

APPENDIX F
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO PLAN A NEW
DISTANCE EDUCATION DEGREE PROGRAM

THE PURPOSE OF ACADEMIC PROGRAM PLANNING: Planning a distance education degree program provides an opportunity for an institution to make the case for need and demand and for its ability to offer a quality program. This notification and planning activity to follow do not guarantee that authorization to establish will be granted.

Date: Draft 2/1/13

Constituent Institution: East Carolina University
CIP Discipline Specialty Title: Jr. High/Intermediate/Middle School Education and Teaching
CIP Discipline Specialty Number: 13.1203 Level: M
Exact Title of the Proposed Program: Middle Grades Education
Degree Abbreviation: MAEd Proposed Date of Initiation: August 2013

Will this program be completely individual access (e.g., online, videocassette, etc.)? Yes
If "yes," primary mode of delivery: Online

If cohort-based, length of time to complete the sequence (e.g., 18 mos., 2 years): N/A

Substantive change must be reported to the Commission on Colleges of SACS using either the Procedure 1 (report and approval) or Procedure 2 (report) protocol. Which one will apply may depend on the current programs already approved by the Commission on Colleges for the campus.

Site-based (where instructor is present):

Is the institution initiating instruction where student may earn more than 25% and less 50% of credits toward a degree at an off-campus site? (Procedure 2) No
Is the institution initiating an (additional) off-campus site at which students may earn 50% or more of an educational program? (Procedure 1) No
Is the institution adding significantly different degree programs at a currently approved site? (Procedure 2) No

Distance learning (where instructor and student are geographically separated):

Is the institution offering its first credit courses via technology-based instruction by which students can obtain at least 25% of credits toward a degree program? (Procedure 2) No
Is the institution expanding a previously reported program from less than 50% of credits to 50% or more of a degree program? (Procedure 2) No
Is the institution adding a significantly different program from previously reported programs offered via technology-based instruction? (Procedure 2) No

If this action constitutes a substantive change, by what date should SACS be notified? n/a

1. Briefly describe the proposed program and intended audience.

The master of arts in middle grades education degree program allows completion of an advanced degree for individuals who presently hold an initial 6-9 Middle Grades teaching license. This degree program will be available to serve all North Carolina's pre-service and in-service teachers and ultimately serving all citizens of North Carolina by providing higher quality of education for its citizens. The students enrolled in ECU's MAEd in middle grades education program will be able to participate in advanced study of both content and pedagogical issues. As emerging leaders in their schools and districts, students work closely with education faculty to design innovative research projects that contribute to the Middle Grades Education field. A nine-hour content area

strand is selected from areas including courses in advanced methods, gifted education, library science, digital literacy/technology integration, and/or teaching English as a second language.

2. Describe the proposed instructional delivery systems (e.g., on-site instruction, interactive video, Internet, etc., including combinations of these).

The program will be delivered via the Internet utilizing Blackboard as the course management system.

3. Describe need for the program (referencing results of surveys or special studies). If site-based, is any other institution (public or private) offering a similar program in the location(s)? If online, are any other UNC institutions offering a similar online program?

Typically those teachers who are interested in pursuing an MAEd in middle grades education are those individuals who have leadership roles in their schools, districts, and the public school community. Obtaining this degree through online instruction will enhance the opportunities for these working professionals to serve the public schools of North Carolina in important leadership positions. A survey of our current MAEd students indicated an overwhelming preference (98% of respondents) for 100% online instruction for all courses. A 100% online program will allow ECU to better serve both current and potential MAEd students who (1) do not live in close proximity to a UNC campus; (2) work full time and need the flexibility of asynchronous learning; and (3) desire professional growth.

CIP Code	Program Title	Campus
13.1203	Middle Grades Education	NC Central University
13.1206	Middle Grades and Secondary Education	UNC Charlotte

4. Projected total annual enrollment: Years 1 25 2 25 3 25 4 25 5 25

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This intent to plan a new distance education degree program (or program site) has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate campus committees and authorities, including the Chief Academic Officer.