

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

Itta Bena, Mississippi 38941



The Valley of Scholars

GRADUATE CATALOG 2015-2017

Published by the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs
Mississippi Valley State University
MVSU 7269
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Itta Bena, MS 38941-1400
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This Catalog

This catalog, at the time of preparation for printing, accurately describes the academic programs, course offerings, policies, procedures, and requirements of the University. However, it does not establish contractual agreements. The University reserves the right to alter or change any statement contained herein without prior notice. Students starting graduate study during the period covered by this catalog (Fall, 2015 through Spring, 2017) are subject to the curricular requirements as specified herein.

It is the responsibility of students to learn and meet all requirements established by the degree programs, the University and the departments. It is the students' responsibility to become knowledgeable of and to comply with the policies, procedures and regulations of the Office of Graduate Programs.

Any substitution, waiver, or exemption for any established program must be approved by the Department Chair, Director of Graduate Program and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Failure to read the catalog does not excuse graduate students from the requirements and regulations of the University, Office of Graduate Programs or departments.

Mississippi Valley State University offers equal educational opportunity to all persons without regard to sex, race, religion, national origin, physical or mental handicap, or age as specified by applicable laws and regulations. All policies relating to employees' rights to freedom from sexual harassment are extended to students, also.

Photo Credits

MVSU Office of Communications and Marketing

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY

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Accreditation

Mississippi Valley State University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACS) to award bachelor's and master's degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-697-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Mississippi Valley State University.

The Commission is to be contacted *only* if there is evidence that appears to support an institution's significant non-compliance with a requirement or standard.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. 2015-2017 University Academic Calendar	5
2. Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning	11
3. The Executive Staff	12
4. Administrative Officers	13
5. Academic Administrators	13
6. General Information	14
The University:	
Historical Statement	14
Location	15
Mission Statement	15
Vision Statement	15
Valley Core Values	15
Accreditations	16
Membership	16
Common Titles	18
University Traditions	18
Alma Mater	18
Administrative Office Hours	18
Physical Facilities	19
Residence Halls	19
7. Admissions Policies, Requirements, and Procedures	20
Admission to Graduate Courses	20
Re-Admission	20
Academic Dismissal	21
Probation and Suspension	21
Advisement	21
Appeal of Academic Status	21
Appeal of Grade	21
Hearing Procedure	21
Audit	22
Course Load	22
Degree Plan	22
Degree Requirements	22
Federal Regulations	22
Grading System	22
Immunization Requirements	23
Incomplete Grades	23
International Students	23
Withdrawals	23
Official	23
Services for Students with Disabilities	23
Student Transfer	24
Summer Session Admission	24
The Buckley Amendment-The Family Educational and	

Privacy Act of 1974	24
Time Limit	25
Transfer of Graduate Credit	25
Policy and Procedures on Cheating and Plagiarism	25
8. Tuition and Fees	
Fee Schedule	27
Special Fees	27
Cancellation Policy	28
Payments	28
University Deferment Policy & Payment Plan	29
9. Financial Aid Programs	
Graduate Assistantships	30
Graduate Diversity Scholarships	30
Work-Study	31
College Work Aid	31
Loans	31
Standard of Satisfactory Academic Progress	32
Financial Aid Suspension	33
Financial Aid Probation	33
Appeal Procedures	33
10. Graduate Studies	
Master of Business Administration	35
Master of Science in Criminal Justice	38
Master of Arts in Teaching	42
Master of Science in Elementary Education	48
Master of Science in Special Education	53
Master of Science in Bioinformatics	58
Master of Science in Environmental Health	62
Master of Arts in Rural Public Policy and Planning	66
Master of Social Work	71
11. Continuing Education and Weekend College	74
12. Greenville Higher Education Center	77
13. Description of Courses	78
14. Graduate Faculty	98

ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2015-2016

SUMMER I

May 21	Thursday	GHEC Registration
May 22	Friday	Online Registration and Academic Advisement New Student Registration
May 24	Sunday	Residence Halls Open
May 25	Monday	Memorial Day Holiday
May 26	Tuesday	Classes Begin Late Registration Fee - \$100.00 Assessed
May 27	Wednesday	Registration Closes Last Day to Drop/Add Courses
May 28	Thursday	Financial Clearance (formerly purge)
May 29	Friday	Report of Non-Attendance Due
June 8-10	Monday-Wednesday	MID-TERM EXAMS
June 15	Monday	Last Day to Withdraw from a Class
June 19	Friday	Last Day to Withdraw from the University New Student Orientation and Registration (Valley Bound)
June 25	Thursday	FINAL EXAMS
June 26	Friday	Residence Halls Close Deadline to Submit Final Grades

SUMMER II

July 1	Wednesday	GHEC Registration
July 2	Thursday	Online Registration and Academic Advisement
July 3	Friday	Independence Day Observed
July 5	Sunday	Residence Halls Open
July 6	Monday	Classes Begin Late Registration Fee \$100.00 Assessed
July 7	Tuesday	Registration Closes Last Day to Drop/Add Classes
July 8	Wednesday	Financial Clearance (formerly purge)
July 10	Thursday	Report of Non-Attendance Due
July 20-22	Monday-Friday	MID-TERM EXAMS
July 24	Friday	New Student Orientation and Registration (Valley Bound)
July 27	Monday	Last Day to Withdraw from a Class
July 31	Friday	Last Day to Withdraw from the University
August 3	Monday	New Student Orientation and Registration (Valley Bound)
August 5	Wednesday	FINAL EXAMS
August 6	Thursday	Deadline to Submit Final Grades Residence Halls Close

FALL 2015

August 17	Monday	Faculty Returns
August 18	Tuesday	Residence Halls OPEN to New Students
August 16-23	Wednesday-Sunday	Freshman Academy/Transition Week
August 20	Thursday	GHEC Registration
August 20 – 26		Sophomore Year Experience (FYE) Week

