

## **Teacher Education Council**

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 23, 2024

3:30 p.m.

Zoom

**Members Present:** Dr. Marty Hatton, Dr. Bob Fuller, Dr. Kelly Ballard, Ms. Georgia Graham, Ms. Penny Mansell, Ms. Malinda Dale, Dr. Brian Anderson, Dr. Bonnie Oppenheimer

**Members Present via Zoom:** Dr. Christy Adams, Dr. Kristi DiClemente, Dr. Valentin Bogden (proxy for Dr. Julia Mortykova), Mr. David Carter

**Guests:** Dr. Ross Whitwam

### **1.0 Call to Order**

Dr. Marty Hatton, Chair of the Teacher Education Council, called the meeting to order. He stated that our two student members were not able to attend this meeting, but the undergraduate representative is Jayde Richardson and the graduate representative is Andriana Jefferson. There are typically two external members, however neither external committee has met this year as there is a bit of restructuring. They should be present at the next meeting.

### **2.0 Approval of May 1, 2024 Minutes**

Dr. Bonnie Oppenheimer approved the minutes from the May 1, 2024 meeting and Dr. Christy Adams seconded. The minutes were approved as printed.

### **3.0 New Business**

#### **3.1 ED 304 and ED 360 course level change**

The proposed recommendation is to reclassify ED 304 and ED 360 as 200-level courses, similar to the reclassification previously implemented with ED 200. This recommendation aligns with our partnerships with community colleges. This would allow for at least three compatible courses that students could transfer and since state assessments are not attached to either course, it should be a fairly seamless process.

Additionally, this could result in applications including potential dual credit and dual enrollment options through partnerships. These moves offer significant mutual benefits across our education programs.

Concerns were raised by Dr. Valentin Bogden regarding course sequencing and prerequisites, specifically about whether reclassified courses might be taken earlier in a program without disrupting progression in related, higher-level courses or impacting state-assessed courses. Dr. Hatton stated that due to these courses not having key assessments attached, they would function much like ED 200.

Motion to proceed with the proposal was made by Ms. Georgia Graham and seconded by Dr. Kelly Ballard. The motion carried without opposition.

### **3.2 ED 361 and ED 362 Updates**

Course description updates were submitted prior to the meeting for ED 361 and ED 362. These two reading courses are specific to Elementary Education and the course descriptions will align them more closely with MDE requirements. Ms. Penny Mansell made a motion that the submitted course proposals be accepted as written, with Georgia Graham giving the second. The course descriptions were unanimously approved.

### **3.3 Secondary/Specialty Methods Updates**

Dr. Anderson submitted changes to 8 Methods and Materials courses, specifically addressing Methods courses in history, music (3 courses), biology, physical science, mathematics, and theatre. These courses required updates as their descriptions did not align consistently with the Teacher Education Handbook policies. Additional changes included setting a minimum grade of "C" and specifying required field experience hours. Also, the music and theatre courses were modified to include admission to the Teacher Education program as a prerequisite.

Two courses are not included in this current update: English and Spanish. In the Handbook, the courses are listed as totaling 22 field experience hours instead of 10 field experience hours like the other secondary/specialty courses. For English, the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) mandates a minimum of 10 weeks of field experience, though no specific guidelines were referenced pertaining to field experience hours prior to internship. Dr. Figgins and Ms. Holloway are looking up additional information for their respective areas. If information is received prior to the presentation to UCC on November 1<sup>st</sup>, an email will be sent out for an electronic vote on the final two proposals.

A motion to accept the proposed modifications to the eight programs was made by Dr. Bonnie Oppenheimer and seconded by Dr. Bob Fuller, passing without opposition.

### **3.4 Early Childhood Education**

The proposed changes were submitted prior to the meeting for changing the Early Childhood Development program to an Early Childhood Education with an option for licensure. This curriculum closely aligns with the Elementary Education curriculum and will contain the same key and program assessments. However, methods coursework will be more focused on early childhood learning and development, as well as a course regarding family engagement and leading early childhood programs. Dr. Ballard made a motion to accept the proposed changes and program and Dr. Anderson gave the second. The proposed changes carried.

#### **4.0 Licensure/Field Experience Update**

The semester is proceeding smoothly. Internship applications for the Spring 2025 semester are due soon, and advisors should ensure their eligible advisees submit these applications if they plan to intern next semester. All Teacher Education applications need to be completed as well.

Interns are in Phase 2 of their program, and a mid-semester seminar went well. The seminar focused on areas where students have demonstrated a need for additional support, based on constructive feedback from schools and mentor teachers. Dr. Ballard reminded everyone if they had any questions or needed any clarifications regarding field experience, to reach out.

#### **5.0 Accreditation/Accountability Report**

The primary focus currently is Program Review. Most programs have a little bit of time, but Dr. Hatton reminded everyone that this is the first data collection semester for the next CAEP site visit.

#### **6.0 MAT Forms**

It has been noted that for the Accelerated MAT, there is no place on the form for all courses. Ms. Christi Dillon is in the process of getting those updated and will send them out soon. Dr. Hatton reminded everyone that if a student has a 3.0 or better, they can take 2 graduate classes their senior year. If they have a 3.5 or better, they can take 4 MAT courses (the MAT accelerated program mirrors the business accelerated program).

With no further business to discuss, the meeting concluded at 4:32 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mrs. Brittany Hunnicutt.