Mississippi State University
Graduate Council
January 26, 2018, 1:30 pm

Call to Order: Dr. Lara Dodds, Chair

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of minutes: December 1, 2017

Report from UCCC: Dr. Dana Franz
  1. New Degree: MS in Agriculture
  2. Modification (course name change): MS in Agricultural Economics, non-thesis
  3. Modification (course name change): MS in Agricultural Economics, thesis
  4. Modification: PhD in Community College Leadership

Report from the Graduate School: Dr. Lori Bruce

Report from the Graduate Student Association: Holly Holladay

Old Business:
  1. Report from Subcommittee on Policies and Procedures: Dr. Rebecca Robichaux-Davis

New Business:

Adjourn
I. The December 1, 2017, meeting of the Graduate Council of Mississippi State University was called to order by Chair Lara Dodds at 1:35 PM in Room 611 of Allen Hall.

II. Dodds asked for approval of the minutes from the October 27, 2017, meeting. Dan Reynolds moved to approve and Rebecca Robichaux-Davis seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

III. Report from the Graduate School: Dr. Lori Bruce
Dr. Bruce provided a presentation of her Graduate Dean’s Report and highlighted several items as follows:

- An overview of the 2018 Graduate Enrollment Funnel by term was discussed. Currently, applications are up 2%; completed applications up 13%; admissions are up 13%; and enrollment up 94%. Overall, the majority of the applications are for Fall semester, though it is early in the cycle; compared to this time last year these applications are up by 44%. Dr. Bruce noted the departments are acting more quickly on applications, with decisions (admit or reject) by the department up 23%, while the number of applications waiting in departments are down 6%. Currently, there are 600 applications for spring, 40 for summer, and 125 for fall. Overall, applications and admissions look good. In addition, Dr. Bruce stated the Graduate School is heavily using the Client Relationship Management (CRM) for email campaigns and to help build the applicant pools.

- The Graduate Recruitment Grants (GRAGs) and awarding of fellowships have been finalized. Dr. Bruce announced 23 departments submitted proposals and 17 departments were able to be funded. The total funding request was approximately $404,000; $275,000 in funds were available to award.

- Staff from the Graduate School office have attended 13 graduate fairs this fall and two conferences. In addition, the office hosted the MSU Graduate and Professional School Fair held on MSU campus October 17th and are currently working with Holmes Cultural Diversity Center on two initiatives aimed at developing diverse applicant pools.

IV. Report from the Graduate Student Association (GSA): Holly Holladay
Holly reported:

- Holly announced their GSA Holiday Social was held at the Bull Barn November 30th.
- The next GSA planning session for spring is scheduled for December 14th.

V. Old Business:

- None to report
New Business:
1. Undergraduate Enrollment in Graduate Courses – Dr. Bruce

Dr. Bruce distributed a handout outlining the current policy along with the proposed. The current “Undergraduate Enrollment in Graduate Courses” policy states the following:

“An undergraduate student at Mississippi State University or any university with which Mississippi State University has agreements, who lacks 12 or fewer credit hours to complete the undergraduate degree requirements may seek approval to enroll in courses for graduate credit in the final undergraduate semester or term. The student should meet the grade point average requirement for regular admission to the particular graduate program. An undergraduate student may take up to 9 graduate credit hours; the combination of undergraduate and graduate credit hours may not exceed 15.”

Dr. Bruce proposes the following:

“An undergraduate student at Mississippi State University may seek approval from their department to enroll in courses for graduate credit. The student should meet the grade point average requirement for regular admission to the particular graduate program.”

After a lengthy discussion, Dan Reynolds made a motion to accept the policy, Beth Miller seconded. With further discussion of the policy, an amendment to the motion was made to strike out “any university with which Mississippi State University has agreements” The motion was approved and amended to state the following:

“An undergraduate student at Mississippi State University who lacks 30 or fewer credit hours to complete the undergraduate degree requirements may seek approval to enroll in courses for graduate credit in the final undergraduate semester or term. The student must meet the grade point average requirement for regular admission to the particular graduate program. The combination of undergraduate and graduate credit hours may not exceed 15 hours within a term.”

2. Proposal for Accelerated Program in Forestry – Dodds

Dodds brought forward for discussion the Proposal for Accelerated Program in Forestry. The program permits students to earn up to 9 hours of graduate level coursework during their final year of undergraduate studies. Students take graduate level courses and earn both undergraduate credit and graduate credit simultaneously. Students need to consult with a potential graduate advisor to ensure graduate credit could be applied to a Program of Study for the graduate degree. Application to the program may be made as early as the end of the junior year (i.e., after completion of 60 or more hours of graded undergraduate courses). The combination of undergraduate and graduate credit hours may not exceed 15 hours within a semester. Dodds asked for a motion to accept the Proposal for Accelerated Program in Forestry with minor edits. Scott Roberts made the motion; Rebecca Robichaux-Davis seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

VII. Dodds announced the next Graduate Council meeting will be January 26th. In addition, a big thank you was given to Pam Sullivan and to Dan Reynolds for providing ice-cream in honor of Pam for this being her last Graduate Council meeting. The next Graduate Council meeting will be January 26th. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:52 PM.
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: Agriculture & Life Sciences
Department: CALS Dean's Office

Contact Person: Emily Shaw
Mail Stop: 9760
E-mail: ere1@msstate.edu

Nature of Change: Add New Degree – IHL Approval Required
Date Initiated: 11/2017       Effective Date: Fall 2019

New Degree Program Name: Master of Agriculture

Major: Agriculture  Concentrations: Animal and Dairy Sciences, Entomology, Plant Pathology, Poultry Science

Summary of Proposed Changes:
New Program

Approved:

__________________________
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

Date:

__________________________
12/1/17

__________________________
12/1/17

__________________________
12/14/17
Appendix 7: Authorization to Plan a New Degree Program  
(Submit Appendix 7 in both PDF and Word Document Formats)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution: Mississippi State University</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Date of Implementation:  
  Fall 2019 |
| Six Year Cost of Implementation:  
  $180,000 |
| Per Student Cost of Implementation:  
  $1,500 |
| Program Title as will Appear on Academic Program Inventory, Diploma, and Transcript:  
  Agriculture |
| Six Digit CIP Code:  
  26.0101 |
| Degree(s) to be Awarded:  
  Master of Agriculture |
| Credit Hour Requirements:  
  30 |
| List any institutions within the state offering similar programs:  
  Alcorn State University offers a Master of Science in Agriculture with concentrations in Agricultural Economics, Agronomy, and Animal Science. However, they do not offer a non-thesis option for Animal Science, nor do they offer Entomology, Plant Pathology, or Poultry Science in any format. Therefore, this will be a unique program. |
| Responsible Academic Unit(s):  
  College of Agriculture and Life Sciences |
| Institutional Contact:  
  Dr. George Hopper |
| Number of Students Expected to Enroll in First Six Years:  
  Year One 8  
  Year Two 16  
  Year Three 24  
  Year Four 24  
  Year Five 24  
  Year Six 24  
  Total 120 |
| Number of Graduates Expected in First Six Years:  
  Year One 0  
  Year Two 8  
  Year Three 16  
  Year Four 24  
  Year Five 24  
  Year Six 24  
  Total 96 |

Program Summary:  
This new degree would create separation between the current thesis and non-thesis programs within the umbrella Master of Science in Agriculture degree. By designating non-thesis degrees as Master of Agriculture, this will better
represent their work and allow the Master of Science degree to better present what the thesis students accomplish. Students in this new degree program will choose a concentration (Animal and Dairy Sciences, Entomology, Plant Pathology, or Poultry Science) and complete 30 hours of coursework within each concentration. Students will write a scholarly paper, present that information to their graduate committees, and pass an oral exam to earn their degree. Each concentration may have specific course requirements. Students completing this degree will be experts in their designated area of study and will be well suited for careers in a multitude of fields where, perhaps, an advanced degree is necessary. This degree provides a good option for students desiring a terminal Master's degree without having to conduct a research project. This may expedite the completion of the degree, improving their employability while not extending schooling as long as some other options. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, employment opportunities in food, agriculture, renewable natural resources, and environment are expected to grow by more than 5% by 2020 for college graduates with bachelor's or higher degrees.

The program would be offered face-to-face and online to accommodate the working individual.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chief Academic Officer Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institutional Executive Officer Signature</th>
<th>Date</th>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Institution: Mississippi State University

1. Describe the proposed program and explain how it fits within the mission of the institution.

   The proposed program fits within the mission of the institution by connecting learning, research, and extension of knowledge. This new program will create a separation that better matches the requirements of the degree with the desired outcomes of the students. It will better prepare these students for careers in agriculture that may not require an advanced degree involving research. Preparing graduates for careers in agriculture, which is an industry of great importance to the state of Mississippi, is central to the core mission of Mississippi State University.

2. Provide the information used to determine Mississippi's need for this program. Be specific and provide supporting data.