August 21	Friday	Residence Halls OPEN to ALL Students Registration Continues/Academic Advisement
August 24	Monday	Classes Begin Late Registration Fee \$100.00 Assessed
August 28	Friday	Weekend College Session I Begins
September 7	Monday	Labor Day Holiday
September 8	Tuesday	Classes Resume
September 14	Monday	Last Day to Drop/Add Classes Registration Closes
September 15	Tuesday	Financial Clearance
September 18	Friday	Report of Non-Attendance
September 26	Saturday	Weekend College Session I Ends
October 3	Friday	Weekend College Session II Begins
October 5-9	Monday-Friday	MID-TERM EXAMS
October 12	Monday	Deadline to Submit Mid-Term Grades
October 12 - 14	Friday-Sunday	Academic Advisement
October 15	Monday	Online Registration begins for Spring 2015
October 31	Saturday	Weekend College Session II Ends
November 6	Friday	Last Day to Withdraw from a Class Weekend College Session III Begins
November 13	Friday	Last Day to Withdraw from the University
November 20	Friday	Graduation Applications due to Student Records
November 23-24	Monday-Tuesday	Fall Break for Faculty and Students
November 25-27	Wednesday-Friday	Thanksgiving Holidays
November 30	Monday	Classes Resume
December 3-4	Thursday-Friday	Reading Days (No Classes)
December 4	Friday	Weekend College Session III Ends
December 7-11	Monday-Friday	FINAL EXAMS
December 12	Saturday	Residence Halls Close
December 14	Monday	Deadline to Submit Final Grades
WINTER 2015		
December 14	Monday	Winter Term Classes Begin Late Registration Fee \$100.00 Assessed
December 24-25	Thursday-Friday	Christmas Break
December 28	Monday	Classes Resume
December 30	Tuesday	Winter Term Ends
January 4	Monday	Date to Submit Final Grades
SPRING 2016		
January 4, 2016	Monday	Faculty & Staff Return to Work
January 7	Thursday	Online Registration and Academic Advisement Continues GHEC Registration
January 8	Friday	Residence Halls Open Academic Advisement/New Student Registration
January 11	Monday	Classes Begin Late Registration Fee \$100.00 Assessed
January 15	Friday	Weekend College Session I Begins
January 18	Monday	Martin Luther King Holiday
January 19	Tuesday	Classes Resume
January 25	Monday	Registration Closes Last Day to Drop/Add Courses
January 26	Tuesday	Financial Clearance
January 29	Friday	Report of Non-Attendance Due
February 11	Thursday	MLK/Black History Convocation

February 13 February 19	Saturday Friday	Weekend College Session I Ends Graduation Applications Due to Student Records Weekend College Session II Begins
Feb. 29-Mar. 4 March 7 March 7-11 March 14 March 14-16	Monday-Friday Monday Monday –Friday Monday Monday-Wednesday	MIDTERM EXAMS Deadline to Submit Mid-Term Grades Spring Break Classes Resume Academic Advisement Online Registration begins for Summer I, Summer II & Fall 2016
March 17 March 25 March 26 March 28 March 29 March 31	Thursday Friday Saturday Monday Tuesday Thursday	Honors Convocation Good Friday Weekend College Session II Ends Easter Monday Classes Resume Last day to Withdraw from a Class High School Day
April 1 April 7	Friday Thursday	Weekend College Session III Begins Last Day to Withdraw from the University Research Day
April 21 April 25-28 April 28-29 April 29 May 2-6 May 5 May 6	Thursday Monday-Thursday Thursday-Friday Friday Monday-Friday Thursday Friday	Founder's Day Convocation SENIOR FINAL EXAMS Reading Days (No Classes) Senior Final Grades Due FINAL EXAMS Retirement & Years of Service Luncheon Weekend College Session III Ends Residence Hall Close at 5pm
MAY 7 May 9	SATURDAY Monday	COMMENCEMENT Deadline to Submit Final Grades

ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2016-2017

SUMMER I

May 27	Friday	GHEC Registration Online Registration and Academic Advisement New Student Registration Residence Halls Open
May 29	Sunday	
May 30 May 31	Monday Tuesday	Memorial Day Holiday Classes Begin Late Registration Fee - \$100.00
Assessed		Registration Closes Last Day to Drop/Add Classes Financial Clearance (formerly purge) Report of Non-Attendance Due
June 1 June 2 June 13-15 June 17 Registration	Wednesday Thursday Monday-Wednesday Friday	MID-TERM EXAMS New Student Orientation and (Valley Bound)
June 21	Tuesday	Last Day to Withdraw from a Class

June 24 University	Friday	Last Day to Withdraw from the
June 30	Thursday	FINAL EXAMS Residence Halls Close Deadline to Submit Final Grades
July 1	Friday	
SUMMER II		
June 29	Wednesday	GHEC Registration
June 30	Thursday	Online Registration and Academic Advisement
July 3	Sunday	Residence Halls Open
July 4	Monday	Independence Day Holiday
July 5	Tuesday	Classes Begin Late Registration Fee - \$100.00
Assessed		
July 6	Wednesday	Registration Closes Last Day to Drop/Add Classes Financial Clearance (formerly purge) Report of Non-Attendance Due New Student Orientation and
July 7	Thursday	(Valley Bound)
July 11	Monday	MID-TERM EXAMS
July 15	Friday	Last Day to Withdraw from a Class Last Day to Withdraw from the
July 18-20	Monday-Wednesday	
July 25	Monday	
July 29	Friday	
University		
August 1	Monday	New Student Orientation and
Registration		(Valley Bound)
August 3	Wednesday	FINAL EXAMS
August 4	Thursday	Deadline to Submit Final Grades Residence Halls Close
FALL 2016		
August 12	Friday	Residence Halls OPEN to New Students
August 12 – 20	Friday – Saturday	Freshman Academy/Transition Week
August 15	Monday	Faculty Returns Residence Halls OPEN to Sophomore
		Students
August 15 - 20	Monday - Sunday	Sophomore Year Experience (SYE)
	Week	
August 16	Tuesday	GHEC Registration Residence Halls OPEN to ALL Students (4:00pm)
August 17	Wednesday	CCC Registration Registration Continues/Academic
	Advisement	
August 18	Thursday	Classes Begin Late Registration Fee - \$100.00
	Assessed	
August 26	Friday	Weekend College Session I Begins

September 5	Monday	Labor Day Holiday
September 6	Tuesday	Classes Resume
September 8	Thursday	Last Day to Drop/Add Classes
		Registration Closes
September 9	Friday	Financial Clearance
September 14	Friday	Report of Non-Attendance Due
September 24	Saturday	Weekend College Session I Ends
September 30	Friday	Weekend College Session II Begins
October 3-7	Monday-Friday	MID-TERM EXAMS
October 10	Monday	Deadline to Submit Mid-Term Grades
October 10 - 12	Monday-Wednesday	Academic Advisement
October 13	Thursday	Online Registration begins for Spring
2017		
October 29	Saturday	Weekend College Session II Ends
November 4	Friday	Last Day to Withdraw from a Class
		Weekend College Session III Begins
November 11	Friday	Last Day to Withdraw from the
University		
November 18	Friday	Graduation Applications due to Student
Records		
November 21-22	Monday-Tuesday	Fall Break for Faculty and Students
November 23-25	Wednesday-Friday	Thanksgiving Holidays
November 28	Monday	Classes Resume
December 1-2	Thursday-Friday	Reading Days (No Classes)
December 9	Friday	Weekend College Session III Ends
December 5-9	Monday-Friday	FINAL EXAMS
December 10	Saturday	Residence Halls Close
December 12	Monday	Deadline to Submit Final Grades
WINTER 2016		
December 12	Monday	Winter Term Classes Begin
		Late Registration Fee \$100.00
Assessed		
December 23	Friday	Winter Term Ends
December 23-26	Friday-Monday	Christmas Break
January 3	Tuesday	Date to Submit Final Grades
SPRING 2017		
January 3	Tuesday	Faculty & Staff Return to Work
January 4	Wednesday	CCC Registration
January 5	Thursday	Online Registration and Academic
	Advisement	Continues
January 6	Friday	GHEC Registration
		Residence Halls Open
Registration		Academic Advisement/New Student
January 9	Monday	Classes Begin
		Late Registration Fee \$100.00
Assessed		
January 13	Friday	Weekend College Session I Begins
January 16	Monday	Martin Luther King Holiday

