SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS

Substantive Program Modification Form

UNIVERSITY:	**SDSU**
CURRENT PROGRAM DEGREE:	**Master of Education (M.Ed.)**
CURRENT PROGRAM MAJOR/MINOR:	**Curriculum & Instruction**
CURRENT SPECIALIZATION:	– **Early Childhood Education** – **Elementary Education** – **Secondary Education**
CIP CODE:	**13.0301**
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	**School of Education, Counseling & Human Development**
BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:	**SECH**
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE:	**College of Education & Human Sciences**
BANNER COLLEGE CODE:	**3H**

University Approval
To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

Dennis D. Hedge — Vice President of Academic Affairs or President of the University

4/24/2024 — Date

1. This modification addresses a change in:

☒	Total credits required within the discipline	☐	Total credits of supportive course work
☒	Total credits of elective course work	☒	Total credits required for program
☐	Program name	☐	Existing specialization
☐	CIP Code	☒	Other: Reactivate Program Code to Allow Graduates and Remove Specializations

☒ Modification requiring Board of Regents approval
Must have prior approval from Executive Director or designee

2. Effective date of change: 2024-2025 Academic Year

3. Program Degree Level:
Associate ☐ Bachelor's ☐ Master's ☒ Doctoral ☐

4. Category:
Certificate ☐ Specialization ☒ Minor ☐ Major ☒

5. If a name change is proposed, the change will occur:
☐ On the effective date for all students
☐ On the effective date for students new to the program (enrolled students will graduate from existing program)

Proposed new name:

6. **Is the program being modified associated with a current articulation agreement?**

   Yes ☐ No ☒

   a. **If yes, will the articulation agreement need to be updated with the partner institution following the approve of the program change? Please explain:**

7. **Primary Aspects of the Modification:**

Existing Curriculum				*Proposed Curriculum (highlight changes)*			
Pref.	**Num.**	**Title**	**Cr. Hrs.**	**Pref.**	**Num.**	**Title**	**Cr. Hrs.**
		Curriculum & Instruction Core Requirements				Curriculum & Instruction Requirements	
EDER	610	Introduction to Research	3	EDER	610	Introduction to Research	3
				EDER	612	Inquiry and Action Research	3
EDFN	600	Advanced Pedagogy	3	EDFN	600	Educational Theory in Practice	3
				EDFN	700	Exceptional Learners	3
EDFN	725	Education in a Pluralistic Society	3	EDFN	725	Education in a Pluralistic Society	3
EDFN	730	Current Issues in Education	3	EDFN	730	Current Issues in Education	3
EPSY	740	Advanced Educational Psychology	3	EPSY	740	Educational Psychology: Cognition, Learning and Applications	3
						Thesis	
				EDFN	798	Thesis	6
						ECE, EDER, EDFN, AGED, EDAD, EPSY, FCSE, or HDFS Electives	3
						Non-Thesis	
						ECE, EDER, EDFN, AGED, EDAD, EPSY, FCSE, or HDFS Electives	9
		Specialization Requirements				~~Specialization Requirements~~	
		Elementary Education Specialization				~~**Elementary Education Specialization**~~	
		Select 9 credits from the following: EDER 612 Inquiry & Action Research (3) EDER 711 Educational Assessment (3) EDFN 700 Exceptional Learners (3) EDFN 750 Educational Technology (3)	9			~~Select 9 credits from the following:~~ ~~EDER 612 Inquiry & Action Research (3)~~ ~~EDER 711 Educational Assessment (3)~~ ~~EDFN 700 Exceptional Learners (3)~~ ~~EDFN 750 Educational Technology (3)~~	~~9~~
		Select one of the following options:				~~Select one of the following options:~~	
		Option A –Thesis				~~***Option A – Thesis***~~	
EDFN	798	Thesis	5	~~EDFN~~	~~798~~	~~Thesis~~	~~5~~
		Approved Electives	1			~~Approved Electives~~	~~1~~
		Option B- Research/Design Paper				~~***Option B – Research/Design Paper***~~	
EDER	788	Master's Research Problems/Projects	3	~~EDER~~	~~788~~	~~Master's Research Problems/Projects~~	~~3~~
		Approved Electives	3			~~Approved Electives~~	~~5~~
		Option C – Coursework Only				~~***Option C – Coursework Only***~~	
		Approved Electives	8			~~Approved Electives~~	~~8~~
		Secondary Education Specialization				~~**Secondary Education Specialization**~~	
		Select 9 credits from the following: EDER 612 Inquiry & Action Research (3) EDER 711 Educational Assessment (3) EDFN 700 Exceptional Learners (3) EDFN 750 Educational Technology (3)	9			~~Select 9 credits from the following:~~ ~~EDER 612 Inquiry & Action Research (3)~~ ~~EDER 711 Educational Assessment (3)~~ ~~EDFN 700 Exceptional Learners (3)~~ ~~EDFN 750 Educational Technology (3)~~	~~9~~
		Select one of the following options:				~~Select one of the following options:~~	
		Option A –Thesis				~~***Option A – Thesis***~~	
EDFN	798	Thesis	5	~~EDFN~~	~~798~~	~~Thesis~~	~~5~~
		Approved Electives	1			~~Approved Electives~~	~~1~~
		Option B- Research/Design Paper				~~***Option B – Research/Design Paper***~~	