   This new program will create a degree that better matches requirements of the degree with the desired outcome of the students. As an example, of in-state students that apply for veterinary school at Mississippi State University, approximately 60% are admitted. While that percentage is only 7% for out-of-state students. Many students plan to reapply the following year, especially to medical and veterinary schools, and seek educational opportunities that will make their application stronger and more competitive. Graduate school is a viable option, but conducting a research project takes a strong commitment to complete and this often takes an extended period of time that limits the completion of the M.S. degree to at least 2 full years. This proposed program can be completed in an expedited fashion because no research project is necessary. In addition to the students seeking admission to professional schools, students wishing to make themselves more employable, with more skills, at a potentially higher salary will seek opportunities such as this program. As of now, students seek these opportunities out of state. Per the Graduate Exit Survey, more than 50% of Animal and Dairy Science undergraduates plan to pursue further education via full-time graduate or professional school, but not all will get into vet school their first application. For Biochemistry undergraduates – the undergraduate major that houses the concentrations in Entomology and Plant Pathology – over 75% of students indicated pursuing graduate or professional school. And for Poultry Science undergraduates, that number was more than 25%.

   Additionally, this degree program provides an advanced degree opportunity for working individuals who are not able to
return to main campus to complete an advanced degree in an applicable field.

These are the current numbers of students in the MS programs who are non-thesis:

- MS AGR, ASC concentration = 0 of 16 enrolled students in Fall 2017
- MS ALSC, ENT concentration = 3 of 17 enrolled students in Fall 2017
- MS ALSC, ENPP concentration = 0 of 1 enrolled students in Fall 2017
- MS AGR, PO concentration = 1 of 6 enrolled students in Fall 2017

3. Provide information on employment (supporting data must include state and national employment statistics)

The USDA expects to see 57,900 annual openings for graduates in the area of food, agriculture, renewable natural resources and the environment in the U.S. The largest sector in this industry is expected to be management and business. In Mississippi, Agriculture, forestry, and natural resources impacts state-wide employment with 29% of the state's total impact. It impacts the income with 22% of the state's total impact. Further, in 2015 the value-added amount to the MS economy was 16.1 billion dollars. It is clear there will be a need for graduates trained in these fields and that MS relies heavily on these fields for the state economy. It is critical to have enough well-trained graduates to fill the need. This proposed program will allow students to add management and business courses to their production degrees if desired, improving their employability in the area of agriculture, animal sciences, plant and soil sciences, entomology, and poultry sciences.

4. Describe the anticipated institutional impact including any research efforts associated with this program.

Because these students are non-thesis students, they will not conduct traditional research projects that require significant University resources. However, they may have desires to assist with ongoing research projects as directed individual studies to gain knowledge. The curricula allow for that flexibility. The addition of more graduate students in these programs will facilitate additional research avenues on the scholarship of teaching and learning.

5. Provide the total anticipated budget for the program. Indicate from where the funds will come. Include the anticipated annual cost of operation. Include start up costs on the first year of operation with 5 subsequent years to equal 6 year cost of implementation as shown on page 1.

Research-based graduate programs in the proposed areas are already in place and the logistics of managing the program will follow the system already used. Faculty time will be reallocated to match the needs of this program. It is expected that the equivalent of one faculty member in each concentration area will spend approximately 10% effort on this program which will incur an expected $30,000 cost for the entire program per year. Thus the 6-year projected cost is $180,000. However, reallocation of faculty time along with redistribution of workloads will not require any new funds. In addition, revenue from the distance learning portion of the program will be reinvested into the program and used to develop courses, transition courses to distance education, etc.

6. Use a chart to show anticipated enrollment for the first five years of the program.
Anticipated enrollment for the first five years

Number of students

Year of program

1 2 3 4 5

0 5 10 15 20 25 30
7. Indicate where the proposed program is offered within the state.

   a. Chart similarities and differences in the proposed program and those offered in other institutions.

   Alcorn State University offers a Master of Science in Agriculture with concentrations in Agricultural Economics, Agronomy, and Animal Science. However, they do not offer a non-thesis option for Animal Science, nor do they offer Entomology, Plant Pathology, or Poultry Science in any format. Therefore, this will be a unique program.

   b. Explain anticipated consequences on enrollment in other institutions offering the program, including any ramifications on the Ayers settlement

   None

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

   We used historical enrollment data, keeping in mind that in recent years some departments were not enrolling students into the program by choice. Active recruitment will take place to enroll students into this new program. Additional marketing will be used to showcase the distance education option as well as students seeking professional school options.

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Appendix 8: New Degree Program Proposal
(Submit Appendix 8 in both PDF and Word Document Formats)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution: Mississippi State University</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of Implementation:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Program Title as will Appear on Academic Program Inventory, Diploma, and Transcript: Agriculture

Six Digit CIP Code: 26.0101

Degree(s) to be Awarded: Master of Agriculture

Credit Hour Requirements: 30

List any institutions within the state offering similar programs:

None
Responsible Academic Unit(s): 
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Institutional Contact: 
Dr. George Hopper

Check one of the boxes below related to SACS COC Substantive Changes.

- [x] Proposed Program is Not a Substantive Change
- [ ] Proposed Program is a Substantive Change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Students Expected to Enroll in First Six Years:</th>
<th>Number of Graduates Expected in First Six Years:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Years One</td>
<td>Year One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Two</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Three</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Four</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Five</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Six</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Program Summary:

This new degree would create separation between the current thesis and non-thesis programs within the umbrella Master of Science in Agriculture degree. By designating non-thesis degrees as Master of Agriculture, this will better represent their work and allow the Master of Science degree to better present what the thesis students accomplish. Students in this new degree program will choose a concentration (Animal and Dairy Sciences, Entomology, Plant Pathology, or Poultry Science) and complete 30 hours of coursework within each concentration. Students will write a scholarly paper, present that information to their graduate committees, and pass an oral exam to earn their degree. Each concentration may have specific course requirements. Students completing this degree will be experts in their designated area of study and will be well suited for careers in a multitude of fields where, perhaps, an advanced degree is necessary. This degree provides a good option for students desiring a terminal Master's degree without having to conduct a research project. This may expedite the completion of the degree, improving their employability while not extending schooling as long as some other options. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, employment opportunities in food, agriculture, renewable natural resources, and environment are expected to grow by more than 5% by 2020 for college graduates with bachelor's or higher degrees.

__________________________  __________________________
Chief Academic 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.

This degree program will be administered very similar to the Master of Science and Doctorate programs housed within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Dr. George Hopper, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and his office will coordinate the program. Each concentration area will also conduct curriculum and program reviews of their specific concentrations.

- Dr. Jamie Larson – Graduate Coordinator of Animal and Dairy Sciences and Associate Professor
- Dr. Chris McDaniel – Graduate Coordinator of Poultry Sciences and Professor
- Dr. Kenneth Willeford – Graduate Coordinator of Entomology and Professor
- Dr. Kenneth Willeford – Graduate Coordinator of Plant Pathology and Professor

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

Overall, the educational objectives of the degree programs are to provide students with learning opportunities to make them more qualified and more skilled for employment in the fields of agriculture. A primary objective is to provide an option to meet the desires of students while not created a program that is not feasible (thus, no research and thesis component).

Four specific concentrations are proposed:
Animal and Dairy Sciences: to prepare students for careers in the animal industries by enhancing technical skills, communication skills, and scientific literacy.
Entomology: to prepare students for careers in crop protection services, crop consulting, and crop scouting by enhancing technical skills, communication skills, and scientific literacy.
Plant Pathology: to prepare students for careers in crop protection services, crop consulting, and crop scouting by enhancing technical skills, communication skills, and scientific literacy.
Poultry Science: to prepare students for careers in the poultry industry or other animal industries by enhancing technical skills, communication skills, and scientific literacy.

*No other emphases, options, specializations or tracks are proposed.

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

There are no additional requirements being proposed beyond the requirements already imposed by the Office of the Graduate School. No articulation agreements have been negotiated or are planned.
4. Describe the professional accreditation that will be sought for this degree program. If a SACS visit for substantive change will be necessary, please note.

This degree program will not require accreditation beyond the current institutional accreditation in place for MSU as a whole.

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.

PROPOSED New Degree

Degree: Master of Agriculture
Major: Agriculture

Concentration 1: Animal and Dairy Sciences
Concentration 2: Entomology
Concentration 3: Plant Pathology
Concentration 4: Poultry Science

The Master of Agriculture degree is a non-thesis advanced degree designed to prepare graduates for careers or professional schools. A concentration is selected and students develop a program of study with approval by the student’s graduate committee in accordance with Graduate School policy and course requirements for the concentration.

Students are required to complete 30 hours of coursework as approved by the graduate committee. Some Directed Individual Study courses, numbered at the 7000-level, may be approved to meet the 8000-level course requirement. Not more than 6 hours of graduate credit may be earned in Directed Individual Study courses. Students will also have to complete a scholarly activity, participate in research projects, and develop a scholarly document focused on subject area.

Proposed Curriculum Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed Curriculum Outline</th>
<th>Required Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College Required Courses:</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No college required courses.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Required Courses:</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No major required courses.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentration 1. Animal and Dairy Sciences Courses:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Seminar (ADS 8111, ADS 8121, or ADS 8131 are suggested courses)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics (ST 8114 and ST 8214 are suggested courses)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry (ADS 8333, BCH 6013, BCH 6603, or BCH 6613 are suggested courses)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directed Individual Study</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate level coursework with at least 12 hours at the 8000-level</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students are required to complete 30 hours of coursework as approved by his/her graduate committee. Some Directed Individual Study courses, numbered at the 7000-level, may be approved to meet the 8000-level course requirement. Students will also have to complete a scholarly activity, participate in research projects, and develop a scholarly document focused on subject area.