January 17	Tuesday	Classes Resume
January 23	Monday	Registration Closes
		Last Day to Drop/Add Classes
January 24	Tuesday	Financial Clearance
January 27	Friday	Report of Non-Attendance Due
February 9	Thursday	MLK/Black History Convocation
February 11	Saturday	Weekend College Session I Ends
February 17	Friday	Graduation Applications Due to Student
Records		
Feb. 27 - Mar. 3	Monday-Friday	Weekend College Session II Begins
March 6	Monday	MIDTERM EXAMS
March 6-10	Monday -Friday	Deadline to Submit Mid-Term Grades
March 13	Monday	Spring Break
March 13-15	Monday-Wednesday	Classes Resume
		Academic Advisement
		Online Registration begins for Summer I, Summer II & Fall 2017
March 23	Thursday	Honors Convocation
March 25	Saturday	Weekend College II Ends
March 30	Thursday	Last day to Withdraw from a Class
March 31	Friday	Weekend College III Begins
April 6	Thursday	Last Day to Withdraw from the
University		
April 13	Thursday	Research Day
April 14	Friday	Good Friday
April 17	Monday	Easter Monday
		Classes Resume 5:00pm--Monday
		night
April 18 – 21	Sunday – Friday	Founder's Week
April 20	Thursday	Founder's Day Convocation
April 24 - 27	Monday-Thursday	SENIOR FINAL EXAMS
April 27 - 28	Thursday-Friday	Reading Days (No Classes)
April 28	Friday	Senior Final Grades Due
May 1-5	Monday-Friday	FINAL EXAMS
May 4	Thursday	Retirement & Years of Service
Luncheon		
May 5	Friday	Weekend College Session III Ends
		Residence Hall Close at 5pm
MAY 6	SATURDAY	COMMENCEMENT
May 8	Monday	Deadline to Submit Final Grades

Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning, State of Mississippi

Mississippi Valley State University is one of eight universities operating under the control of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning of the State of Mississippi. The Board, established by the State Constitution, consists of 12 members, serving terms of varying lengths, four of whom are appointed by each incoming governor. Each Board normally includes appointees of three successive gubernatorial administrations. All final authority for the operation of the institutions under its control lies within the Board. No outside body exercises any jurisdiction over the administration, the policies, or the financial affairs of the institutions. All legislative appropriations for operating expenses are made directly to the Board, which in turn allocates funds to the eight institutions under its jurisdiction.

Members with Terms Expiring May 2018

Alan W. Perry	Jackson
Christine L. Pickering	Biloxi
Dr. Douglas W. Rouse	Hattiesburg
C. D. Smith, Jr.	Meridian

Members with Terms Expiring May 2021

Karen L. Cummins	Oakland
Dr. Ford Dye	Oxford
Shane Hooper	Tupelo
Hal Parker	Bolton

Members with Terms Expiring May 2024

Ton Duff	Hattiesburg
Dr. Alfred E. McNair, Jr.	Ocean Springs
Chip Morgan	Leland
Dr. J. Walt Star.....	Columbus

Officers of the Board

Alan W. Perry	Jackson
Dr. Doug W. Rouse.....	Hattiesburg

**Commissioner
Dr. Glenn F. Boyce**

UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION



The members of the Executive Cabinet work with, and advise, the President in the determination of administrative policies throughout the University and assist in solving administrative problems. The Executive Cabinet makes administrative decisions on matters submitted by committees, university officials, and others.

William B. Bynum, Jr. PhD.	President
Jerryl Briggs, Ed.D.	Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer
Constance G. Bland, PhD.	Vice President of Academic Affairs
LaShon F Brooks, MBA	Chief of Staff &Legislative Liaison
Joyce Dixon, MBA	Vice President for Business & Finance/CFO
Jacqueline Gibson, Ed.D.	Vice President for Student Affairs
Dianthia Ford-Kee, MA	Director of Athletics
Veronica Cohen, MS	Vice President for University Advancement

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

Kathie Stromile Golden	Associate Vice-President, Academic Affairs/Director, International Programs
Freeman, Sharon & Effectiveness	Assistant Vice President Institutional Research
Done, Kenneth Education	Assistant Vice President, Continuing & Distance
Hall, Renardo	Assistant Vice President, Student Affairs
Myers, Rita	Dean, University College
Melton, Samuel	Director, Sponsored Programs
Moore, Torrey	Director, Academic Computer Services
McGee, Carolyn	Director, Administrative Services
Foster, Sonji	Director, Mass Transit
Jones, Yolanda	Director, Comprehensive Counseling Center
Gillus, Renaldo	Director, Residential Life
Greenleaf, Maxine	Director, Communication and Marketing
Scott , La Monica	Director, Sports Information
Parker, Walter	Director, Student Health Center
Henderson, Mantra	Director, J.H. White Library
Wallace, Tiffany	Director, Career Services
Raines, Charles	Director, Property Accountability
Welles, Daphanie	Director, Student Union/Student Activities
Flaggs, Gladys	Director, Community Service/Service Learning
Loggins, Jeffery	Director, Student Records
Weeks, Leron	Chief, University Police
Scott, Billy	Director, Purchasing
Taylor, Michael	Director, Greenville Higher Education Center
Hurssey, Elizabeth	Director, Human Resources
Verdell, Tommy	Director, Facilities Management
Williams, Jacquelyn	Assistant Director, Undergraduate Admissions
Kathy Brownlow	Director of Advising
Smith, Lee	Associate Athletic Director
Edwards, Reina Senior	Associate Athletic Director

ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATORS

Mushi, Richard	Chair, Social Sciences
Garner, Latonya	Chair, Mathematics, Computer and Information Sciences
Collier , Lula	Chair, Teacher Education
Brownlow, Antonio	Acting Chair, Engineering Technology
Singleton-Walker, Catherine	Chair, Social Work
Osunde, Samuel	Chair, Mass Communication
Sanders, Alphonso	Chair, Fine Arts
Ikenga, Julius	Chair, Natural Sciences & Environmental Health
Ross, Gloria	Chair, Department of Health, Education & Recreation
Zheng, John	Chair, Department of English & Foreign Languages
Brown, Curressia	Acting Chair, Department of Business Administration

GENERAL INFORMATION

Historical Milestones:

- Legislation authorizing the establishment of the institution under the name Mississippi Vocational College was enacted by the Mississippi Legislature in 1946. The expressed purpose for the new college is to train teachers for rural and elementary schools and to provide vocational training.
- The groundbreaking ceremony is held February 19, 1950, with the late Honorable Governor Fielding Wright, the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning, Dr. James Herbert White, the first president of the University, and interested friends participating.
- The College opens in the summer of 1950 with enrollment of 305 in-service teachers.
- The first academic year, 1950-51, opens with 14 regular students and seven faculty members. The college offers the Bachelor of Science degree in 14 areas and provides Extension Services.
- The name of the institution changes to Mississippi Valley State College in 1964. The College is authorized to offer the Liberal Arts degree, as well as Science and the Education degrees.
- Dr. Earnest A. Boykins, the University's second president, takes office in July 1971.
- The Honorable Governor William A. Waller signs into law the bill granting "University" status to the institution on March 15, 1974. The institution has since been known as Mississippi Valley State University.
- The University offers its first Master's degree in 1976. The University now offers the Master of Science degree in Bioinformatics, Business Administration, Environmental Health, Elementary Education, Criminal Justice, Social Work, Special Education, Rural Public Policy and Planning, and the Master of Arts in Teaching.
- Dr. Joe L. Boyer, the third president of MVSU, takes office in January 1982.
- Dr. William W. Sutton, the fourth president of MVSU, takes office in July 1988.
- The Greenwood Center, an off-campus site of MVSU, opens January 1996.
- Dr. Lester C. Newman, the fifth president of MVSU, takes office on July 1, 1998.
The Greenville Higher Learning Center, an off-campus site of MVSU, opens January 2001.
The Business Education Building, the first new academic building in 32 years, opens in 2007. A second building, the Science and Technology Building opens in 2009.
- Dr. Roy C. Hudson becomes interim President in July 2007
- Dr. Donna H. Oliver, the 6th President of MVSU, takes office on January 1, 2009.
- Dr. Alfred Rankins Jr. becomes Acting President in November 2012
- Dr. William B. Bynum, Jr. the 7th President of MVSU, takes office on November 6, 2013.

The University is under the jurisdiction of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning which is composed of 12 members. Funds for the operation of the University come from general appropriations of the Legislature, students' tuition and fees, federal grants, and gifts.

Location

Mississippi Valley State University is located in Leflore County, one mile northeast of Itta Bena, adjacent to U.S. Highway 82. The Institution is located on a 450-acre tract of land. The site for campus development consists of 200 acres. Mississippi Valley State University is approximately five miles from Greenwood, which has a population of 18,425 and approximately 50 miles from Greenville, which has a population of 41,633. The University is approximately 100 miles north of Jackson, Mississippi, and 120 miles south of Memphis, Tennessee. It is located in the heart of the Mississippi Delta where 34 percent of the black population of the state is located.

INSTITUTIONAL STATEMENTS

MISSION

Mississippi Valley State University, as a Carnegie Classified Master's University, provides comprehensive undergraduate and graduate programs in education, the arts and sciences, and professional studies. The University is driven by its commitment to excellence in teaching, learning, service, and research – a commitment resulting in a learner-centered environment that prepares critical thinkers, exceptional communicators, and service-oriented, engaged, and productive citizens. MVSU is fundamentally committed to positively impacting the quality of life and creating extraordinary educational opportunities for the Mississippi Delta and beyond.

VISION

Mississippi Valley State University aspires to become the educational crown jewel of the Mississippi Delta, and in so doing, the institution will attract students of diverse backgrounds as a result of its innovative academic programs; commitment to developing entrepreneurs; and globalized focus intertwined throughout the academic curricula and support services. In its quest for distinctiveness, uniqueness, innovation, and longevity, the University will become the public square of the Mississippi Delta, responsible for engaging an ever-expanding group of collaborators focused on identifying and implementing solutions to the problems that have plagued the delta region for generations. As a result, Mississippi Valley State University will serve as the catalyst for an enhanced quality of life and increased educational opportunities for the citizens of a revitalized Mississippi Delta.

VALLEY'S CORE VALUES

As an institution of higher learning within the Mississippi Delta, Mississippi Valley State University believes it exists to meet the needs of all of its stakeholders and to create a positive impact throughout the region. In order to achieve its mission and move towards realization of its vision, MVSU is driven by seven values that act as an internal compass responsible for ensuring unity of effort, dedication to a common direction, and commitment to fulfilling its calling.

SERVICE

Service is at the core of the University's charter, is the impetus behind our creed, and compels us to embrace the responsibility of caring for and proactively meeting the needs of our students, our community, our region, and beyond.

LEARNING

Learning impels us to ensure that our students receive a world-class education, our institution engages itself in a continuous cycle of knowledge attainment and implementation, and that best practices developed from emerging knowledge drives our decision-making and direction setting.

EXCELLENCE

Excellence obliges us to reject mediocrity and instead consistently pursue high quality in regards to our programs, services, faculty and staff, initiatives, and outreach.

INTEGRITY

Integrity impresses upon us that as a steward of public funding and trust, we must operate as persons and an institution of high character guided by a commitment to honor, transparency, fairness, and honesty.

DISTINCTIVENESS

Distinctiveness reflects our charge to ensure that we provide relevant and contextually appropriate academic programming, deliver services that meet the emerging needs of our stakeholders, and continually assess and take advantage of potential opportunities.

ENGAGEMENT

Engagement commits us to reach out and connect to current, former, and future students, establish our University as a true public square, integrate our University into the life of communities throughout the region, and partner with individuals, groups, and companies within the Mississippi Delta and beyond.

RESPECT

Respect encourages us to move beyond tolerance towards acceptance of the differences that make us human, to embrace the concept that all peoples have inherent worth and are deserving of dignity, and to act with civility, kindness, and compassion to our students, faculty, staff, and the greater community of the Mississippi Delta.

ACCREDITATIONS

American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance
The National Association of Sports and Physical Education
Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs
Council on Social Work Education
National Accreditation Council for Environmental Health Curricula
National Association of Schools of Art and Design
National Association of Schools of Music
National Collegiate Athletic Association
National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education
Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)
State Department of Education of Mississippi

Memberships

American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers
American Council on Education
American Forensics Association
American Library Association
American Mathematical Society
American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers
Association for Departments of English
Association of Gerontology and Human Services
Broadcast Music, Inc.
Cooperative Education Association
Council on Colleges and Universities
International Reading Association
Mississippi Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development
Mississippi Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
National Association of College and University Business Officers
National Association of College and University Summer Sessions

National Association of Collegiate Deans and Registrars
 National Association of Industrial Technology
 National Association of Schools of Performing Arts
 National Association of Schools of Art and Design
 National Association of Schools of Music
 National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
 National Association of Student Personnel Administrators
 National Council of Teachers of English
 National Collegiate Athletic Association
 Southern Association of Colleges Universities Business Officers
 Southern Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers
 Southern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators
 Southern Business Administration Association
 Southwestern Athletic Conference
 Speech Communication Association
 Teacher Education Council for Schools, Colleges and Universities
 University Press of Mississippi

Motto

The motto of Mississippi Valley State University is “Live for Service.”