Existing Curriculum				*Proposed Curriculum (highlight changes)*			
EDER	788	Master's Research Problems/Projects	3	~~EDER~~	~~788~~	~~Master's Research Problems/Projects~~	~~3~~
		Approved Electives	5			~~Approved Electives~~	~~5~~
		Option C – Coursework Only				~~***Option C – Coursework Only***~~	
		Approved Electives	8			~~Approved Electives~~	~~8~~
		Early Childhood Education Specialization				~~**Early Childhood Education Specialization**~~	
ECE or EDFN	794 794	Internship (2) Internship (2)	2	~~ECE or EDFN~~	~~794~~ ~~794~~	~~Internship (2)~~ ~~Internship (2)~~	~~2~~
EDFN	701	Capstone	1	~~EDFN~~	~~701~~	~~Capstone~~	~~1~~
		Select <u>one</u> of the following options:				~~Select one of the following options:~~	
		Option A –Thesis				~~***Option A – Thesis***~~	
EDFN	798	Thesis	5	~~EDFN~~	~~798~~	~~Thesis~~	~~5~~
EDER OR EDER	612 614	Inquiry & Action Research (3) Advanced Educational Research Design and Analysis (3)	3	~~EDER OR EDER~~	~~612~~ ~~614~~	~~Inquiry & Action Research (3)~~ ~~Advanced Educational Research Design and Analysis (3)~~	~~3~~
		Select <u>6</u> credits of the following: ECE 711 Development Theory and Application (3) ECE 715 Cognitive Development (3) EDER 711 Educational Assessment (3) EDFN 700 Exceptional Learners (3) EDFN 750 Educational Technology (3) HDFS 742 Family Theory and Research (3)	6			~~Select 6 credits of the following:~~ ~~ECE 711 Development Theory and Application (3)~~ ~~ECE 715 Cognitive Development (3)~~ ~~EDER 711 Educational Assessment (3)~~ ~~EDFN 700 Exceptional Learners (3)~~ ~~EDFN 750 Educational Technology (3)~~ ~~HDFS 742 Family Theory and Research (3)~~	~~6~~
		Approved Electives	1			~~Approved Electives~~	~~1~~
		Option B- Research/Design Paper				~~***Option B- Research/Design Paper***~~	
EDER	788	Master's Research Problems/Projects	3	~~EDER~~	~~788~~	~~Master's Research Problems/Projects~~	~~3~~
		Select <u>9</u> credits from the following: ECE 711 Development Theory and Application (3) ECE 715 Cognitive Development (3) EDER 612 Inquiry & Action Research (3) EDER 711 Educational Assessment (3) EDFN 750 Educational Technology (3) HDFS 742 Family Theory and Research (3)	9			~~Select 9 credits from the following:~~ ~~ECE 711 Development Theory and Application (3)~~ ~~ECE 715 Cognitive Development (3)~~ ~~EDER 612 Inquiry & Action Research (3)~~ ~~EDER 711 Educational Assessment (3)~~ ~~EDFN 750 Educational Technology (3)~~ ~~HDFS 742 Family Theory and Research (3)~~	~~9~~
		Approved Electives	5			~~Approved Electives~~	~~5~~
		Option C – Coursework Only				~~***Option C – Coursework Only***~~	
		Select <u>9</u> credits from the following: ECE 711 Development Theory and Application (3) ECE 715 Cognitive Development (3) EDER 612 Inquiry & Action Research (3) EDER 711 Educational Assessment (3) EDFN 750 Educational Technology (3) HDFS 742 Family Theory and Research (3)	9			~~Select 9 credits from the following:~~ ~~ECE 711 Development Theory and Application (3)~~ ~~ECE 715 Cognitive Development (3)~~ ~~EDER 612 Inquiry & Action Research (3)~~ ~~EDER 711 Educational Assessment (3)~~ ~~EDFN 750 Educational Technology (3)~~ ~~HDFS 742 Family Theory and Research (3)~~	~~9~~
		Approved Electives	11			~~Approved Electives~~	~~11~~
		Total number of hours required for degree Option A Option B Option C	 30 32 35			Total number of hours required for degree Thesis Non-Thesis	 30 30