**Proposed Curriculum Outline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concentration 2. Entomology Courses:</th>
<th>Required Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Seminar (EPP 8111, EPP 8121, or BCH 8101)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directed Individual Study (EPP 7000 or BCH 7000)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate level coursework at the 8000-level or higher</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other graduate-level coursework</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students are required to complete 30 hours of coursework as approved by his/her graduate committee. Some Directed Individual Study courses, numbered at the 7000-level, may be approved to meet the 8000-level course requirement. Students will also have to complete a scholarly activity, participate in research projects, and develop a scholarly document focused on subject area.

**Proposed Curriculum Outline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concentration 3. Plant Pathology Courses:</th>
<th>Required Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Seminar (EPP 8111, EPP 8121, or BCH 8101)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directed Individual Study (EPP 7000 or BCH 7000)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate level coursework at the 8000-level or higher</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Other graduate-level coursework | 10
---|---
Total Hours | 30

Students are required to complete 30 hours of coursework as approved by the graduate committee. Some Directed Individual Study courses, numbered at the 7000-level, may be approved to meet the 8000-level course requirement. Not more than 6 hours of graduate credit may be earned in Directed Individual Study courses. Students will also have to complete a scholarly activity, participate in research projects, and develop a scholarly document focused on subject area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed Curriculum Outline</th>
<th>Required Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concentration 4. Poultry Science Courses:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Seminar (PO 8011, repeatable; number is determined by major professor and the committee)</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directed Individual Study (PO 7000)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate-level coursework</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8000-level coursework</td>
<td>8-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

Animal and Dairy Sciences concentration: In addition to the graduate coordinator (Jamie Larson) courses taught within the Department that can be applied to this program may include:

- Nutritional biochemistry of livestock animals – taught by Dr. Derris Burnett, Assistant Professor, Meat Scientist
- Graduate seminar – taught by Dr. Jamie Larson, Associate Professor, Reproductive Physiology
- Method application and data analyses in animal sciences (currently under review at UCCC) – will be taught by Dr. Trent Smith, Associate Professor, Breeding and Genetics

Entomology concentration:
(All faculty teach EPP 7000, EPP 8990 as needed)

- Gerald T. Baker, Professor, Morphology/Anatomy, EPP 6154, EPP 8223, EPP 8144
- Richard L. Brown, Professor, Taxonomy / Systematics, EPP 6164
- Michael A. Caprio, Professor, Modeling / Entomology, EPP 8111/8121, EPP 8483
- Angus L. Catchot Jr., Extension Professor, Row Crop Entomology
- Donald Cook, Assistant Research Professor, Row Crop Entomology
Jeffrey F. D. Dean, Professor and Department Head
Jerome Goddard, Extension Professor, Medical / Veterinary, EPP 6173, EPP 6313
John Guyton, Associate Extension Professor, 4-H / Education
Jeffrey Harris, Assistant Extension/Research Professor, Bees
JoVonn Hill, Assistant Research Professor, Taxonomy
Jonas King, Assistant Professor, Insect Vector Biology/Genomics
Natraj Krishnan, Assistant Professor, Insect Physiology, EPP 8333, EPP 8543
M. Blake Layton Jr., Extension Professor, Urban Entomology
Fred R. Musser, Professor, Row Crop Entomology, EPP 6234, EPP 6263
John J. Riggins, Associate Professor, Forest Entomology
John C. Schneider, Professor, Insect Ecology, EPP 8272
Plant Pathology concentration:
Tom W. Allen, Associate Extension/Research Professor, Row Crop Pathogens
Richard E. Baird, Professor, Plant (Forest) Mycology, EPP 6254, EPP 8173
Clarissa Balbalian, Diagnostic Lab Manager, Plant Disease Diagnostics
Jeffrey F. D. Dean, Professor and Department Head
Alan Henn, Extension Professor, Fruit / Ornamental Pathogens
Gary W. Lawrence, Associate Professor, Nematodes
Shien Lu, Professor, Plant Bacteriology, EPP 6113, EPP 6163
Rebecca Melanson, Assistant Extension Professor, Fruit & Nut Crop Pathogens
Sedd Sabanadzovic, Professor, Plant Viruses/Fungal viruses, EPP 6214, EPP 8123
Maria Tomaso-Peterson, Research Professor, Turfgrass Pathogen, EPP 6523
Poultry Science:
Beck, Mary M., Professor and Department Head, Poultry Physiology, PO 8011, PO 8111
Kiess, Aaron S., Associate Professor, Poultry Microbiology, PO 8844
McDaniel, Christopher D., Professor and Graduate Coordinator, Poultry Physiology, 6313, PO 6324
Peebles, E. David, Professor, Poultry Physiology
Tabler, Thomas, Extension Professor, Poultry Management
Adhikari, Pratima A., Assistant Professor, Poultry Nutrition
Wamsley, Kelley G. S., Assistant Professor, Poultry Nutrition, PO 6423
Zhai, Wei, Assistant Professor, Poultry Nutrition, PO 6334, PO 6413
VACANT POSITION, Assistant Professor, Poultry Processing, PO 6512, PO 6514
*No additional faculty will be necessary to begin the 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?

Mississippi State University has an extensive (both physically and electronically) library system as well as an inter-library loan system. Mr. Brad Brazzle is the designated librarian for the field of agriculture and has extensive knowledge on holdings housed in the MSU library system as well as mechanisms to acquire any additional holdings. The current system is sufficient for the current graduate degree programs in agriculture and is not expected to have any deficiencies in regards to this proposed degree program. No weaknesses are known and current holdings meet the demands.

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.

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness at MSU tracks admission, retention, and graduation rates. They also conduct exit surveys of graduates. In addition, each concentration documents institutional effectiveness in an annual report. Each concentration develops objectives and mechanisms to measure student success within those objectives. These institutional effectiveness reports will be formulated for this new degree program as well.

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

It is projected that each concentration area would accept at least 2 students into the program the first year, which totals 8. The following year, it is projected that each concentration would accept an additional 2 students into the program, totaling 16. Once students begin to graduate, the enrollment is expected to be at least 24 students per year with the program expected to expand as it becomes marketed.
Proposal Elements

1. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

   The Master of Agriculture degree is a non-thesis advanced degree designed to prepare graduates for careers or professional schools. A concentration is selected and students develop a program of study with approval by the student's graduate committee in accordance with Graduate School policy and course requirements for the concentration.

2. CURRICULUM OUTLINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROPOSED New Degree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degree: Master of Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major: Agriculture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentration 1: Animal and Dairy Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentration 2: Entomology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentration 3: Plant Pathology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentration 4: Poultry Science</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

   The Master of Agriculture degree is a non-thesis advanced degree designed to prepare graduates for careers or professional schools. A concentration is selected and students develop a program of study with approval by the student's graduate committee in accordance with Graduate School policy and course requirements for the concentration.

   Students are required to complete 30 hours of coursework as approved by the graduate committee. Some Directed Individual Study courses, numbered at the 7000-level, may be approved to meet the 8000-level course requirement. Not more than 6 hours of graduate credit may be earned in Directed Individual Study courses. Students will also have to complete a scholarly activity, participate in research projects, and develop a scholarly document focused on subject area.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed Curriculum Outline</th>
<th>Required Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College Required Courses:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No college required courses.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Required Courses:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No major required courses.</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentration 1. Animal and Dairy Sciences Courses:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course</td>
<td>Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Seminar (ADS 8111, ADS 8121, or ADS 8131 are suggested courses)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics (ST 8114 and ST 8214 are suggested courses)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry (ADS 8333, BCH 6013, BCH 6603, or BCH 6613 are suggested courses)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directed Individual Study</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate level coursework with at least 12 hours at the 8000-level</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students are required to complete 30 hours of coursework as approved by his/her graduate committee. Some Directed Individual Study courses, numbered at the 7000-level, may be approved to meet the 8000-level course requirement. Students will also have to complete a scholarly activity, participate in research projects, and develop a scholarly document focused on subject area.

**Proposed Curriculum Outline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Concentration 2. Entomology Courses:</strong></th>
<th>Required Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Seminar (EPP 8111, EPP 8121, or BCH 8101)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directed Individual Study (EPP 7000 or BCH 7000)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate level coursework at the 8000-level or higher</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other graduate-level coursework</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students are required to complete 30 hours of coursework as approved by his/her graduate committee. Some Directed Individual Study courses, numbered at the 7000-level, may be approved to meet the 8000-level course requirement. Students will also have to complete a scholarly activity, participate in research projects, and develop a scholarly document focused on subject area.

