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:** Curriculum, Instruction, & Special Education

Contact Person: Jeff Leffler **Mail Stop:** 9300 **E-mail:** jleffler@meridian.msstate.edu
Nature of Change: Degree Modification **Date Initiated:** 03/03/2023
Effective Date: Summer 2023

Current Degree Program Name: Master of Arts

Major: Middle Level Education **Concentration:** N/A

New Degree Program Name: Master of Arts

Major: Elementary Education **Concentration:** N/A

Summary of Proposed Changes:

- Change name of major to Elementary Education (previously Middle Level Education)
- Modify EDE 8113, EDE 8133, EDE 8143 (included in proposal)
- Modify EPY 8473 (currently in review with UCCC)
- Delete RDG 8113, RDG 8123 (included in proposal)
- Add RDG 6123, RDG 6143 (currently in review with UCCC)
- Admission will remain internally suspended for Campus 5; the program will admit to Campus 2 only at this time
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Approved: **Date:**

Department Head 3/23/2023

Director of Academic Quality 3/22/23

JohnEric W. Smith, PhD

Digitally signed by JohnEric W. Smith, PhD
Date: 2023.08.30 09:32:34 -05'00'

Chair, College or School Curriculum Committee

Kimberly R. Hall

Digitally signed by Kimberly R. Hall
Date: 2023.09.01 13:54:29 -05'00'

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: Master of Arts in Teaching Major: *Middle Level*	Degree: Master of Arts in Teaching Major: **Elementary Education**
The M.A.T.*M*. program is an alternate route licensure program of study that consists of 36 semester hours of graduate-level coursework. It is designed for those who wish to prepare for a career as a *middle-level teacher.* In addition to the criteria for admission to a Master or Science degree program (with the exception of a teaching license), M.A.T.*M. candidates must pass the Praxis Core and Praxis II specialty Area Test required for middle-level licensure by the Mississippi Department of Education, possess either 21 hours in a single content area or pass the secondary education Praxis II specialty Area test for a specific content area, and pass a certified background check.* Students in the M.A.T.M. will complete the comprehensive examination in the final semester of enrollment *by* registering for and passing the *appropriate Praxis II Principles of Learning and Teaching examination through ETS.*	The M.A.T.**E**. program is an alternate route licensure program of study that consists of 36 semester hours of graduate-level coursework. It is designed for those who wish to prepare for a career as **an elementary** teacher. In addition to the criteria for admission to a Master of Science degree program (with the exception of a teaching license), M.A.T.**E. candidates must pass the Praxis CORE, possess a 21 composite ACT score, OR have a minimum GPA of 3.0 on the last 60 hours of coursework and pass a certified background check.** Students in the M.A.T.**E.** will complete the comprehensive examination in the final semester of enrollment.

CURRENT CURRICULUM OUTLINE	Required Hours	**PROPOSED CURRICULUM OUTLINE**	Required Hours
Major Required Courses		Major Required Courses	
EDE 8113 Middle Level Management & the Young Adolescent	3	**EDE 8113 Planning & Managing of Learning for Elementary & Special Education**	3
EDE 8123 Foundations for Teaching Middle Level Mathematics	3	EDE 8123 Foundations for Teaching Middle Level Mathematics	3
EDE 8133 Middle Level Internship I	3	**EDE 8133 Elementary & Special Education Residency I**	3
EDE 8143 Middle Level Internship II	3	**EDE 8143 Elementary & Special Education Residency II**	3
EDE 8153 Professional Roles of the Middle Level Educator	3	EDE 8153 Professional Roles of the Middle Level Educator	3
EDF 8553 Research in the Classroom	3	EDF 8553 Research in the Classroom	3
EPY 8473 Middle Level Assessment and Evaluation	3	**EPY 8473 Elementary Assessment and Evaluation**	3
RDG 8113 Middle Level Literacy Instruction	3	**RDG 6123 Elementary Literacy Instruction I**	3

RDG 8123 Supporting the Middle Level Literacy Learner	3	**RDG 6143 Elementary Literacy Instruction II**	3
RDG 8133 Middle Level Content Area Literacy Instruction	3	RDG 8133 Middle Level Content Area Literacy Instruction	3
Select one of the following: EDE 8163 Teaching Middle Level Mathematics Content EDE 8173 Teaching Middle Level Social Studies EDE 8183 Teaching Middle Level Sciences	3	Select one of the following: EDE 8163 Teaching Middle Level Mathematics Content EDE 8173 Teaching Middle Level Social Studies EDE 8183 Teaching Middle Level Sciences	3
Select one graduate-level diversity elective	3	Select one graduate-level diversity elective	3
Total Hours	36	Total Hours	36

Justification

In fall of 2021, the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE) expanded an initiative to recruit, prepare, graduate, and retain an increasing number of academically talented and diverse teacher candidates through a Request for Proposals process. This initiative, the Mississippi Teacher Residency (MTR), would allow these candidates to enter and remain in the profession through a teacher residency program. Mississippi State University was awarded a grant to develop and implement this new elementary (K-6) program with the proposed residency curriculum subsequently approved by the MDE in the spring of 2022. This proposed curriculum outline in this proposal aligns with this curriculum approved by the MDE to result in educator licensure under endorsements 120 and 221.

