

# Graduate Committee Meeting

Agenda

AY 2023-2024

Meeting Time 10:00 am – 12:00 pm



## Graduate Committee Meeting November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

- 1) Chairs Call to Order
- 2) Roll Call

Members:	College:	Present/Absent
Wanrong Hou	Business and Entrepreneurship	Absent
Dumitru Caruntu	Engineering and Computer Science	Present
Michelle Abrego	Education and P-16 Integration	Present
Katrina Roush	Fine Arts	Present
Lisa Salinas	Health Professions	Absent
Rebecca Hernandez	School of Nursing	Present
Kimberly Selber	Liberal Arts, Chair	Present
Wei Lin	College of Science	Absent
Candace Robledo	School of Medicine	Present
Denise Longoria	School of Social Work	Present
VACANT	University Library	
Can (John) Saygin	Graduate College, Ex Officio	Absent
Laura Saenz	Curriculum & Institutional Assessment Office, Ex Officio	Present

- 3) Old Business: Review of Minutes from October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, meeting (Please respond via Teams regarding any revisions needed to the minutes. If no revisions are requested, then the minutes will be accepted through consent.)

- 4) New Business: Review of Submissions

### a. College of Engineering and Computer Science

#### i. Department of Civil Engineering

##### 1. Change Course, Delete Course, Change Program – Jongmin Kim

Name	Type	Comment	Effective Year
<a href="#">CIVE 7100 Thesis/Comprehensive Exam Continuation</a>	Change Course	Proposal to change the grading basis from Pass/Fail to Credit/No Credit. There is a reduction of max hours from 3 to 2.	Spring 2024

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<a href="#">CIVE 6351 Advanced Pavement Design and Analysis</a>	Delete Course	This course hasn't been taught in 4+ years. Per THECB rules, this course will be removed from the inventory.	<b>Fall 2024</b>
<a href="#">Civil Engineering (MS)</a>	Change Program	Proposal to change the exit option for Non-thesis from Written Comprehensive Exam to a Technical Report. <b>An MDA will be submitted to allow all previous catalogs to take the technical report as an exit option for the Non-thesis option.</b> CIVE 6351 is being removed from the prescribed electives section, as it has been untaught for 4+ years.	<b>Spring 2024</b>

**Motion to approve change: Dimitru Caruntu**

**Second: Katrina Roush**

**Motion Passes**

**Notes:** Is it going to be okay with SACSCOC changing the exit requirement? It will not be impacting anything with SACSCOC. What constitutes a technical report? There is a paper that will meet a master level paper. It will be similar to a thesis, but it will be done in one course and in collaboration with the faculty teaching the course. Will this requirement of the technical report be applied to those in previous catalogs? Many students are about to graduate, so its won't impact many students. There are about 3 students that will be allowed to take the technical report. Any student that has not taken the written comprehension exam will be able to take the technical report. How are faculty and the experience of the technical report be done so its standard? It was agreed upon by all faculty in the department committee, and the faculty, GPC, and the chair of the department will be reviewing the report as a checks and balances. The process will be implemented as students start completing the requirement. Since this program already has a thesis, it is doable. Is the rule that the college that you can't force students to take 1-hour courses that are not applicable only to your college? It's a rule at the college level, but it is mostly a financial aid issue. Is the technical paper like a take home exam they complete on their own? The report can be done in any course in the program, and it will be run by the faculty, GPC, and the chair. Were there challenges with the written comprehension exam? Most of the non-thesis students are already in the field so they have issues with passing the exam. We have about a 70% pass rate, but it became difficult to enforce taking a 1-hour course to complete the requirement. There are some students who have failed it twice, and it has become a bigger problem. The department reached out to the Graduate College, and they recommended the change. Per Graduate College, it is not an issue to force a student to take 1-hour course due to the continuous enrollment policy that requires students to be enrolled to complete the program requirements. The primary problem is when students repeatedly fail the exam but have high grades, so it becomes hard for them to graduate. The Graduate College and the department came together to understand what the written comprehension exam is trying to assess, this report is going to cover the needed assessment for the field. What happens when students fail the technical report? It hasn't been internally discussed, but there are other

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courses the student can complete the requirement. The OCIA will update the course name of CIVE 7100 to Thesis continuation since there will no longer be a written comprehensive exam and remove the information about the exam on the course description.

### b. College of Education & P-16 Integration

#### i. Department of Human Development & School Services

##### 1. New Program – Paul Sale

Name	Type	Comment	Effective Year
<a href="#">Educational Diagnostician Certification - Online Program</a>	New Program	Proposal to add a new 15 hour certificate.	<b>Summer 2024</b>
Educational Diagnostician (M.Ed.)	Delete Program	Proposal to remove this dormant program. Since this program currently doesn't have a catalog page, we could not submit a form for the deletion.	<b>Spring 2024</b>

**Motion to approve change: Dimitru Caruntu**

**Second: Michelle Abrego**

**Motion Passes**

**Notes:** The name of the certificate should have been Educational Diagnostician Certification – Online Program. The agenda that was sent and presented to the committee has the incorrect name of Educational Diagnostician Certificate. How many students do you anticipate having? Initially probably 15 – 20 in a cohort. It should hold steady, but we haven't looked at all the data. How do you work with districts to know what courses to offer? The course sequence is on par with what is done in the discipline. If a student takes the certification, will it be competitive? Since this to sit for a license that is what will make it competitive. Federal laws are very strict on this licensing and schools are in great need for these types of students. Are students going to have a practicum to get the experience? Students will need to have an agreement with a school district to get their materials and experience. Does TEA require the certification to be attached to a master's or is it okay for it to be attached to a bachelors? It is currently not known if a student can have only a bachelors, but currently the admission requirements require a masters. For a certificate, does the university cover the cost? Students are not eligible for financial aid only when it's a standalone certificate that is not embedded in the master's program. The funding of the course itself is not impacted in any way. Per financial aid, there are some certificates that do get formula funding, and some don't. Financial aid is working on getting clarification for formula funding. Is this program going to be AOP or Traditional Online? It's only going to be Traditional Online.

### 5. Announcements or Other Informational Items

#### a. Next meeting – December 8th

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The University of Texas  
**Rio Grande Valley**

**6. Adjournment - 10:48 am**