**Proposed Curriculum Outline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Concentration 3. Plant Pathology Courses:</strong></th>
<th>Required Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Seminar (EPP 8111, EPP 8121, or BCH 8101)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directed Individual Study (EPP 7000 or BCH 7000)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate level coursework at the 8000-level or higher</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other graduate-level coursework</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed Curriculum Outline</td>
<td>Required Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentration 4. Poultry Science Courses:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Seminar (PO 8011, repeatable; number is determined by major professor and the committee)</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directed Individual Study (PO 7000)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate-level coursework</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8000-level coursework</td>
<td>8-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES AND ASSESSMENT
   Overall, the educational objectives of the degree programs are to provide students with learning opportunities to make them more qualified and more skilled for employment in the fields of agriculture. A primary objective is to provide an option to meet the desires of students while not created a program that is not feasible (thus, no research and thesis component).

Four specific concentrations are proposed:

Animal and Dairy Sciences: to prepare students for careers in the animal industries by enhancing technical skills, communication skills, and scientific literacy.

Entomology: to prepare students for careers in crop protection services, crop consulting, and crop scouting by enhancing technical skills, communication skills, and scientific literacy.

Plant Pathology: to prepare students for careers in crop protection services, crop consulting, and crop scouting by enhancing technical skills, communication skills, and scientific literacy.

Poultry Science: to prepare students for careers in the poultry industry or other animal industries by enhancing technical skills, communication skills, and scientific literacy.

4. SUPPORT: see attached letter

5. PROPOSED 4-LETTER ABBREVIATION: AGRI
6. TERMINOLOGY

7. EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2019

8. CIP NUMBER: 26.0101
November 10, 2017

Ms. Jessica Graves  
Chair, CALS Curriculum Committee  
Box 9815  
Mississippi State, MS 37962

Ms. Graves:

The following applicable graduate coordinators and department heads support the creation of the Master of Agriculture degree with concentrations in Animal and Dairy Sciences, Entomology, Plant Pathology, and Poultry Science.

Sincerely,

Jamie Larson, Graduate Coordinator, ADS  
John Blanton, Department Head, ADS  
Kenneth Willeford, Graduate Coordinator, BCHEPP  
Jeff Dean, Department Head, BCHEPP

Chris McDaniel, Graduate Coordinator, PO  
Mary Beck, Department Head, PO

Approved by:

George Hopper, Dean, CALS

Agricultural Economics  ■  Agricultural and Biological Engineering  ■  Animal and Dairy Sciences  
Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Entomology and Plant Pathology  ■  Food Science, Nutrition and Health Promotion  
Human Sciences  ■  Landscape Architecture  ■  Plant and Soil Sciences  ■  Poultry Science
Appendix 7: Authorization to Plan a New Degree Program
(Submit Appendix 7 in both PDF and Word Document Formats)

Institution: Mississippi State University

Date of Implementation: Fall 2019

Incremental, Six Year Cost of Implementation: $30,000
Incremental, Per Student Cost of Implementation: $1,500

Will it attract new students to the university? ☑ Yes ☐ No

Potential New Revenue: Generated from tuition and distance education fees

Program Title as will Appear on Academic Program Inventory, Diploma, and Transcript:

Agriculture

Six Digit CIP Code: 26.0101

Name of Degree(s) to be Awarded: Master of Agriculture

Total Credit Hour Requirements to Earn the Degree: 30

List any institutions within the state offering similar programs:

Alcorn State University offers a Master of Science in Agriculture with concentrations in Agricultural Economics, Agronomy, and Animal Science. However, they do not offer a non-thesis option for Animal Science, nor do they offer Entomology, Plant Pathology, or Poultry Science in any format. Therefore, this will be a unique program.

Responsible Academic Unit(s):

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Institutional Contact: Dr. George Hopper
Phone: 662-325-2953
Email: gmh58@msstate.edu

Number of Students Expected to Enroll in First Six Years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Students Expected to Enroll</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year One</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Two</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Three</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Four</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Five</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Six</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>120</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Number of Graduates Expected in First Six Years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Graduates Expected to Enroll</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year One</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Two</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Three</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Four</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Five</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Six</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Program Summary:

This new degree would create separation between the current thesis and non-thesis programs within the umbrella Master of Science in Agriculture degree. By designating non-thesis degrees as Master of Agriculture, this will better represent their work and allow the Master of Science degree to better present what the thesis students accomplish. Students in this new degree program will choose a concentration (Animal and Dairy Sciences, Entomology, Plant Pathology, or Poultry Science) and complete 30 hours of coursework within each concentration. Students will write a scholarly paper, present that information to their graduate committees, and pass an oral exam to earn their degree. Each concentration may have specific course requirements. Students completing this degree will be experts in their designated area of study and will be well suited for careers in a multitude of fields where, perhaps, an advanced degree is necessary. This degree provides a good option for students desiring a terminal Master’s degree without having to conduct a research project. This may expedite the completion of the degree, improving their employability while not extending schooling as long as some other options. According to the United States
Department of Agriculture, employment opportunities in food, agriculture, renewable natural resources, and environment are expected to grow by more than 5% by 2020 for college graduates with bachelor’s or higher degrees. The program would be offered face-to-face and online to accommodate the working individual.

Chief Academic Officer Signature

Institutional Executive Officer Signature

Institution: Mississippi State University

1. Describe the proposed program and explain how it fits within the mission of the institution.

The proposed program fits within the mission of the institution by connecting learning, research, and extension of knowledge. This new program will create a separation that better matches the requirements of the degree with the desired outcomes of the students. It will better prepare these students for careers in agriculture that may not require an advanced degree involving research. Preparing graduates for careers in agriculture, which is an industry of great importance to the state of Mississippi, is central to the core mission of Mississippi State University.

This new program will create a degree that better matches requirements of the degree with the desired outcome of the students. As an example, of in-state students that apply for veterinary school at Mississippi State University, approximately 60% are admitted. While that percentage is only 7% for out-of-state students. Many students plan to reapply the following year, especially to medical and veterinary schools, and seek educational opportunities that will make their application stronger and more competitive. Graduate school is a viable option, but conducting a research project takes a strong commitment to complete and this often takes an extended period of time that limits the completion of the M.S. degree to at least 2 full years. This proposed program can be completed in an expedited fashion because no research project is necessary. In addition to the students seeking admission to professional schools, students wishing to make themselves more employable, with more skills, at a potentially higher salary will seek opportunities such as this program. As of now, students seek these opportunities out of state. Per the Graduate Exit Survey, more than 50% of Animal and Dairy Science undergraduates plan to pursue further education via full-time graduate or professional school, but not all will get into vet school their first application. For Biochemistry undergraduates – the undergraduate major that houses the concentrations in Entomology and Plant Pathology – over 75% of students indicated pursuing graduate or professional school. And for Poultry Science undergraduates, that number was more than 25%.

Additionally, this degree program provides an advanced degree opportunity for working individuals who are not able to return to main campus to complete an advanced degree in an applicable field.

These are the current numbers of students in the MS programs who are non-thesis:
MS AGR, ASC concentration = 0 of 16 enrolled students in Fall 2017
MS ALSC, ENT concentration = 3 of 17 enrolled students in Fall 2017
MS ALSC, ENPP concentration = 0 of 1 enrolled students in Fall 2017
MS AGR, PO concentration = 1 of 6 enrolled students in Fall 2017

3. Provide information on employment (supporting data must include state and national employment statistics or career opportunities (include potential earnings range).

The USDA expects to see 57,900 annual openings for graduates in the area of food, agriculture, renewable natural resources and the environment in the U.S. The largest sector in these industry is expected to be management and business. In Mississippi, Agriculture, forestry, and natural resources impacts state-wide employment with 29% of the state’s total impact. It impacts the income with 22% of the state’s total impact. Further, in 2015 the value-added amount to the MS economy was 16.1 billion dollars. It is clear there will be a need for graduates trained in these fields and that MS relies heavily on these fields for the state economy. It is critical to have enough well-trained graduates to fill the need. This proposed program will allow students to add management and business courses to their production degrees if desired, improving their employability in the area of agriculture, animal sciences, plant and soil sciences,
entomology, and poultry sciences. Typical potential earnings vary according to many factors, but could easily range between $50,000 and $150,000.

4. Describe any other benefits to the institution, state, region, or nation including research, service, and teaching efforts that might result from offering this program.

Because these students are non-thesis students, they will not conduct traditional research projects that require significant University resources. However, they may have desires to assist with ongoing research projects as directed individual studies to gain knowledge. The curricula allow for that flexibility. The addition of more graduate students in these programs will facilitate additional research avenues on the scholarship of teaching and learning.

5. Using expected enrollment, provide the total anticipated budget for the program including implementation and 5 subsequent years (total of 6 years) of operation; any anticipated direct, indirect, and incremental costs necessary to start the program; anticipated, incremental annual revenue based on student enrollment; and other sources of funding.