Colors

The University’s colors are forest green and white.

The University Seal



The University’s Logo Is:



MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE
UNIVERSITY™

Common Titles at The University

Mississippi Valley State University	<i>The Valley</i>
Athletic Teams	<i>The Delta Devils/Devilettes</i>
Student Newspaper	<i>The Delta Devils Gazette</i>
University Student Yearbook.	<i>The Delvian</i>
Employee Newsletter	<i>Communiqué</i>
Alumni Magazine	<i>The Valley Connection</i>

University Traditions

Freshman Orientation, <i>August</i>
Homecoming Activities, <i>October</i>
Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, <i>December</i>
Student Christmas Dinner, <i>December</i>
Honors Convocation, <i>March/April</i>
Founder's Day (Week), <i>April</i>
Administrative Professionals' Luncheon, <i>April</i>
Retirement and Years of Service Luncheon, <i>April or May</i>
Commencement, <i>May</i>

Alma Mater

Hail to thee our Alma Mater
 Colors Green and White
 M.V.S.U. our sons and daughters
 Always stand for right.

When the days of joy and laughter
 Fade upon our sight
 We will love our Alma Mater
 Dear Old Green and White.

We will love and cherish thee
 Through all our lives
 Green and White we will honor
 Keeping standards high.

Chorus:

Grateful, loyal, true and faithful
 We will be true
 May thy name be everlasting
 Dear Old M. V. S. U.

Administrative Office Hours

Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 PM

University Holidays

Labor Day First Monday in September

Thanksgiving Holidays	Fourth Thursday and the following Friday in November
Christmas	<i>See Official University Calendar</i>
New Year	<i>See Official University Calendar</i>
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday	Third Monday in January
Easter	<i>See Official University Calendar</i>
Memorial Day	The last Monday in May
Independence Day.....	July 4 (<i>See Official University Calendar</i>)

Physical Facilities of the University

Academic Skills-Communications Complex; Ashley Ambrose Devil's Den; Fielding L. Wright Science Building; Science and Technology Center; Business Education Building; H.M. Ivy Cafeteria; H. G. Carpenter Administration Building; Industrial Technology Building; Jacob Aron Student Union Building; Charles R. Lackey Recreation Center; James Herbert White Library; Laundry; Lois Aron Meditation Chapel; Lucile Petry Leone Building; L.S. Rogers Building (Child Development, HEP); Mass Transit; MVSU Baseball Complex; MVSU Softball Complex; Annex I (Noble R. Frisby Building); Annex II (Augusta C. White Building); Olympia P. Lowe Education Complex; Rice-Totten Stadium; Robert W. Harrison Health, Physical Education and Recreation Complex; Student Union Annex; Student Health Center; W.A. Butts Social Science Building; Walter Sillers Fine Arts Building; William W. Sutton Administration Building; Willie Malone Physical Plant

Residence Halls for \Student Housing

Student housing on the University campus consists of 8 residence halls, four for men and three for women. Residence halls are equipped with air conditioning, beds, chairs, desks, desk lights, storage areas for clothing and school supplies, cable television outlets, telephone outlets, voice mail, and Internet access.

All residence halls are managed by at least one full-time Area Coordinator or Residence Hall Director, Residence Hall Monitor, Weekend Monitor, and student staff persons. Halls are secured by fire detection equipment, residence hall staff, and University police officers.

The resident facilities for female students are:

- New Women's Hall
- Edna Horton Hall
- Magnolia Hall
- Reed Hall

The resident facilities for male students are:

- Leflore Hall
- New Men's Hall
- Ratcliff Hall
- Stewart Hall

ADMISSIONS POLICIES, REQUIREMENTS, AND PROCEDURES

Admission Requirements

Applicants seeking admission to graduate programs at Mississippi Valley State University must be admitted both to the Graduate Studies Program and the degree program.

Applicants not seeking an advance degree from Mississippi Valley State University but wish to take courses may register as a non-degree seeking student. A non-degree seeking student, who subsequently seeks full or restricted admission, must complete an application for admission to the Graduate Studies Program (GSP) and be accepted by a department and the GSP for the degree study.

Non-degree students initially granted permission to take graduate courses on a non-degree basis are permitted to take up to nine semester hours of graduate credit. If a student later chooses to undertake a graduate degree program, only nine semester hours taken as a non-degree student may be applied to a program.

To be eligible for admission to the Graduate Studies, the following requirements must be met:

1. An applicant must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.
2. An application for admission must be filed with the Office of Graduate Studies.
3. An official transcript of all college work (undergraduate and graduate) must be obtained from the registrar of each college previously attended.
4. A minimum undergraduate cumulative grade point average of 2.50 on a 4.00 grading scale is required for regular graduate degree status.
5. Three letters of recommendation from persons who are qualified to certify as to your abilities and character.
6. The department chair and the director/coordinator of the graduate program applied for must recommend admission to the Graduate Studies Program, who must formally accept the student.
7. Immunization record must be submitted.

Deadline for Admission

Admission to a degree program is made in the fall or spring semester. The deadline for fall applications is March 15. The deadline for spring applications is September 15.

Admission of Undergraduates to Graduate Courses

Undergraduate Mississippi Valley State University students who have completed all required courses and are within six hours of graduation may enroll in a maximum of six semester hours of graduate work. To be eligible to take graduate courses, undergraduate students must have a grade point average of at least 2.50 overall and in their major field.

Re-Admissions to the University

All Graduate students who withdraw from the University or who have been suspended for academic deficiencies must apply for re-admission by submitting an application to Graduate Studies. Re-admission is not automatic and does not reinstate the student. The Department Chair and Program Director/Coordinator must approve all applications for re-admission and reinstate the student.

Students who have previously attended the University and have a break in attendance of one or more semesters must apply for re-admission. Re-admission documents required include an official transcript from each institution attended since leaving MVSU.

Students must meet the admission standards of the University and be in good standing at all institutions attended since leaving MVSU in order to be eligible for re-admission.

Questions concerning re-admission should be directed to the Graduate Studies Program Office.

Academic Regulations

The regulations published in this catalog are intended to give a digest of the rules of the Institution as may be needed. Changes may be made to the regulations at any time to promote the best interest of the students and the University. The University makes every effort to provide academic advisement and counseling for its students, although, it is the responsibility of students to know their own standings in reference to policies, regulations, and standards of the University and their department. All students admitted are held accountable for the policies contained in this catalog, even if no other notice is given.