8. Explanation of the Change:

The School of Education, Counseling and Human Development has reviewed the Curriculum and Instruction (M.Ed.) program. SDSU has offered specializations in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, and Secondary Education under the M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction. Students were required to graduate with one of the three specializations. The required core coursework shared by all three existing specializations prepared students to pursue careers that include Pre-K through grade 12. However, graduates with the "age group" specialization may be considered by potential employers as only being prepared to work in that particular age group. This modification will reactivate the M.Ed. Curriculum and Instruction program code to allow graduates and remove the three specializations. The C&I program will focus fully on pedagogical strategies rather than specific age group specializations. Through elective coursework students will still have the option to pursue electives in specific areas of interest.

The three specializations currently have SDBOR approval for online delivery. The M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction will continue to be offered online.

In addition, the SDSU Graduate School has revised SDSU Policy 2:17 Credit Requirements for Graduate Credential Programs. The Graduate School adjusted the language to no longer refer to master's programs using Option A (Thesis Option), B (Research/Design Paper Option), C (Coursework Only), and D (Coursework Only – Professional Program) but to move forward with Thesis and Non-Thesis options that will require a minimum of 30 credits. The School of Education, Counseling and Human Development has requested to change the non-thesis option from 32 credits (Option B) and 35 credits (Option C) to 30 credits.

For substantial modifications requiring Board approval, complete the items below. References to external sources should be documented with a footnote (including web addresses where applicable).

9. Date of approval from the Executive Director or designee.

   March 13, 2024

10. Identify the program modification requested.

    This modification will reactivate the M.Ed. Curriculum and Instruction program code [SMED.CI] to allow graduates, remove the three specializations [SMED.CI-ECE, SMED.CI-ELE, SMED.CI-SED], and reduce the program to 30 credits.

    The three specializations currently have SDBOR approval for online delivery. The M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction will continue to be offered online.

11. Provide justification for the desired modification.

    SDSU has offered specializations in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, and Secondary Education under the M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction. Students were required to graduate with one of the three specializations. The required core coursework shared by all three existing specializations prepared students to pursue careers that include Pre-K through grade 12. However, graduates with the "age group" specialization may be considered by potential employers as only being prepared to work in that particular age group. This modification will reactivate the M.Ed. Curriculum and Instruction program code to allow graduates and remove the three specializations. The C&I program will focus fully on pedagogical strategies rather

than specific age group specializations. Through elective coursework students will still have the option to pursue electives in specific areas of interest.

