

**GSC CURRICULAR PROPOSAL FORM**  
**CURRICULAR PROPOSAL 2010-2011**  
**DEPARTMENT/SCHOOL: Education**

**Overview:** Change the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) finishing courses in the area of diversity and curriculum and replace them with courses that offer a deeper understanding of pedagogy for MAT candidates in the Multiple and Single Subject credential programs. After students have completed the preliminary credential they complete an additional 13 hours with at least one course focusing on diversity (proposal 1) and the other on curriculum (proposal 2).

Proposal I: To change the diversity course requirement from either GED 641 or GED609 **COLLABORATIVE AND RESPONSIVE LEADERSHIP** to either GED 641 or an already existing SOE course - GED 668 Bilingual Education and Specially Designed Academic Instruction (3 units).

Proposal II: To change the curriculum course requirement from choosing either GED 692 Standards, Assessment and Instruction: Comprehending and Composing Written Language (3 units) or GED 616 Curriculum Development, Innovation, and Evaluation (3 units) to now require GED616 of all students.

Total course additions: None – there are no new courses proposed

Total course deletions: None – there are no courses being eliminated from the catalog.

Total unit additions: none

Total unit deletions: none

Staffing increase/decrease: N/A

Library resourcing impact: N/A

Net Financial impact: N/A

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Signature Dean of the School/ Department Chair

## **SOE Program: Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)**

### **BACKGROUND:**

Rationale: In Summer of 2009, the School of Education (SOE) received approval from the GSC, the PLNU faculty, and WASC to begin offering the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT). The MAT degree has two phases – 33 semester hours in phase I for the preliminary teaching credentials in Multiple and Single Subject and then phase two requires 13 semester hours of finishing courses.

This proposal does not address the two Special Education (Mild-Moderate and Moderate-Severe) credentials as they require 6 more hours of coursework for the preliminary credentials than the Multiple Subjects and Single Subjects, so the finishing courses for the Special Education options are just 7 hours instead of 13. All four options of the MAT require a total of 46 semester hours to complete both the preliminary credential and the degree.

Upon completion of the inaugural year of the MAT, the SOE has reflected upon the finishing courses (13 units) and their effectiveness in preparing candidates for service in public school classrooms. At all regional centers (Mission Valley, Corona, Arcadia and Bakersfield), feedback regarding candidates' preparation for classroom service in school districts was examined. Advisory councils at each regional center (comprised of local superintendents, principals, and curricular leaders) emphasized the need for candidates to be prepared for the complex needs of the public school classroom. These stakeholders specifically stated the need for candidate understanding of how to link provided curriculum with their own skills and disposition. GED 616 directly relates to the skill set.

By the completion of her/his credential, each MAT candidate has completed the four California Teacher Performance Assessment (TPA) tasks. These tasks measure the candidate's preparedness to assess, diagnose, plan and teach students. The aggregated data for the TPAs across all regional centers showed that, while candidates are strong in these skills overall, the greatest area of weakness was in providing instruction for English Learners. GED 668 and GED 641 directly address these skills.

Table 1 below shows the finishing course requirements for the Multiple and Single Subject credentials.

### **PROPOSAL I:**

The Diversity requirement in the MAT program currently requires that MAT students choose between GED 641 School Communities in a Pluralistic Society (3 units) **OR** GED 609 Collaborative and Responsive Leadership (3 units).

Proposal: To change the second course from GED609 to GED 668 Bilingual Education and Specially Designed Academic Instruction (3 units). GED 668 is already offered by the SOE at all three larger regional centers where the MAT program is offered and is a required course in the Cross-Cultural Language and Academic Development (CLAD) Credential.

The SOE believes that GED668 is more appropriate for the MAT candidate as it is more focused on pedagogy for the beginning teacher and would strengthen knowledge and skills for second language learners. While GED 609 does deal with issues of diversity it is a required course in the preliminary Administrative Services credential that prepares principals and is not as appropriate for novice teachers.

This change in program more closely aligns with the learning outcomes and PLOs of the MAT broadly and the finishing courses specifically, as the proposed course sequence more closely aligns with the MAT curricular map.

**PROPOSAL II:**

The curriculum requirement in the MAT Program currently requires that MAT students choose between GED616 Curriculum Development, Innovation, and Evaluation (3 units) **OR** GED 692 Standards, Assessment and Instruction: Comprehending and Composing Written Language (3 units)

The SOE would like to eliminate GED692 as an option for the MAT finishing courses as it does not directly relate to the two areas of need identified by data collection and reflection. GED 616 directly relates to those needs identified by data.

All proposed new offerings are currently located in the PLNU Graduate Catalog.

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<b>Current Offering</b>	<b>Proposed New Offering</b>
GED 672 Philosophy of Education (3 units)	GED 672 Philosophy of Education (3 units) (No Change)
GED 689 Master’s Project (3 units)	GED 689 Master’s Project (3 units) (No Change)
GED 689 Action Research Project Support (1 unit)	GED 689 Action Research Project Support (1 unit) (No Change)
<p><b>Candidates choose either:</b> GED 641 School Communities in a Pluralistic Society (3 units) <b>OR</b> GED 609 Collaborative and Responsive Leadership (3 units) (Delete from MAT Offerings)</p>	<p><b>Candidates choose either:</b> GED 641 School Communities in a Pluralistic Society (3 units) (No Change) <b>OR</b> GED 668 Bilingual Education and Specially Designed Academic Instruction (3 units) (New to MAT)</p>
<p><b>Students choose either:</b> GED 616 Curriculum Development, Innovation, and Evaluation (3 units) <b>OR</b> GED 692 Standards, Assessment and Instruction: Comprehending and Composing Written Language (3 units) (Delete from MAT Offerings)</p>	GED 616 Curriculum Development, Innovation, and Evaluation (3 units) (No Change)