The changes require revisions to the following courses:
EDE 8113 Middle Level Management & the Young Adolescent
EDE 8133 Middle Level Internship I
EDE 8143 Middle Level Internship II
EPY 8473 Middle Level Assessment and Evaluation

Additionally, the changes require the addition of the following new courses:
RDG 6123 Elementary Literacy Instruction I
RDG 6143 Elementary Literacy Instruction II

Course revisions and additions to the program expand the focus from only middle level to elementary grades (K-6). The Middle Level Management & the Young Adolescent course will now focus on grades K-6 while also embedding course topics related to lesson planning and management of classrooms serving children with special needs. The Middle Level Assessment and Evaluation course pivots to include content relevant to grades K-6. The Middle Level Internships I and II will now focus on a residency experience under the supervision of an accomplished teacher in elementary grades K-6 while also providing opportunities in mild-moderate special education classrooms. The Elementary Literacy Instruction I and II courses shift course content to the early grades in order to prepare students for the Foundations of Reading examination, which is a significant component of the MDE licensure requirements.

Student Learning Outcomes

MTR is a rigorous graduate-level program, which upon completion residents receive a master's degree in elementary education with the opportunity to add an endorsement in special education. This master of arts in teaching elementary degree ensures residents have the skills, knowledge, and dispositions for effectiveness as licensed educators under endorsements 120 and 221. Residents will spend one year in a participating district while receiving mentorship from a high-quality teacher in collaboration with community partners and other educators. The core practices to which residents will be expected to aspire and that they will be consistently evaluated on include:

- Establish a Community of Learners
- Teach Towards Instructional Goals
- Position Students as Competent Sense Makers
- Teach with Each Student in Mind
- Orient Students to the Content
- Assess Student Understanding to Guide Instruction
- Invest in the School Community to Support Student Learning
- Reflect on Teaching Practice

Additionally, students will be prepared to demonstrate competencies measured by the required licensure exams required by the MDE, currently including the appropriate Praxis II Content exams for elementary and special education by Educational Testing Services, as well as the Foundations of Reading examination by Pearson.

1. **Will this program change meet local, state, regional, and national educational and cultural needs?**
   Yes. The United States is currently experiencing a teacher shortage and Mississippi has a particularly acute teacher shortage with elementary education recently added as a critical shortage subject area. Program completers also receive an endorsement in special education which is also a critical need subject area in Mississippi.

2. **Will this program change result in a duplication in the system?**
   No. The revision of this program provides a first-ever alternate route to teacher certification for elementary in Mississippi. Previously, a candidate would only have access to certification for middle level or secondary or need to complete a second bachelor's degree.

3. **Will this program change/advance student diversity within the discipline?**
   Yes**.** The program seeks to recruit individuals underrepresented in the teaching profession with people of color, men veterans from the Armed Forces, and teacher assistants strongly encouraged to apply.

4. **Will this program change result in the potential placement of graduates in MS, the Southeast, and the U.S.?**
   Yes. Residents complete a one-year residency and then commit to teaching for two years in a geographical critical shortage area in Mississippi upon program completion.

5. **Will this program change result in an increase in the potential salaries of graduates in MS, the Southeast, and the U.S.?**
   Yes. This program will lead to the AA certification level on the Mississippi teaching license. According to the FY2022-2023 MAEP Salary Schedule, an assistant teacher completing this program will experience an increase in salary from $17,000 annually to at least $44,000 annually and potentially more depending on the local district salary supplement.

Support: Please see letters of support from program faculty from Campus 1, 2, and 5 in the Department of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education and the administration from Campus 2. This degree program will be offered on Campus 2 only.

Proposed 4-letter Abbreviation: MATE

Effective Date: Fall 2023

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
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March 21, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

The Mississippi Department of Education recently created an alternate pathway for elementary education licensure (K-6). Specifically the State Board of Education voted to modify the existing Master of Arts in Teaching Elementary Education (4-6) to include an Elementary Education (K-6) option. The Department of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education (Campus 1, 2, and 5) approves the submission of the degree program modification to revise the current Master of Arts in Middle Level Education (4-6) to the Master of Arts in Elementary Education (K-6). This includes a name change as well as course modifications in the program.

Kathleen M Alley Digitally signed by Kathleen M Alley Date: 2023.03.21 15:11:25 -05'00'

Kathleen Alley

KENNETH V ANTHONY Digitally signed by KENNETH V ANTHONY Date: 2023.03.22 12:49:50 -04'00'

Kenneth Anthony

Stephanie Lemley Digitally signed by Stephanie Lemley Date: 2023.03.21 11:33:14 -05'00'

Stephanie Lemley

Gail Lindsey

Kristin Javorsky

Nicole Miller Digitally signed by Nicole Miller Date: 2023.03.21 16:46:40 -05'00'

Nicole Miller

Rebecca R. Robichaux-Davis Digitally signed by Rebecca R. Robichaux-Davis Date: 2023.03.21 20:14:37 -05'00'

Rebecca Robichaux-Davis

Tania Hanna Digitally signed by Tania Hanna Date: 2023.03.21 13:41:19 -05'00'

Tania Hanna

Jeffrey Leffler Digitally signed by Jeffrey Leffler Date: 2023.03.21 15:07:04 -05'00'

Jeff Leffler

Ksenia Zhbanova Digitally signed by Ksenia Zhbanova Date: 2023.03.21 11:35:58 -05'00'

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Angela Mulkana

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