Research-based graduate programs in the proposed areas are already in place and the logistics of managing the program will follow the system already used. Faculty time will be reallocated to match the needs of this program. It is expected that the equivalent of one faculty member in each concentration area will spend approximately 10% effort on this program which will incur an expected $30,000 cost for the entire program per year. Thus the 6-year projected cost is $180,000. However, reallocation of faculty time along with redistribution of workloads will not require any new funds. In addition, revenue from the distance learning portion of the program will be reinvested into the program and used to develop courses, transition courses to distance education, etc. The following table uses numbers assuming all students will be paying “in-state” tuition (currently $4,104 per semester). Further, we assumed half of participants will take some courses via distance (campus 5) and will thus pay distance education fees for which we assume will average $500 per semester for full time enrollment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Incoming Students</th>
<th>Total Enrollment</th>
<th>Start-Up Costs</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>Additional Annual Costs</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>Additional Annual Revenue</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>Non-Tuition Revenue</th>
<th>A – (B+C) Differential</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017-2018</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>32,832</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>-6,832</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-2019</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>65,664</td>
<td>8,000</td>
<td>-13,664</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>98,496</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>-20,496</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021-2022</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>98,496</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>-20,496</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022-2023</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>98,496</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>-20,496</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023-2024</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>98,496</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>-20,496</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>180,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>492,480</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td>-102,480</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. Indicate where the proposed program is offered within the state and explain anticipated consequences on enrollment in other institutions offering the program, including any ramifications on the Ayers settlement.

Alcorn State University offers a Master of Science in Agriculture with concentrations in Agricultural Economics, Agronomy, and Animal Science. However, they do not offer a non-thesis option for Animal Science, nor do they offer Entomology, Plant Pathology, or Poultry Science in any format. Therefore, this will be a unique program. There are no expected ramifications.

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

We used historical enrollment data, keeping in mind that in recent years some departments were not enrolling students into the program by choice. Active recruitment will take place to enroll students into this new program. Additional marketing will be used to showcase the distance education option as well as students seeking professional school options.
### Appendix 8: New Degree Program Proposal

(Submit Appendix 8 in both PDF and Word Document Formats)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution: Mississippi State University</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Date of Implementation:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will it attract new students to the university?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potential New Revenue:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Title as will appear on Academic Program Inventory, Diploma, and Transcript:</th>
<th>Six Digit CIP Code:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>26.0101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Degree(s) to be Awarded:</th>
<th>Total Credit Hour Requirements to earn the degree:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master of Agriculture</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>List any institutions within the state offering similar programs:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Responsible Academic Unit(s):</th>
<th>Institutional Contact: Dr. George Hopper</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College of Agriculture and Life Sciences</td>
<td>Phone: 662-325-2953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:gmh58@msstate.edu">gmh58@msstate.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Check one of the boxes below related to SACSCOC Substantive Changes.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☒ Proposed Program is Not a Substantive Change</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Students Expected to Enroll in First Six Years:</th>
<th>Number of Graduates Expected in First Six Years:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year One 8</td>
<td>Year One 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Two 16</td>
<td>Year Two 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Three 24</td>
<td>Year Three 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Four 24</td>
<td>Year Four 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Five 24</td>
<td>Year Five 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year Six 24</td>
<td>Year Six 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total 120</td>
<td>Total 96</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Program Summary:**

This new degree would create separation between the current thesis and non-thesis programs within the umbrella Master of Science in Agriculture degree. By designating non-thesis degrees as Master of Agriculture, this will better represent their work and allow the Master of Science degree to better present what the thesis students accomplish. Students in this new degree program will choose a concentration (Animal and Dairy Sciences, Entomology, Plant Pathology, or Poultry Science) and complete 30 hours of coursework within each concentration. Students will write a scholarly paper, present that information to their graduate committees, and pass an oral exam to earn their degree. Each concentration may have specific course requirements. Students completing this degree will be experts in their designated area of study and will be well suited for careers in a multitude of fields where, perhaps, an advanced degree is necessary. This degree provides a good option for students desiring a terminal Master's degree without having to conduct a research project. This may expedite the completion of the degree, improving their employability while not extending schooling as long as some other options. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, employment opportunities in food, agriculture, renewable natural resources, and environment are expected to grow by more than 5% by 2020 for college graduates with bachelor's or higher
degrees.

Institution:

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.

This degree program will be administered very similar to the Master of Science and Doctorate programs housed within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Dr. George Hopper, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and his office will coordinate the program. Each concentration area will also conduct curriculum and program reviews of their specific concentrations.

- Dr. Jamie Larson – Graduate Coordinator of Animal and Dairy Sciences and Associate Professor
- Dr. Chris McDaniel – Graduate Coordinator of Poultry Sciences and Professor
- Dr. Kenneth Willeford – Graduate Coordinator of Entomology and Professor
- Dr. Kenneth Willeford – Graduate Coordinator of Plant Pathology and Professor

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

Overall, the educational objectives of the degree programs are to provide students with learning opportunities to make them more qualified and more skilled for employment in the fields of agriculture. A primary objective is to provide an option to meet the desires of students while not created a program that is not feasible (thus, no research and thesis component).

Four specific concentrations are proposed:

Animal and Dairy Sciences: to prepare students for careers in the animal industries by enhancing technical skills, communication skills, and scientific literacy.

Entomology: to prepare students for careers in crop protection services, crop consulting, and crop scouting by enhancing technical skills, communication skills, and scientific literacy.

Plant Pathology: to prepare students for careers in crop protection services, crop consulting, and crop scouting by enhancing technical skills, communication skills, and scientific literacy.

Poultry Science: to prepare students for careers in the poultry industry or other animal industries by enhancing technical skills, communication skills, and scientific literacy.

*No other emphases, options, specializations or tracks are proposed.

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

There are no additional requirements being proposed beyond the requirements already imposed by the Office of the Graduate School. No articulation agreements have been negotiated or are planned.

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.

This degree program will not require accreditation beyond the current institutional accreditation in place for MSU as a whole.
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.

**PROPOSED New Degree**

**Degree:** Master of Agriculture  
**Major:** Agriculture  
**Concentration 1:** Animal and Dairy Sciences  
**Concentration 2:** Entomology  
**Concentration 3:** Plant Pathology  
**Concentration 4:** Poultry Science

The Master of Agriculture degree is a non-thesis advanced degree designed to prepare graduates for careers or professional schools. A concentration is selected and students develop a program of study with approval by the student’s graduate committee in accordance with Graduate School policy and course requirements for the concentration.

Students are required to complete 30 hours of coursework as approved by the graduate committee. Some Directed Individual Study courses, numbered at the 7000-level, may be approved to meet the 8000-level course requirement. Not more than 6 hours of graduate credit may be earned in Directed Individual Study courses. Students will also have to complete a scholarly activity, participate in research projects, and develop a scholarly document focused on subject area.

**Proposed Curriculum Outline**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed Curriculum Outline</th>
<th>Required Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College Required Courses:</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No college required courses.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Required Courses:</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No major required courses.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concentration 1. Animal and Dairy Sciences Courses:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Seminar (ADS 8111, ADS 8121, or ADS 8131 are suggested courses)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics (ST 8114 and ST 8214 are suggested courses)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biochemistry (ADS 8333, BCH 6013, BCH 6603, or BCH 6613 are suggested courses)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directed Individual Study</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate level coursework with at least 12 hours at the 8000-level</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Hours</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students are required to complete 30 hours of coursework as approved by his/her graduate committee. Some Directed Individual Study courses, numbered at the 7000-level, may be approved to meet the 8000-level course requirement. Students will also have to complete
a scholarly activity, participate in research projects, and develop a scholarly document focused on subject area.

### Proposed Curriculum Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concentration 2. Entomology Courses:</th>
<th>Required Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Seminar (EPP 8111, EPP 8121, or BCH 8101)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directed Individual Study (EPP 7000 or BCH 7000)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate level coursework at the 8000-level or higher</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other graduate-level coursework</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students are required to complete 30 hours of coursework as approved by his/her graduate committee. Some Directed Individual Study courses, numbered at the 7000-level, may be approved to meet the 8000-level course requirement. Students will also have to complete a scholarly activity, participate in research projects, and develop a scholarly document focused on subject area.

### Proposed Curriculum Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concentration 3. Plant Pathology Courses:</th>
<th>Required Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Seminar (EPP 8111, EPP 8121, or BCH 8101)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Directed Individual Study (EPP 7000 or BCH 7000)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate level coursework at the 8000-level or higher</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other graduate-level coursework</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
<td><strong>30</strong></td>
</tr>
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Students are required to complete 30 hours of coursework as approved by the graduate committee. Some Directed Individual Study courses, numbered at the 7000-level, may be approved to meet the 8000-level course requirement. Not more than 6 hours of graduate credit may be earned in Directed Individual Study courses. Students will also have to complete a scholarly activity, participate in research projects, and develop a scholarly document focused on subject area.

### Proposed Curriculum Outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concentration 4. Poultry Science Courses:</th>
<th>Required Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Seminar (PO 8011, repeatable; number is determined by major professor and the committee)</td>
<td>1-4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Directed Individual Study (PO 7000) | 3
---|---
Graduate-level coursework | 15
8000-level coursework | 8-11
Total Hours | 30

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.