Academic Probation and Dismissal

Graduate students must maintain a 3.00 grade point average to maintain good academic standing. A graduate student who fails to maintain an overall GPA of 3.00 or who fails to make satisfactory progress in a degree program will be placed on academic probation. Students on academic probation are not eligible for appointment to assistantships or fellowships. A student placed on academic probation is given one semester to raise the overall grade point average to 3.00. Students are automatically removed from probation upon completion of the first nine semester hours of graduate course work if an overall 3.00 grade point average is attained.

Students whose probationary semester does not attain the required minimum grade point average of 3.00 will be notified in writing by the Graduate College of their dismissal.

Advisement

Each student is assigned a departmental advisor upon admission to a Program at the University. The student then consults the advisor at least once during each semester and receives approval of courses to be taken for the degree. Consultation on all academic concerns should begin with the assigned advisor.

To appeal one's academic status, e.g. probation or academic dismissal a student must present the request and related explanation in writing to the graduate coordinator/director and chair of the department offering the program the reasons or circumstances behind failure to remain in good standing. The department chair, coordinator/director will review this appeal with the appropriate departmental committee and render a recommendation. If the appeal at the departmental level is unsuccessful, a student may then appeal to the Graduate Studies. If the appeal is unsuccessful, the student may then appeal to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The following dates apply for academic probation and dismissal appeals:

Appeal of Grade

(A) The student is to take the complaint to the instructor involved first.

(B) If the student does not obtain satisfaction, the student may acquire a grade appeal form from the Registrar's Office, fill it out and take it to the instructor's Program Director/Coordinator. The Program Director/Coordinator chair acknowledges receipt of the form and returns the duplicate to the student.

(C) In conjunction with the Department Chair, the Program Director/Coordinator reviews the complaint. If they are unable to resolve the matter to the satisfaction of the student, the student may appeal to Graduate Studies. The Department Chair shall immediately forward the appeal form with a letter of recommendation to Graduate Studies.

(D) If Graduate Studies is unable to resolve the matter to the satisfaction of the student, the student may appeal to the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The Vice President for Academic Affairs may then refer the case to the Graduate Council if needed.

Audit

A student may audit a course with the written permission of the Department Chair or Program Director/Coordinator. The fee for auditing a course is the same as taking the course for credit. Only lecture courses may be audited. Audit enrollment must be approved by the instructor teaching the requested course.

Course Numbering System

Courses numbered "500" and above are classified as graduate courses.

Course Load

The normal load for a full-time student is nine semester hours during the fall and spring semesters; the maximum load is 12 hours. A course load can exceed these levels only by approval from the Chair and/or Program Director/Coordinator.

Degree Plan

The student should file a degree plan within the first semester of matriculation. Degree plan forms may be obtained from the assigned advisor. The assigned advisor, the department chair and the graduate Program Director/Coordinator must review and approve the degree plan.

Degree Requirements

A minimum of 30-36 credit hours, excluding the thesis, with a GPA of 3.0 or better in courses approved for graduate credit is required.

Federal Regulations

Mississippi Valley State University, as an educational institution and as an employer, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ethnicity, national origin, age, sex, and marital status or disability.

Grading System

Passing grades for graduate students are "A," "B," and "C." The grade of "I," Incomplete, may be given only when the completed portion of the course work is passing quality. It is the student's responsibility to complete the course requirements and to see that the incomplete grade is removed from his/her record.

Immunization Requirements

All students (including transfers) entering Mississippi Valley State University for the first time and enrolling for academic credit must show proof of immunization for measles and rubella. Proof of immunization may be documented in the following manner:

1. A Certificate of Compliance with Immunization (Form No.121-C) from the local Mississippi State Board of Health Office. Two doses of measles vaccine are required. All international students must have a chest x-ray to screen for tuberculosis;

2. Positive measles and rubella serology with date; and/or
3. Physician-documented history of having measles with date of disease. A history of rubella is not accepted.

Temporary exceptions for one semester are:

1. Pregnant women;
2. Women suspecting pregnancy; and
3. Women anticipating pregnancy within three months.

Permanent exceptions are:

1. A medical disease which will cause a permanent contraindication to immunization and
2. All persons born prior to 1957.

Incomplete Grades

A grade of "I" (Incomplete) may be submitted in lieu of a final grade due to illness, death in immediate family, or similar circumstances beyond control or is unable to complete the course requirements or take final examination. All grades of "I" (Incomplete) must be complete no later than the last day of class of the next semester (excluding summer) whether the student is enrolled or not. Only that part of work may be made up which was missed during the emergency for which the Incomplete was granted. If a grade of "I" is not resolved into a passing grade within the allotted time, the grade becomes an "F".

International Students

Students from countries where English is not the dominant language must provide evidence of proficiency in the English language with their application for admission to Mississippi Valley State University. Students must present a score of 525(PBT), 194(CBT), or 71 (IBT) on the Test for English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or 5.5 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) and provide evidence of financial support sufficient to support the cost of enrollment for one school year. International students who have completed degrees from a university where English is the official language of instruction; taken and passed two years of English language courses in the country of residence; or has a telephone interview with representatives of MVSU English and Foreign Languages Department, International Programs and Admissions Office are not required to submit a TOFEL or IELTS score. Students presenting a score of lower than that which is required will be evaluated and admitted conditionally on a case by case basis.

Official University Withdrawals

A student's official withdrawal date is the date the student begins the University's withdrawal process as determined by the date of the first required signatures on the "Withdrawal of University Enrollment Form." The official withdrawal date must be used for purposes of refund calculation.

Services for Student with Disabilities

Services for students with documented disabilities will be coordinated by the University Counseling Office, Office of Student Affairs, and the Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator's Office. Contact with these offices prior to enrollment is encouraged.

Student Transfer within Graduate Programs at Mississippi Valley State University

A graduate student in good standing (3.00 CPA or above) in one graduate program may transfer to another graduate program within Mississippi Valley State University. Such student must, however, withdraw from his/her original graduate program, and be prepared to meet all the requirements of the new graduate program. A student with a GPA below 3.00 cannot transfer to another graduate program and may not retain his or her graduate status at Mississippi Valley State University.

The Release of Student Information

The Buckley Amendment-The Family Educational and Privacy Act of 1974

Provisions for reviewing and correcting student information as required under Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (The Buckley Amendment) have been available to Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) students and parents for many years. Essentially, students have the opportunity to see official copies of personal and academic information which are collected and distributed by the Office of Student Records during each semester of enrollment. Further, students have the opportunity to correct personal and other data and submit such changes to the Office of Student Records during the registration period.

Pursuant to requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, the following types of information are hereby designated as directory information and may be released via official media of MVSU according to the University policy: the student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student and other similar information. Students must inform the Office of Student Records in writing if they refuse to permit the release of "directory information" which will result in the University's refusing to release any of this information to anyone except as provided by law. Such a decision may result in a student's name not appearing in the lists of honors students, candidates for graduation, athletic programs, news releases, and the like. Therefore, students are encouraged to give this matter careful consideration before making the decision. Once made, the decision will remain in effect until notification is received by the Office of Student Records, in writing, to the contrary.

