should be shown in *italics* and all new courses and information in **bold**. Please include the course prefix, number, and title in both columns. Expand rows as needed.

CURRENT Degree Description	PROPOSED Degree Description
Degree: Educational Specialist Major: Education Concentration: School Psychology	Degree: Educational Specialist Major: Education Concentration: School Psychology
Department Programs in Educational Psychology The department prepares students for careers as behavioral science researchers and evaluators, school psychologists, and faculty positions in behavioral science of school psychology training programs. Teacher, service, and research assistantships are available. Educational Psychology Program Accreditations The school psychology program degrees (Ed.S., Ph.D.) are approved by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). The Ph.D. degree is accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA). There are two concentrations in Educational Psychology, general educational psychology and school psychology, with the following degree options: 1. The Master of Science (M.S.) degree with concentrations in general educational psychology, school psychometry (non-terminal), or applied behavior analysis. 2. The Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) degree with a major in Education and concentration in school psychology. The Ed.S. degree is the minimum requirement to work as a school psychologist. 3. Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree with concentrations in general educational psychology and school psychology. Admission Criteria for Educational Psychology Major The following are admission criteria for admission to the Educational Psychology degree program (additional requirements may be required). 1. An overall GPA on the bachelor's degree of at least 2.75 2. Recent Graduate Record Examination (GRE) verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing scores 3. External recommendations 4. An interview is generally required	Department Programs in Educational Psychology The department prepares students for careers as behavioral science researchers and evaluators, school psychologists, and faculty positions in behavioral science of school psychology training programs. Teacher, service, and research assistantships are available. Educational Psychology Program Accreditations The school psychology program degrees (Ed.S., Ph.D.) are approved by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). The Ph.D. degree is accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA). There are two concentrations in Educational Psychology, general educational psychology and school psychology, with the following degree options: 1. The Master of Science (M.S.) degree with concentrations in general educational psychology, school psychometry (non-terminal), or applied behavior analysis. 2. The Educational Specialist (Ed.S.) degree with a major in Education and concentration in school psychology. The Ed.S. degree is the minimum requirement to work as a school psychologist. 3. Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree with concentrations in general educational psychology and school psychology. Admission Criteria for Educational Psychology Major The following are admission criteria for admission to the Educational Psychology degree program (additional requirements may be required). 1. An overall GPA on the bachelor's degree of at least 2.75 *2. Recent Graduate Record Examination (GRE) verbal, quantitative, and analytical writing scores* **2.** External recommendations **3.** An interview is generally required

Students admitted to the Educational Psychology graduate degree program must maintain continuous enrollment. A student who is not enrolled or is inactive for one calendar year must be re-screened for readmission to the department prior to re-enrollment in the University.

Prerequisite Undergraduate Courses for School Psychology and Psychometry Concentrations

Students should have the following undergraduate courses before entering the concentration in either School Psychology or Psychometry:

1. Psychological basis of behavior (e.g., Introductory Psychology)
2. Developmental psychology (e.g., Child Development)
3. Education, learning, or cognition (e.g., Theories of Learning)

A student who has not met these prerequisite course requirements may enroll in the program and take these undergraduate courses as he/she progresses through the degree program. As students move through the Ed.S. or Ph.D. program with a concentration in School Psychology, they are required to complete the requirements for the M.S. degree in Psychometry and obtain an AA license in Psychometry from the Mississippi State Department of Education.

Provisional Admission

An applicant who has not fully met the GPA requirement stipulated by the University may be admitted on a provisional basis. The provisionally-admitted student is eligible for a change to regular admission status after receiving a 3.00 GPA on the first 9 hours of graduate courses at Mississippi State University (with no grade lower than a C). These graduate courses must be within the student's program of study. Courses with an S grade, transfer credits, or credits earned while in Unclassified status cannot be used to satisfy this requirement. If a 3.00 is not attained, the provisional student shall be dismissed from the graduate program. Academic departments may set higher standards for students to fulfill provisional requirements; a student admitted with provisional status should contact the graduate coordinator for the program's specific requirements. While in the provisional status, a student is not eligible to hold a graduate assistantship.