Animal and Dairy Sciences concentration: In addition to the graduate coordinator (Jamie Larson) courses taught within the Department that can be applied to this program may include:

- Nutritional biochemistry of livestock animals – taught by Dr. Derris Burnett, Assistant Professor, Meat Scientist
- Graduate seminar – taught by Dr. Jamie Larson, Associate Professor, Reproductive Physiology
- Method application and data analyses in animal sciences (currently under review at UCCC) – will be taught by Dr. Trent Smith, Associate Professor, Breeding and Genetics

Entomology concentration:

(All faculty teach EPP 7000, EPP 8990 as needed)

- Gerald T. Baker, Professor, Morphology/Anatomy, EPP 6154, EPP 8223, EPP 8144
- Richard L. Brown, Professor, Taxonomy / Systematics, EPP 6164
- Michael A. Caprio, Professor, Modeling / Entomology, EPP 8111/8121, EPP 8483
- Angus L. Catchot Jr., Extension Professor, Row Crop Entomology
- Donald Cook, Assistant Research Professor, Row Crop Entomology
- Jeffrey F.D. Dean, Professor and Department Head
- Jerome Goddard, Extension Professor, Medical / Veterinary, EPP 6173, EPP 6313
- John Guyton, Associate Extension Professor, 4-H / Education
- Jeffrey Harris, Assistant Extension/Research Professor, Bees
- JoVonn Hill, Assistant Research Professor, Taxonomy
- Jonas King, Assistant Professor, Insect Vector Biology/Genomics
- Natraj Krishnan, Assistant Professor, Insect Physiology, EPP 8333, EPP 6543
- M. Blake Layton Jr., Extension Professor, Urban Entomology
- Fred R. Musser, Professor, Row Crop Entomology, EPP 6234, EPP 6263
- John J. Riggins, Associate Professor, Forest Entomology
- John C. Schneider, Professor, Insect Ecology, EPP 8272

Plant Pathology concentration:

- Tom W. Allen, Associate Extension/Research Professor, Row Crop Pathogens
- Richard E. Baird, Professor, Plant (Forest) Mycology, EPP 6254, EPP 8173
- Clarissa Balbalian, Diagnostic Lab Manager, Plant Disease Diagnostics
- Jeffrey F.D. Dean, Professor and Department Head
- Alan Henn, Extension Professor, Fruit / Ornamental Pathogens
- Gary W. Lawrence, Associate Professor, Nematodes
- Shien Lu, Professor, Plant Bacteriology, EPP 6113, EPP 6163
Revised 10-30-17

Rebecca Melanson, Assistant Extension Professor, Fruit & Nut Crop Pathogens
Sead Sabanadzovic, Professor, Plant Viruses/Fungal viruses, EPP 6214, EPP 8123
Maria Tomaso-Peterson, Research Professor, Turfgrass Pathogen, EPP 6523
Poultry Science:
Beck, Mary M., Professor and Department Head, Poultry Physiology, PO 8011, PO 8111
Kiess, Aaron S., Associate Professor, Poultry Microbiology, PO 6844
McDaniel, Christopher D., Professor and Graduate Coordinator, Poultry Physiology, 6313, PO 6324
Peebles, E. David, Professor, Poultry Physiology
Tabler, Thomas, Extension Professor, Poultry Management
Adhikari, Pratima A., Assistant Professor, Poultry Nutrition
Wamsley, Kelley G. S., Assistant Professor, Poultry Nutrition, PO 6423
Zhai, Wei, Assistant Professor, Poultry Nutrition, PO 6334, PO 6413
VACANT POSITION, Assistant Professor, Poultry Processing, PO 6512, PO 6514

*No additional faculty will be necessary to begin the 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?

Mississippi State University has an extensive (both physically and electronically) library system as well as an interlibrary load system. Mr. Brad Brazille is the designated librarian for the field of agriculture and has extensive knowledge on holdings housed in the MSU library system as well as mechanisms to acquire any additional holdings. The current system is sufficient for the current graduate degree programs in agriculture and is not expected to have any deficiencies in regards to this proposed degree program. No weaknesses are known and current holdings meet the demands.

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.

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness at MSU tracks admission, retention, and graduation rates. They also conduct exit surveys of graduates. In addition, each concentration documents institutional effectiveness in an annual report. Each concentration develops objectives and mechanisms to measure student success within those objectives. These institutional effectiveness reports will be formulated for this new degree program as well.

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

It is projected that each concentration area would accept at least 2 students into the program the first year, which totals 8. The following year, it is projected that each concentration would accept an additional 2 students into the program, totaling 16. Once students begin to graduate, the enrollment is expected to be at least 24 students per year with the program expected to expand as it becomes marketed.
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:** Ag & Life Sciences  
**Department:** Agricultural Economics  
**Contact Person:** Andrew Stevens  
**Mail Stop:** 9755  
**E-mail:** a.stevens@msstate.edu  
**Nature of Change:** Course Name Change  
**Date Initiated:** 10/2017  
**Effective Date:** 01/2018

**Current Degree Program Name:** Master of Science  
**Major:** Agriculture  
**Concentration:** Agricultural Economics – Non-Thesis

**New Degree Program Name:** Master of Science  
**Major:** Agriculture  
**Concentration:** Agricultural Economics – Non-Thesis

**Summary of Proposed Changes:** Update Course Name for AEC 8123 from “Market Organization and Structure” to “Analysis of Agricultural Markets”

**Approved:**

Date:

10/24/17

11/20/17

11/26/17

Chair, College or School Curriculum Committee

Chair, University Committee on Courses and Curricula

Chair, Graduate Council (if applicable)

Chair, Deans Council
DEGREE MODIFICATION OUTLINE FORM
Use the chart below to make modifications to an existing undergraduate degree outline. If any General Education (Core) course is acceptable in the category, please indicate by saying "any Gen Ed course". There is no need to type in the whole list. All deleted courses and information should be shown in *italics* and all new courses and information in **bold**. Include the course prefix, number, and title in both columns. Expand this table as needed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT Degree Description</th>
<th>PROPOSED Degree Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Degree: Master of Science</strong></td>
<td><strong>Degree: Master of Science</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Major: Agriculture</strong></td>
<td><strong>Major: Agriculture</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Concentration: Agricultural Economics – Non-Thesis</strong></td>
<td><strong>Concentration: Agricultural Economics – Non-Thesis</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Department of Agricultural Economics offers a degree program leading to the Master of Science in Agriculture with a concentration in Agricultural Economics. This program stresses thorough mastery of advanced economic theory, methods of quantitative analysis, and the applications of these methods to the problems of agriculture. The broad program of economic research conducted by the department affords a wide selection of areas from which the student may choose a specific problem for research.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The curriculum is designed as a lock-step sequence of 26 hours of core coursework. The non-thesis student must take from 1 to 6 Directed Individual Study hours toward a research paper. Approved electives can be used to meet the 32-hour requirement. A minimum of 15 hours at the 8000-level is required. The curriculum is designed as a lock-step sequence of 26 hours of core coursework. The non-thesis student must take from 1 to 6 Directed Individual Study hours toward a research paper. Approved electives can be used to meet the 32-hour requirement. A minimum of 15 hours at the 8000-level is required.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT CURRICULUM OUTLINE</th>
<th>REQUIRED Hours</th>
<th>PROPOSED CURRICULUM OUTLINE</th>
<th>REQUIRED Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Year, Fall Semester:</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
<td><strong>First Year, Fall Semester:</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEC 8611 Research Seminar I</td>
<td></td>
<td>AEC 8611 Research Seminar I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEC 6713 Quantitative Economics</td>
<td></td>
<td>AEC 6713 Quantitative Economics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEC 6733 Econometric Analysis in Agriculture Economics</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEC 8163 Consumers, Producers, and Markets</td>
<td></td>
<td>AEC 8163 Consumers, Producers, and Markets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>First Year, Spring Semester:</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
<td><strong>First Year, Spring Semester:</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEC 8621 Research Seminar II</td>
<td></td>
<td>AEC 8621 Research Seminar II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEC 8143 Agricultural Production Economics</td>
<td></td>
<td>AEC 8143 Agricultural Production Economics</td>
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<tr>
<td>AEC 8123 Market Organization and Structure</td>
<td></td>
<td>AEC 8123 Analysis of Agricultural Markets</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEC 8403 Game Theory</td>
<td></td>
<td>AEC 8403 Game Theory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Requirements:</strong></td>
<td>12-17</td>
<td><strong>Other Requirements:</strong></td>
<td>12-17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEC 8843 Survey Design and Experimental Economics</td>
<td></td>
<td>AEC 8843 Survey Design and Experimental Economics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEC 7000 Directed Individual Study in Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness</td>
<td></td>
<td>AEC 7000 Directed Individual Study in Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives, if required to complete the 32-hour program of study</td>
<td></td>
<td>Electives, if required to complete the 32-hour program of study</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
<td>32-37</td>
<td><strong>Total Hours</strong></td>
<td>32-37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
JUSTIFICATION AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The only change to the degree program is updating the name of the course AEC 8123 from “Market Organization and Structure” to “Analysis of Agricultural Markets.” Please refer to the relevant Course Modification Proposal for additional information. In short, the new course title better describes course content and is more appropriate for the proposed new course description. Students clearly benefit from clear alignment between course titles and course content. This course-level change, if approved, should be reflected in the official degree program outline.

