

To: COE Curriculum Committee
COE Faculty

From: Ginny L. VanRie
Assistant Professor of Special Education

Re: M.Ed. in Special Education, Degree Name Change

Date: June 17, 2014

I. Description of Change

The Special Education Program requests to change the M.Ed. degree name. The change would update the degree label from "Special Education--Interrelated" to "Special Education."

II. Rationale

The current degree label (i.e., Interrelated) is reflective of language that was once utilized by the state of Georgia and its accreditation agency, the Georgia Professional Standards Commission, in teacher certification and in K-12 student educational services. The term, which referred to a generic disability grouping, is outdated and is no longer utilized for certification purposes or for educational services.

III. Effective Date of Change

The effective date of change is immediate. The new degree title will be applied to the currently enrolled cohort upon their graduation and will apply to all subsequent cohorts of students.

IV. Impact on Trainees

These changes will not directly impact training received nor will it change program requirements. With the update, the degree received by trainees is reflective of language utilized by the field and by the state agency that will process the resulting certification updates.