Satisfactory Academic Performance

A student in any of the educational or school psychology programs is required to earn a grade of B or better in core courses before he or she is permitted to progress to the next course in the sequence.

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Unsatisfactory performance in graduate level coursework is defined as a grade of U, D, or F in any course and/or more than two grades below a B after admission to the program. Unsatisfactory performance also includes failing the Master's comprehensive examination twice, failing the written preliminary/comprehensive examination twice, failing the oral doctoral preliminary/comprehensive examination twice, or failing the doctoral dissertation defense twice. Any of these or combination of these failures will result in termination of the student's graduate program in either the general educational psychology or school psychology concentration.	Unsatisfactory performance in graduate level coursework is defined as a grade of U, D, or F in any course and/or more than two grades below a B after admission to the program. Unsatisfactory performance also includes failing the Master's comprehensive examination twice, failing the written preliminary/comprehensive examination twice, failing the oral doctoral preliminary/comprehensive examination twice, or failing the doctoral dissertation defense twice. Any of these or combination of these failures will result in termination of the student's graduate program in either the general educational psychology or school psychology concentration.
School Psychology/Psychometry Concentration The School Psychology/Psychometry concentrations are based on a scientist-practitioner model with a behavioral focus. In addition to training assessment, training is provided in consultation, academic interventions, behavior assessment, system-wide and individualized positive behavior interventions and supports, applied behavior analysis, and single-case research methodology so students in the program can identify, prevent, and remedy students' academic, behavioral, and psychosocial problems. M.S. in Educational Psychology with Concentration in School Psychometry The M.S. in Educational Psychology with a concentration in School Psychometry is a non-terminal degree designed to begin in the fall semester and be completed in three years. The concentration in School Psychometry leads to AA licensure from the Mississippi Department of Education. The degree is currently a 43-hour program with a 300-hour practicum. All students in this program must successfully pass the master's comprehensive examination. Students in the M.S. program are expected to continue their education at MSU in pursuit of either the educational specialist or doctoral degree. Ed.S. in Education with Concentration in School Psychology The Ed.S. program in Education with a concentration in School Psychology is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). Students accepted into the Ed.S. program in School Psychology should either hold a Master's degree in Psychometry or earn a Master's degree in Psychometry en route to the completion of the Ed.S. degree. For students entering the program with only	School Psychology/Psychometry Concentration The School Psychology/Psychometry concentrations are based on a scientist-practitioner model with a behavioral focus. In addition to training assessment, training is provided in consultation, academic interventions, behavior assessment, system-wide and individualized positive behavior interventions and supports, applied behavior analysis, and single-case research methodology so students in the program can identify, prevent, and remedy students' academic, behavioral, and psychosocial problems. M.S. in Educational Psychology with Concentration in School Psychometry The M.S. in Educational Psychology with a concentration in School Psychometry is a non-terminal degree designed to begin in the fall semester and be completed in three years. The concentration in School Psychometry leads to AA licensure from the Mississippi Department of Education. The degree is currently a 43-hour program with a 300-hour practicum. All students in this program must successfully pass the master's comprehensive examination. Students in the M.S. program are expected to continue their education at MSU in pursuit of either the educational specialist or doctoral degree. Ed.S. in Education with Concentration in School Psychology The Ed.S. program in Education with a concentration in School Psychology is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). Students accepted into the Ed.S. program in School Psychology should either hold a Master's degree in Psychometry or earn a Master's degree in Psychometry en route to the completion of the Ed.S. degree. For students entering the program with only