There is no change to the learning outcomes of the program.
DATE: October 19, 2017
TO: University Committee on Courses and Curricula
FROM: Dr. Ardian Harri, Curriculum Committee Chair
       Department of Agricultural Economics

SUBJECT: Support of Degree Outline Modification

We the undersigned Curriculum Committee faculty members in the Department of Agricultural Economics fully endorse modifying the degree outlines for (1) the Master of Science in Agriculture with Agricultural Economics Concentration – Non-Thesis, and (2) the Master of Science in Agriculture with Agricultural Economics Concentration – Thesis, by updating the course name of AEC 8123 from “Market Organization and Structure” to “Analysis of Agricultural Markets.” Pending approval of this name change at the course-level, we view the corresponding update to the degree outlines as an uncontroversial technical change.

Dr. Ardian Harri

Dr. Randy Little

Lurleen M. Walters

Dr. Lurleen Walters

Dr. Xiaofei Li

Dr. Andrew Stevens

10/23/2017

10/19/2017

10/17/2017

10/19/2017
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: Ag & Life Sciences  Department: Agricultural Economics
Contact Person: Andrew Stevens  Mail Stop: 9755  E-mail: a.stevens@msstate.edu
Nature of Change: Course Name Change  Date Initiated: 10/2017  Effective Date: 01/2018

Current Degree Program Name: Master of Science
Major: Agriculture  Concentration: Agricultural Economics – Thesis

New Degree Program Name: Master of Science
Major: Agriculture  Concentration: Agricultural Economics – Thesis

Summary of Proposed Changes: Update Course Name for AEC 8123 from “Market Organization and Structure” to “Analysis of Agricultural Markets”

Approved:

[Signatures]

Date:

[Signatures]

[Signatures]

[Signatures]

[Signatures]
DEGREE MODIFICATION OUTLINE FORM

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<tr>
<td>Major: Agriculture</td>
<td>Major: Agriculture</td>
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The Department of Agricultural Economics offers a degree program leading to the Master of Science in Agriculture with a concentration in Agricultural Economics. This program stresses thorough mastery of advanced economic theory, methods of quantitative analysis, and the applications of these methods to the problems of agriculture. The broad program of economic research conducted by the department affords a wide selection of areas from which the student may choose a specific problem for research.

The curriculum is designed as a lock-step sequence of 26 hours of core coursework. The thesis student must take at least 6 hours of AEC 8000 Thesis/Research. At least 12 hours of coursework, exclusive of the thesis credits, must be 8000-level courses. The thesis is completed under the supervision of the student's graduate committee. Completion of the degree requires students to present and defend their research work to the satisfaction of the Agricultural Economics faculty.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>CURRENT CURRICULUM OUTLINE</th>
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JUSTIFICATION AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

The only change to the degree program is updating the name of the course AEC 8123 from “Market Organization and Structure” to “Analysis of Agricultural Markets.” Please refer to the relevant Course Modification Proposal for additional information. In short, the new course title better describes course content and is more appropriate for the proposed new course description. Students clearly benefit from clear alignment between course titles and course content. This course-level change, if approved, should be reflected in the official degree program outline.

There is no change to the learning outcomes of the program.
DATE: October 19, 2017

TO: University Committee on Courses and Curricula

FROM: Dr. Ardian Harri, Curriculum Committee Chair
Department of Agricultural Economics

SUBJECT: Support of Degree Outline Modification

We the undersigned Curriculum Committee faculty members in the Department of Agricultural Economics fully endorse modifying the degree outlines for (1) the Master of Science in Agriculture with Agricultural Economics Concentration – Non-Thesis, and (2) the Master of Science in Agriculture with Agricultural Economics Concentration – Thesis, by updating the course name of AEC 8123 from “Market Organization and Structure” to “Analysis of Agricultural Markets.” Pending approval of this name change at the course-level, we view the corresponding update to the degree outlines as an uncontroversial technical change.

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10/19/2017
APPROVAL FORM FOR

DEGREE PROGRAMS

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

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College: College of Education  Department: Educational Leadership
Contact Person: Stephanie King  Mail Stop: 9698  E-mail: sbk2@msstate.edu
Nature of Change: Program Modification  Date Initiated: 11/17/17  Effective Date: 5/15/18

Current Degree Program Name: PhD in Community College Leadership
Major: PhD in Community College Leadership  Concentration: N/A

New Degree Program Name: No Change
Major: No Change  Concentration: No Change

Summary of Proposed Changes: The proposed changes reduce the number of hours from 76 to 54 by deleting 8 courses that do not fulfill the purposes of the degree and adding 3 courses that better meet those purposes.

Approved:  Date:

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
Program Modification: PhD in Community College Leadership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT Degree Description</th>
<th>PROPOSED Degree Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Degree: Doctor of Philosophy Major: PhD in Community College Leadership Concentration: N/A</td>
<td>No Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Ph.D. degree program in Community College Leadership is designed to prepare professionals for leadership positions in community colleges. The degree program is designed to prepare the next generation of community college leaders. The program consists of core courses of study in leading and managing in the community college, interdisciplinary courses in a rural context, and courses in research and statistics. The program is offered through the Center for Distance Education but is not completely online.</td>
<td>No Change</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CURRENT CURRICULUM OUTLINE</th>
<th>Required Hours</th>
<th>PROPOSED CURRICULUM OUTLINE</th>
<th>Required Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CCL 8113 Comm Coll History/Philosophy or CCL 8373 Comm Coll Curriculum</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>CCL 8113 Comm Coll History/Philosophy or CCL 8373 Comm Coll Curriculum</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCL 8123 Community College Finance</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>CCL 8123 Community College Finance</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCL 8233 Comm College Legal Issues</td>
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<td>PPA 8733 Public Program Evaluation</td>
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<td>HED 8673 Planning and Instit Research in Higher Ed</td>
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<td>AEC 6353 Intro to Region Econ Develop</td>
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<td>CCL 8343 Community Development and Resources</td>
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<td>EDF 9453 Intro to Qualitative Research</td>
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<td>CCL 9000 Dissertation Research</td>
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<td>Total Hours</td>
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JUSTIFICATION AND STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Justification

The proposed modification is designed to provide students necessary coursework while reducing the number of hours in the program to more closely align with MSU guidelines as well as leading academic programs in the discipline outside of MSU. The proposed modification is also designed to align the required coursework with that of other leading academic programs in the discipline. According to the Graduate Catalog, “Mississippi State University requires that doctoral students earn at least 54 hours of graduate credit beyond the bachelor's level, which includes a required 20 hours of dissertation credits.” The current program requires 76 hours, and those hours are generally beyond the master's level. So, students will often have over 100 hours of graduate coursework upon completion of this program. In addition, much of the coursework required that is taught outside the College of Education is not coursework required by other leading academic programs in the discipline.

Student Learning Outcomes

Student learning outcomes are not changing as material in deleted courses is included in current coursework or in coursework offered in other programs in our department that we propose to add to the curriculum. In addition, the proposed changes will address concerns voiced by our program advisory committee.

Competencies related to CCL 8383 Ethical Decision Making are located in CCL 8153 Human Resources, a course that is currently part of our Master of Science in Workforce Education Leadership degree program. They are also located in other courses being taught in the program including CCL 8333 Community College Administration, CCL 8283 Leadership in Community College Administration, and CCL 8233 Community College Legal Issues.

Competencies related to EDA 8323 Educational Facilities Design are located in other courses being taught in the program including CCL 8333 Community College Administration and CCL 8123 Community College Finance.

Competencies related to PPA 9613 Rural Government Administration I and PPA 9623 Rural Government Administration II as well as AEC 6353 Introduction to Regional Economic Development, AEC 6323 Applied Region Economic Development, and AEC 8713 Rural Community Economic Development will be addressed in CCL 8343 Community Development and Resources, a course generally taught by a long-time community college administrator and currently part of our Master of Science in Workforce Education Leadership degree program.

Competencies more specific to higher education than those in PPA 8733 Public Program Evaluation are located in HED 8673 Planning and Institutional Research in Higher Education, a course that is currently part of our PhD in Educational Leadership Higher Education Leadership concentration.

Distance Learning

The target audience will not change.

Comparison with Leading Academic Programs in the Discipline

The proposed modification reduces the required hours from 76 to 61 (15 credit hours less) and alters the curriculum to be more in line with other PhD programs in the academic discipline.

- Old Dominion University (https://online.odu.edu/programs/community-college-leadership): PhD, 54 credit hours, online
  - Courses: Contemporary Issues; Research Design & Analysis; Applied Statistics (prerequisite); Finance, Fundraising, & Resource Management; Qualitative Research; Leadership; Curriculum, Program Development, & Quality Assurance; Modern Community College; Program Evaluation; Politics, Policy, & Advocacy; Applied Linear Models; Law; ANOVA; 2 electives such as Strategic Planning, Internship, Global Higher Education Systems (10-day study abroad over spring break), Workforce Development, Learning Environment Design, and other special topics courses
- University of North Texas: PhD, 66 credit hours, not online
  - Courses: 18 credit hours of higher education doctoral core courses; 12 credit hours of a minor or cognate area; 15 credit hours of higher education research courses; 6 credit hours of higher education electives; 6 credit hours of College of Education research core courses; 6 credit hours of an internship (if needed); 9 credit hours of dissertation (minimum)

Advisory Board Assessment and Feedback of the Degree Program

- Revise, and possibly remove part of, PPA series: PPA 9613, PPA 9623, and PPA 8733
- Add content related to
  - Regional collaboration (e.g., workforce grants)
  - Public relations with media and use of social media
  - Ways to leverage partnerships among groups
  - Human resources
  - Conflict resolution
  - Managing people
  - Crisis management
  - Being a community liaison
  - Problem solving
- Provide networking opportunities
- Teach updated, relevant content
- Add a Human Resources course

Questions

1. Will this program change meet local, state, regional, and national educational and cultural needs? If so, please describe. It will meet these needs by preparing community college administrators who are able to function more effectively in their leadership roles.

