



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

University Council

April 12, 2024

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2023-2024

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Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposal from the Mary Frances Early College of Education to revise the Entrance Requirements and minimum GPA requirement of the major in Communication Sciences and Disorders (B.S.Ed.) will be an agenda item for the April 19, 2024, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Susan Sanchez, Chair

cc: Provost S. Jack Hu

Dr. Marisa Pagnattaro

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH OR CHANGE THE ENTRANCE STATUS AND REQUIREMENTS OF AN UNDERGRADUATE MAJOR

Date: June 9, 2023

School/College: Mary Frances Early College of Education

Department/Division: Communication Sciences and Special Education

Program (Major and Degree): Communication Sciences and Disorders (B.S.Ed.) (CMSD)

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2024

1. Justification

What is the academic justification for instituting the requirement?

The average GPA of students admitted to Communication Sciences and Disorders (B.S.Ed.) for past 6 years has ranged from 3.61 – 3.81. The minimum GPA for application is currently 3.20. A large number of students with significantly lower GPAs than the stated average apply to this high demand major each admissions cycle. The department proposes raising the minimum GPA required for application to the program so that the minimum GPA required is closer to the average GPA of admitted students.

2. Requirements

What specific entrance requirements are proposed?

Applicants to the program must have a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.40.

Entrance Requirements

This is a high demand major. Minimum eligibility criteria include:

- Overall G.P.A. of ~~3.20~~ 3.40 or higher at the end of application to the major.
- Completion of ENGL 1101, ENGL 1102, MATH 1101, BIOL 1103, and BIOL 1103L, or equivalent, with a grade in each course "B" (3.0) or better prior to application.

3. Results

How will the proposed requirement solve the academic problems outlined in the justification?

Raising the minimum GPA will reduce the number of eligible applicants, lessening the burden on faculty and staff to review. Students will have a clearer understanding of the GPA expectations for admission.

4. Consequences of the Requirement

a. How will this requirement affect the major involved?

The faculty do not anticipate a change in the average GPA of the students admitted to the program.

b. What effects are anticipated on other majors within the University?

Many applicants for the major who are not accepted often move into our special education teacher preparation program. Others move to programs in Family and Consumer Sciences, Psychology, Linguistics, or Public Health. At each entrance cycle, between 20-30 students are turned away from the major.

c. Are there any other anticipated effects on enrollment patterns within the University?

It is likely that students with GPAs in the range of 3.2 – 3.39, which are significantly lower than the average admitted student, will consider other related majors.

Documentation of Approval and Notification

Proposal: Proposal to revise the Minimum GPA Requirement for the major in Communication Sciences and Disorders (B.S.Ed.)

College: Mary Frances Early College of Education

Departments: Communication Sciences and Special Education

Proposed Effective Term: Fall 2024

School/College:

- Communication Sciences and Special Education Department Head, Dr. Bethany Hamilton-Jones, 6/27/23
- Mary Frances Early College of Education Dean, Dr. Denise Spangler, 3/18/24