an undergraduate degree, the Ed.S. concentration in School Psychology is designed to be completed in four years. A minimum of 82 semester hours beyond the baccalaureate degree is necessary to earn an educational specialist degree from the Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology and Foundations. The Ed.S. School Psychology students must also pass three examinations including the PRAXIS II in School Psychology (i.e., students must obtain a passing score as outlined by the National Association of School Psychologists), Master's written comprehensive exam, and oral comprehensive exam. Students are also required to complete a 1200-hour internship in the P-12 school setting. The deadline for applications to the Ed.S. program is January 15. For further information, contact the Graduate Coordinator.	an undergraduate degree, the Ed.S. concentration in School Psychology is designed to be completed in four years. A minimum of 82 semester hours beyond the baccalaureate degree is necessary to earn an educational specialist degree from the Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology and Foundations. The Ed.S. School Psychology students must also pass three examinations including the PRAXIS II in School Psychology (i.e., students must obtain a passing score as outlined by the National Association of School Psychologists), Master's written comprehensive exam, and oral comprehensive exam. Students are also required to complete a 1200-hour internship in the P-12 school setting. The deadline for applications to the Ed.S. program is January 15. For further information, contact the Graduate Coordinator.

CURRENT CURRICULUM OUTLINE	Required Hours	**PROPOSED CURRICULUM OUTLINE**	Required Hours
College Required Courses	N/A	College Required Courses	NA
Major Required Courses	N/A	Major Required Courses	N/A
Concentration 1. Courses		Concentration 1. Courses	
EPY 7000 - Directed Individual Study in Educational Psychology	3	EPY 7000 - Directed Individual Study in Educational Psychology	3
EPY 8763 - Advanced Applied Behavior Analysis	3	EPY 8763 - Advanced Applied Behavior Analysis	3
EPY 8690 - Supervised Experiences in School Psychology I	3	EPY 8690 - Supervised Experiences in School Psychology I	3
EPY 8790 - Supervised Experiences in School Psychology II	6	EPY 8790 - Supervised Experiences in School Psychology II	6
EPY 8780 - Internship in School Psychology	12	EPY 8780 - Internship in School Psychology	12
EPY 9443 - Single Subject Research Designs in Education	3	EPY 9443 - Single Subject Research Designs in Education	3
EPY 8133 - Crisis Prevention and Intervention in Schools and Related Settings	3	EPY 8133 - Crisis Prevention and Intervention in Schools and Related Settings	3
COE 8073 - Cultural Foundations in Counseling	3	COE 8073 - Cultural Foundations in Counseling	3
Select one of the following: EPY 8123 - Assessment of Infants, Toddlers, and Special Populations EPY 8890 - Supervised Experiences in School Psychology: III	3	Select one of the following: EPY 8123 - Assessment of Infants, Toddlers, and Special Populations EPY 8890 - Supervised Experiences in School Psychology: III **EPY 9723 - Seminar in Contemporary School Psychology**	3
Total Hours	39	Total Hours	39

Justification and Student Learning Outcomes

Adding the availability of the degree option for School Psychology at Campus 2 (Meridian) and Campus 5 (Distance Education) will make the degree more accessible to individuals both across the state of Mississippi as well as neighboring states within the Southeastern region of the US. Mississippi State University (MSU) is the only institution in the state that currently offers the Educational Specialist degree in School Psychology, and the additions to Campus 2 and Campus 5 will make the degree more accessible for individuals living and working in rural areas. For the past 10 years, the field of school psychology has experienced a shortage of school psychologists working in the field. Furthermore, this shortage has expanded to other fields in mental health. This change would allow MSU to become a leader of regional efforts and to join the national efforts to increase mental health services by producing individuals who are eligible for national-and state-level certification and/or licensure as school psychologists. The addition of EPY 9723 as an elective will offer students additional training opportunities which align with the 2020 Graduate Training Standards of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP).

1. **Will this Program change meet local, state, regional, and national educational and cultural needs?**
   Yes. For the past 10 years, the field of school psychology has experienced a shortage of school psychologists working in the field, including the state of Mississippi. According to the National Association of School Psychologists (2021), the recommended ratio is 1:500 per school psychologist-to-students; however, the national average is 1:1211. An analysis of data collected by the US Department of Education in 2020 revealed that Mississippi had the 4th highest ratio at 1: 7178. We believe that the additions to Campus 2 and Campus 5 will meet the local, state, regional and national needs by making educational opportunities more accessible to individuals from various cultural backgrounds and socio-economic statuses. Also, we believe that the additions to Campus 2 and Campus 5 will increase access to mental health services in the state of Mississippi and neighboring states. The addition of EPY 9723 as an elective will increase the knowledge base for candidates in the school program.