2. Will this program change result in duplication in the System? If so, please describe. No

3. Will this program change/advance student diversity within the discipline? If so, please describe. No

4. Will this program change result in an increase in the potential placement of graduates in MS, the Southeast, and the U.S.? If so, please describe. The change may increase placement by better preparing graduates to meet the needs of community colleges who are looking to hire new administrators.

5. Will this program change result in an increase in the potential salaries of graduates in MS, the Southeast, and the U.S.? If so, please describe. The change may result in an increase in salaries if community college employees who graduate from the program are able to move into administrator positions or if graduates outside of the community college system are able to secure advanced levels of employment in community colleges.

SUPPORT

A letter of support from the department faculty is included with the course proposal. The letter was written by the degree program coordinator and contains the names and signatures of all the department faculty.

In addition, copies of the emails sent to the department heads in the departments whose courses are being deleted from the program are included. These include Political Science and Public Administration as well as Agricultural Economics.

No changes in support, including personnel and material requirements, are anticipated.

PROPOSED 4-LETTER ABBREVIATION

No change
COURSES AND THEIR CATALOG DESCRIPTIONS

CCL 8113 Community College History/Philosophy: 3 hours. Three hours lecture. Objectives of the community college, philosophical/historical bases, changing roles, issues in higher education/workforce development/economic industry

CCL 8373 Community College Curriculum Improvement: 3 hours. Three hours lecture. Comprehensive overview of community college curriculum improvement; theory and perspectives, contemporary curriculum, curriculum design and assessment, and curricular innovation

CCL 8123 Community College Finance: 3 hours. Three hours lecture. Analyzes tools, methods, problems in community college financial management, revenue sources, budget preparation, risk management, purchasing, employee compensation

CCL 8233 Community College Legal Issues: 3 hours. Three hours lecture. In-depth analysis of the legal/policy issues pertaining to students, faculty, and administrators of community colleges

CCL 8283 Leadership in Community College Administration: 3 hours. Three hours lecture. Nature and types of leadership and foundation theories. Uses of theory in administrative problem solving by applying models to community college mission, organization, and academe

CCL 8333 Community College Administration: 3 hours. Three hours lecture. In-depth analysis of community college governance, structure, functions, and its relationship with external groups, state government

CCL 8353 Applications of Organizational Theory and Behavior in Community College Leadership: 3 hours. Three hours lecture. Nature and types of community college leadership and foundation theories for understanding and managing modern organizations in relation to community college mission, organization, and academe

CCL 8383 Ethical Decision Making in Community College Administration: 3 hours. Three hours lecture. Ancient, modern, and postmodern ethical theory. Case studies used to analyze ethical decisions. Multiple decision models and ethical concepts applied to problems and moral dilemmas

EDA 8323 Educational Facilities Design: 3 hours. Three hours lecture. Studies design issues in learning environments/facilities, examines contemporary design models, their impact on learning, and uses this information in the design process

CCL 8153 Human Resources Administration: 3 hours. Examines the role of the human resources administrator on workforce education leadership; key administrative functions, workforce development, benefits and compensation, and employee relations are analyzed

HED 8673 Planning and Institutional Research in Higher Education: 3 hours. Three hours lecture. An overview of planning models and approaches, effective reporting techniques, and common functions carried out by institutional research offices. Focus is on concepts, methodologies, research practices, and information systems that support institutional decision-making for improvements

CCL 8343 Community Development and Resources: 3 hours. In-depth analysis of community environment in which community colleges serve, including strategic planning, asset mapping, project development, resources and grant writing, and project evaluation
PPA 9613 Rural Government Administration I: Theoretical and Environmental Aspects: 3 hours. (Prerequisite: Consent of the Instructor). A seminar dealing with the principles of democratic theory as they affect the role of government and citizens' participation in government in rural settings

PPA 9623 Rural Government Administration II: Implementation Aspects: 3 hours. (Prerequisite: Consent of the Instructor). A seminar dealing with program implementation by rural and small town governments, including adoption and diffusion of management innovation by public administrators as change agents

PPA 8733 Public Program Evaluation: 3 hours. Techniques and analytical methods of assessing governmental program success. Special emphasis will be given to program designs, data collection and quantitative applications

AEC 6353 Introduction to Regional Economic Development: 3 hours. (Prerequisites: EC 2113, EC 2123, and MA 1463 or consent of instructor). Three hours lecture. Regional economic differences; location theory (industrial, agricultural, and residential); Land use patterns; Regional structure, growth and methods of analysis; National assistance for regional economic development. (Same as EC 6313)

AEC 6323 Applied Region Econ Dev: 3 hours. (Prerequisite: AEC 6313). Economic analysis and effects of regional resources and development potentials, economic factors affecting industrial location decisions, planning and organization of industrial development

AEC 8713 Rural Community and Economic Development: 3 hours. Three hours lecture. The central focus in this course is on the set of social and economic components that constitute the fabric of rural communities in the U.S

EPY 6214 Educational and Psychological Statistics: 4 hours. Three hours lecture and three hours laboratory. A course in statistics for education and educational psychology majors. Analysis, description of and inference from various types of data

EPY 8214 Advanced Educational and Psychological Statistics: 4 hours. (Prerequisite: EPY 4214/6214 or its equivalent.) Three hours lecture and three hours laboratory. A survey of advanced statistical methods with emphasis upon the design and analysis of research problems in education and psychology

EDF 9373 Educational Research Design: 3 hours. (Prerequisites: EDF 8363 and EPY 8214 or equivalents; consent of instructor). Three hours lecture. A study of various designs of research and preparation of research proposals

EDF 9453 Introduction to Qualitative Research in Education: 3 hours. (Prerequisites: EPY 8214, EDF 9373). Three hours lecture. Introduction to qualitative research, including theoretical considerations and applied methods, techniques, and analysis of field-based educational research

CCL 9000 Dissertation Research/ Dissertation in Community College Leadership: 1-13 hours. Hours and credits to be arranged
LETTER OF SUPPORT

TO: Box Council and UCCC Committee Members

FROM: Stephanie B. King

RE: Support of Program Modification: Community College Leadership PhD

DATE: 11/13/17

This letter of support is offered by the Department of Educational Leadership faculty for the proposed modifications of the Community College Leadership PhD. As indicated by the signatures below, a majority of the program area faculty have approved the proposal as written for submission to the Box Council and the UCCC.

Department Faculty

Stephanie King 11/13/17

Linda Coats 11/14/17

Mark Fincher 11/13/17

Angela Farmer 11/7/17

Leigh Ann Hailey 11/7/17

Penny Wallin 11/12/17

Danielle Molina 11/11/2017

Email approval sent to Stephanie King 11/15/17

Leonard Taylor [Date]
From: Coble, Keith  
Sent: Monday, November 13, 2017 10:52 PM  
To: Moyen, Eric <emoyen@colled.msstate.edu>  
Subject: RE: CCL PhD Classes

Thank you for the heads up. I will share with our faculty.

From: Moyen, Eric  
Sent: Friday, November 10, 2017 1:04 PM  
To: Coble, Keith <Coble@agecon.msstate.edu>  
Subject: CCL PhD Classes

Dr. Coble,
We are in the process of revising our curriculum for the PhD in Community College Leadership. We feel like the 76 hours we require is hurting our recruitment efforts, so we are pairing down courses. I wanted to let you know that we are planning on removing AEC 6353, AEC 6323, and AEC 8713 as required classes. While the number of doctoral students we currently have is minimal, I wanted to give you a “heads up” with regard to future planning in those classes. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,
Eric

Eric Moyen, Ph.D.
Associate Professor & Department Head
Educational Leadership
Mississippi State University
emoyen@colled.msstate.edu
662.325.0969
From: French, Eddie
Sent: Friday, November 10, 2017 6:19 PM
To: Moyen, Eric <emoyen@colled.msstate.edu>
Subject: Re: CCL PhD Classes

Thanks for the update.

P. Edward French, Ph.D.
Professor & Department Head
Political Science and Public Administration
Mississippi State University

On Nov 10, 2017, at 1:06 PM, Moyen, Eric <emoyen@colled.msstate.edu> wrote:

Dr. French,
We are in the process of revising our curriculum for the PhD in Community College Leadership. We feel like the 76 hours we require is hurting our recruitment efforts, so we are pairing down courses. I wanted to let you know that we are planning on removing PPA 9613, PPA 9623, and PPA 8733 as required classes. While the number of doctoral students we currently have is minimal, I wanted to give you a "heads up" with regard to future planning in those classes. If you have any questions, please let me know.
Thanks,
Eric

Eric Moyen, Ph.D.
Associate Professor & Department Head
Educational Leadership
Mississippi State University
emoyen@colled.msstate.edu
662.325.0969