The following courses as core requirements for all three existing specializations (Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Secondary Education) will continue as core requirements for the proposed C&I:

- EDER 610 Introduction to Research (3 cr.)
- EDFN 600 Educational Theory in Action (3 cr.)
- EDFN 725 Education in a Pluralistic Society (3 cr.)
- EDFN 730 Current Issues in Education (COM) (3 cr.)
- EDFN 740 Educational Psychology: Cognition, Learning and Applications (3 cr.)

The following courses which are not core requirements for any of the existing C&I specializations will be added as core requirements for the proposed C&I:

- EDER 612 Inquiry and Action Research (3 cr.) - Action research refers to practicing teachers conducting research. Teachers should view themselves as professionals who continuously develop their skills by researching their practice. This course helps to develop those skills as leaders and professionals.
- EDFN 700 Exceptional Learners (3 cr.) - At a graduate level, a curriculum and instruction program which develops teacher leadership skills benefits from coursework in working with exceptional learners. This background is helpful for teachers in schools working with a variety of learners.

EDFN 798 Thesis increased from 5 to 6 credits. The increase in required thesis credits by 1 credit better aligns with the depth and breadth associated with the thesis option for this program.

To allow students flexibility in pursuing specific topics of interest, students will be allowed to select electives from certain prefixes vs. a specific list of courses.

In addition, the SDSU Graduate School has revised SDSU Policy 2:17 Credit Requirements for Graduate Credential Programs. The Graduate School adjusted the language to no longer refer to master's programs using Option A (Thesis Option), B (Research/Design Paper Option), C (Coursework Only), and D (Coursework Only – Professional Program) but to move forward with Thesis and Non-Thesis options that will require a minimum of 30 credits. The School of Education, Counseling and Human Development has requested to change the non-thesis option from 32 credits (Option B) and 35 credits (Option C) to 30 credits.

12. Would the requested modification require a change to the catalog description and/or the program learning outcomes? If so, describe.

    The catalog will be updated to no longer present three separate specializations. The current student learning outcomes will remain the same.

13. Indicate the number of students currently enrolled in the program.

    Academic year 2023-2024 Enrollment Data from SDBOR Edify, accessed February 1, 2024:

    - Curriculum and Instruction – Early Childhood Education Specialization (MED.CI-ECE) = 5
    - Curriculum and Instruction – Elementary Education Specialization (MED.CI-ELE) = 5
    - Curriculum and Instruction – Secondary Education Specialization (MED.CI-SED) = 12

14. Describe the real impact to students.

    Students in the online Curriculum and Instruction program were required to graduate with one of the three specializations in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, and Secondary Education. The required core coursework shared by all three existing specializations prepared students to pursue careers that include Pre-K through grade 12. However, graduates with the "age group" specialization may be considered by potential employers as only being prepared to work in that particular age group. This modification will reactivate the M.Ed. Curriculum and Instruction program code to allow graduates and remove the three specializations. The C&I program will focus fully on pedagogical strategies rather than specific age group specializations. Through elective coursework students will still have the option to pursue electives in specific areas of interest.

15. Describe the real impact to the university.

    The non-thesis option has been reduced from 32 credits (Option B) and 35 credits (Option C) to 30 credits. The decrease in credits increases the competitiveness of the program with potential to increase current enrollment. The largest impact will be positive in that the school will be better able to recruit and retain students who wish to pursue the M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction.

16. Describe any cost associated with the program modification.

    No cost will be associated with this modification.

17. Describe any risks and unintended consequences associated with the program modification.

    The school anticipates no risks or unintended consequences with the modification.

18. Would this modification be effective for current and future students, or only students who enroll following the change?

    This modification will be effective for new students in the 2024-2025 academic catalog. Following SDBOR Policy 2.6.2 existing students may elect a catalog of graduation that is later than their initial catalog.