2. **Will this program change result in a duplication in the system?**
   No.

3. **Will this program change/advance student diversity within the discipline?**
   Yes. These program modifications will allow MSU to reach a broader base of individuals, allow more flexibility in course offerings for the working professional, and attract individuals who desire to advance their training in the fields of education and mental health.

4. **Will this program change result in the potential placement of graduates in MS, the Southeast, and the U.S.?**
   Yes. These program changes will result in an increase in the potential placement of graduates in MS, the Southeast, and nationally. The proposed Campus 2 and Campus 5 offerings would allow interested individuals to take courses that are more conveniently located with more flexible course offerings. Individuals are more likely to be able to adapt current work schedules to course offerings to meet all the courses and degree requirements necessary for certification as well as licensure.

5. **Will this program change result in an increase in the potential salaries of graduates in MS, the Southeast, and the U.S.?** Yes. These program changes will result in more graduates who are eligible for state and national certification as a school psychologist, and the graduates from various states can leverage additional stipends for national certification. Also, we believe that this change will increase the demand for more school psychologists in school settings; thereby, improving the job market. The addition of EPY 9723 as an elective will increase students' knowledge base to increase chance for national certification.

Learning outcomes: There will be no modification in the learning outcomes.

Support: Please see letters of support from program faculty from Campus 1 in the Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology, and Foundations and the administration from Campus 2.

Proposed 4-letter Abbreviation: No changes proposed.

Effective Date: Fall 2023

Appendix 10: Report of Intent to Offer an Existing Degree Program by Distance Learning
(Submit Appendix 10 in PDF format with signatures)

Institution: Mississippi State University

Date of Initial Program Approval:	**Date of Implementation:**	**Cost to Offer by Distance Learning:**
	08/16/2023	35,000.00

Program Title as It Appears on Academic Program Inventory, Diploma, and Transcript:	**Six-Digit CIP Code(s) & Four-Digit Sequence Code(s):**
Education – School Psychology	130101

CIP & Sequence codes: IHL Active Program Inventory

Degree(s) to be Awarded:	**Credit Hour Requirements:**
Educational Specialist	39

Can this program be completed entirely online? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Will this program require separate admission from those offered on-campus? ☐ Yes ☒ No

Responsible Academic Unit(s):
Counseling, Educational Psychology & Foundations

Institutional Contact: Tawny E. McCleon, PhD
Phone: (601) 484-0467
Email: tne1@msstate.edu

Number of Students Expected to Enroll in First Six Years:		**Number of Graduates Expected in First Six Years:**	
Year One	5	**Year One**	0
Year Two	5	**Year Two**	0
Year Three	10	**Year Three**	0
Year Four	10	**Year Four**	5
Year Five	10	**Year Five**	5
Year Six	10	**Year Six**	10
Total	50	**Total**	20

Program Summary:
The Ed.S. program in Education with a concentration in School Psychology is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). Students accepted into the Ed.S. program in School Psychology should either hold a Master's degree in Psychometry or earn a Master's degree in Psychometry (43 credit hours) in route to the completion of the Ed.S. degree with a dual enrollment in the MS and EdS programs. For students entering the program with only an undergraduate degree, the Ed.S. concentration in School Psychology is designed to be completed in four years. A minimum of 82 semester hours beyond the baccalaureate degree is necessary to earn an educational specialist degree from the Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology and Foundations. The Ed.S. School Psychology students must also pass three examinations including the PRAXIS II in School Psychology (i.e., students must obtain a passing score as outlined by the NASP), Master's written comprehensive exam, and oral comprehensive exam. Students are also required to complete a 1200-hour internship in the P-12 school setting.

_____ _____
Chief Academic Officer Signature **Date**

_____ _____
Institutional Executive Officer Signature **Date**