If the student is a minor, the parents or legal guardian may exercise the same rights. If the student is 18 years of age or older, MVSU will not permit the parents or legal guardian to inspect the student's record unless the student has stated, in writing, to the Director of Student Records that the records may be released or opened for inspection.

However, if the parents are supporting the student-that is, if the student is a dependent as defined by the Internal Revenue Code, then the University may choose to disclose the records to the parents. If parents insist on a review of the records and demonstrate that their student is dependent, the University will grant access to the records. Students have the rights to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the University to comply with the requirements of federal law as they pertain to access and disclosure of student's education records. The name and the address of the office that administers this law is:

**Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20202-4605**

Questions or concerns about the privacy of student education records or these procedures may be brought to the attention of the Director of Student Records located in the Sutton Administration Building.

Time Limit on Work for Master's Degree

A student must complete requirements for the degree within six consecutive years after the first date of enrollment in the Graduate College, exclusive of any time spent in the Armed Forces of the United States. Any graduate work completed by extension or transferred from another institution must have commenced not more than six years prior to graduation in order for credit to be applied toward the graduate degree.

Transfer of Graduate Credit from another Institution

The University does not award academic credit for course work taken on a noncredit basis. Mississippi Valley State University will accept graduate credits earned at a recognized institution upon the recommendation of the department and the approval of Graduate Studies. Only courses for which the student has received a grade of "B" or higher may be transferred and use toward program hours. Unsatisfactory grades that are earned at the University may not be substituted for credits earned at another institution.

Grades of "A" or "B" earned at another institution may not be used to offset a lower grade earned at the University. The institution from which credit is earned must offer a graduate degree in the field in which the credit has been completed. The credit must be recommended by the student department in the University as specifically applicable to the student's degree program.

Policy and Procedure on Cheating and Plagiarism

Philosophy

Honesty and integrity are essential values of Mississippi Valley State University's mission to pursue truth and knowledge. All persons - administrators, faculty, staff, and students - share the responsibility for achieving high standards of excellence. Academic dishonesty of any kind negates this mission and is antithetical to the development of morally and ethically sound human beings. Therefore, Mississippi Valley State University will not tolerate cheating or plagiarism in any form. Cheating and plagiarism compromise the process of fair and equitable evaluation conferred by the University. Students who engage in such activities deny themselves the opportunity to benefit from accurate assessment and feedback and prevent full academic and personal development.

Responsibility

Although the faculty of Mississippi Valley State University is responsible for establishing the standards for moral and academic excellence in teaching and learning, these standards can be reached only with the cooperation and support of students. Each student is expected, therefore, to accept responsibility for maintaining honesty and integrity in all endeavors inside and outside the classroom, studio, or laboratory. Faculty encourages ethical behaviors by: establishing an atmosphere of respect in the classroom; stating clearly on the syllabus their standards and expectations for academic performance; structuring learning situations that encourage honesty and deter cheating and plagiarism; and for presenting and enforcing the University's policy on academic dishonesty.

Definitions

Cheating is the actual or attempted practice of fraudulent or deceptive acts for the purpose of improving one's grade or obtaining course credit. Such behavior also includes assisting another student in such practice. Although cheating is often associated with examinations, it is the intent of this definition that the term "cheating" not be limited to examination situations only, but also that it includes any and all actions by a student that are intended to gain an unearned academic advantage by fraudulent or deceptive means.

Plagiarism is a specific type of cheating which consist of the misuse of the published and/or unpublished works of others by misrepresenting the intellectual property of others as one's own ideas or works.

Academic Sanctions for Cheating or Plagiarism

When a faculty member responsible for a course has reason to believe that an action of a student falls within one or both of the aforementioned definitions, the faculty member should initiate a conference with the student to present the student with the charge and the evidence. If the student admits to the wrongdoing, the instructor shall impose an academic sanction. The instructor has the prerogative of lowering the grade, assigning a grade of "O" or "F" for the work submitted, assigning "F" for the entire course, or recommending another penalty, including dismissal from the University. In the advent that the student does not admit wrongdoing or that no mutually agreeable settlement is reached as a result of the faculty-student conference, the faculty member will consult the department chair.

TUITION AND FEES 2015-2017

Mississippi Valley State University is supported chiefly by legislative appropriations. Increases in student fees are put into effect only when public support funds are inadequate and no other recourse is available. Increases are made only for support of the institution or improvement of the activity program of the students; therefore, the University must reserve the right to increase or modify fees and expenses without prior notice, but with approval of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning.

It is difficult to indicate the specific cost of attending the University because of the differences in personal spending habits. However, the information in this section will be helpful. The Office of Business and Finance is responsible for administering all business affairs of Mississippi Valley State University; supporting the educational activities; serving the students, faculty, staff and administration; and protecting all University assets. Inquiries should be directed to the Office of Business and Finance, MVSU 7265, 14000 Highway 82 West, Itta Bena, MS 38941-1400; 662-254-3301 or 662-254-3300; Fax: 662-254-7575.

Fee Schedule

Graduate Student *(per semester)*

Tuition	\$370.00/hour
Out-of-State Fee (Graduate)	\$0.00/hour
Room, Board & Laundry Fee (Standard)	\$3648.50
Room, Board & Laundry Fee (Premium)	\$3938.00

Summer School 2016

Tuition	\$370.00/hour
Room & Board (Standard)	\$1068.12 per session
Room & Board (Premium)	\$1154.22 per session
Out-of-State Fees	\$0.00/hour

Special Fees

Check Cashing	\$5.00
On-Line Course Per Credit Hour (Graduate)	\$370.00/hour
Bad Check Charge	\$40/check
Late Registration	\$100.00
Transcript	\$10.00
Fax Transcript	\$15.00
Housing Application Fee (Non Refundable)	\$75.00
Single Standard Room Charge (over & above double occupancy rate)	\$984.00
Single Premium Room Charge (over & above double occupancy rate)	\$1128.75
Replacement ID Card	\$20.00
Student Decal	\$20.00
Greenville Higher Education Center Fee per credit hour	\$10.00
Student Teaching Fee	\$75.00
Deferment Fee **	\$50.00
Overload Charge Per credit hour over 18 (Undergraduate)	\$246.50
Per credit hour over 9 (Graduate)	\$370.00
Lab Fee Per Lab	\$25.00

***This fee will be charged to any student who, at the time of registration does not pay his/her prior year account balance in full. Award letters will be accepted as payment. Award letters with College Work Study and Plus Loan will not be accepted. The deferment fee must be paid prior to registration. THIS FEE CANNOT BE DEFERRED. (See University Deferment Policy.)*

Cancellation Policy

Refund of tuition and required fees will be made after official withdrawal forms are filed on the following basis:

- | A. Period of Withdrawal (Fall/Spring) | Percentage of Refund of Tuition and Fees |
|---|--|
| Prior to beginning of class | 100% less processing fee |
| During the first 2 class days of semester | 95% less processing fee |
| During the 3-5 class days of semester | 75% less processing fee |
| During the 6-8 class days of semester | 50% less processing fee |
| During the 9-10 class days of semester | 25% less processing fee |
| After the 10th class day of semester | No refund |
|
Period of Withdrawal (Summer Sessions 1&11) | |
| Prior to beginning of class | 100% less processing fee |
| During the first 2 class days of semester | 75% less processing fee |
| During 3-5 class days of semester | 50% less processing fee |
| Withdrawal after the 5th class day | No refund |
- B. Refund of Room and Board fees will be based on the date the student leaves the dormitory and files Dormitory Release Form with the Dormitory Director. No Refund of Room and Board will be given after the 10th class day of the Fall and Spring Semesters. After the 5th class day of Summer Session, no refund of Room and Board will be given. Refunds will not be made for temporary absence from the dormitory.
- C. With the exception of deposits, no refund of special fees will be made.
- D. Active duty withdrawals will be processed according to IHL Board policy on page 83.

NOTE: *Students who pre-register and do not return for classes should complete official withdrawal forms. The withdrawal forms must be processed by the Office of Student Records to become official.*

Payments

All student charges for tuition, room, board and other fees must be paid in full at registration. The following sources will be accepted as payment:

- A. Financial Aid (loans, grants, scholarship, etc.)
- B. Cash
- C. Debit/Credit Cards (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discovery)
- D. Money Orders, Certified and Personal Check (Made payable to Mississippi Valley State University)

****DO NOT SEND CASH IN THE MAIL****

Books and supplies are purchased from the Bookstore and the costs are not part of the fees stated in this announcement. Estimate \$1,000.00 per semester (\$500 per summer session) for books and supplies.

Mass Transit Service - Daily transportation is available to commuting students from several communities. For more information, contact Mississippi Valley State University Transit System, telephone number 254-3348.

College Work Study awards will not be considered as payment on a student's account until earned and a Work-Study check has been issued to the student.

Federal Loans are first applied to the student's account-balance due and the excess above the amount owed will be refunded to the student.

All requests for refunds will be granted according to the refund schedule.

Student Identification Cards

A MVSU Student I.D. Card, validated for the current registration period, must be presented each time a student requires service from any University office. First time student I.D. Cards are issued at no charge

University Deferment Policy

A deferment fee of \$50.00 will be charged to any student who, at the time of registration, does not pay his/her account in full. (This includes current charges and past due amounts.) Award letters will be accepted as payment. Deferments will be granted within the guidelines listed below. *Deferment fees must be paid at registration. No exceptions.*

Deferred Payment Plan

1. All students are expected to pay the full amount of tuition and fees for the term at the time of registration.
2. Resident and non-resident students with zero (0) balance at time of registration and no evidence of financial aid may choose to pay under the Deferred Payment Plan.
3. Under the Deferred Payment Plan, students must pay one-half ($1/2$) of the total amount due at registration. The remainder must be paid in two (2) equal installments. For Fall and Spring semesters, one-half of the remaining balance must be paid within 45 days of registration and the remainder within 90 days of registration.
4. The Deferred Payment Plan is not available during summer sessions.
5. For every transaction under this plan, the deferment of \$50 will be assessed.
6. Failure to pay according to the plan will result in cancellation of registration.

Student Accounts	Monday-Friday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Cashier	Monday-Friday: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS



The Office of Financial Aid at Mississippi Valley State University coordinates all financial assistance offered to students. The purpose of the financial-aid program is to provide financial assistance to students who attend and enroll in the graduate programs offered at the university. ***Students, who are conditionally admitted to graduate programs, may not qualify for certain categories of financial aid.*** The following aid is offered to Graduate students:

- Graduate Assistantships
- Graduate Diversity Grants
- Federal Work Study (FWS)
- College Work Aid (CWA)
- Federal Direct Student Loans
 - Unsubsidized Loan
 - Graduate PLUS Loan

Graduate Assistantships

The Graduate School offers assistantships to graduate students. A limited number of graduate assistantships is available to qualified full-time students who have been admitted with an overall undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 or better to a graduate-degree program at Mississippi Valley State University. Assistantships are made by the Graduate School Dean with departmental or college approval. Assistantships are awarded for the academic year and students must maintain a 3.0 cumulative GPA and agree to work for a minimum of 20 hours per week. Applications are available in the Graduate Office.

Graduate Diversity Grants

Mississippi Valley State University subscribes to the policy of equal educational opportunity for all students without regard to race, creed or color. A limited number of diversity grant funds is available to other race students who are admitted to the Graduate School in a graduate-degree program. Grant awards are made based on the student's undergraduate cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or better on a 4.00 scale and a completed Diversity Grant Application. Grant awards are awarded based on the available funding and an application must be completed each year of the student's enrollment in the Graduate School.

Graduate Diversity Grants are awarded to pay tuition and fees for courses and programs pursued on Mississippi Valley State University. Applications for the grant are available in the Graduate Office.

Federal Work Study (FWS)

Federal Work Study (FWS) is available for graduate students to work in a variety of offices and departments with their work schedule built around their academic schedule. FWS is need based federal aid awarded to those students that show financial need based on their Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) from their filed Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The amount of graduate student FWS awards is based on the amount set by the Financial Aid Office. All students can earn the awarded amount by working no more than 20 hours per week. The hourly wage rate is based on the current minimum wage. Contact the Financial Aid Office regarding interest and inquiries about the FWS Program.

College Work Aid (CWA)

The College Work Aid Program provides jobs for those students who do not qualify for the Federal Work-Study program. Students are employed in a variety of University offices and departments with their work schedules built around their academic schedules. CWA funds are based on funds available from a department's operation budget; therefore, an award is made based on the department informing financial aid of the amount the student has been approved to earn.

Direct Student Loans

Direct Loans are low-interest loans for students to help pay for the cost of education. The lender is the U.S. Department of Education (the Department), though most of the contact will be with your loan servicer.

The interest rate for the Direct Unsubsidized Loans for graduate students is: **6.21%**

Loan assistance is available for graduate students in the form of unsubsidized loans through the Federal Direct Loan program, the Federal Graduate PLUS Loan program, and certain alternative/private loan programs. We recommend that students apply for federal loans first then pursue additional sources of funding if necessary. Eligibility for the Federal Direct Loans is based on the student completing a Free Application for Federal Student Aid. All students must be enrolled at least half-time in order for the school to begin the process of submitting loan records to the Department of Education. Once the student aid report is received by the school, the Financial Aid Office will award the student based on the student's annual eligible amount up to the cost of attendance or remaining eligibility in the case where the student is close to their aggregate limit for Federal Direct Loans.

Direct Unsubsidized Loan

The Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan program, a student may borrow up to a maximum annual limit of \$20,500 a year, all of which is unsubsidized. The maximum aggregate amount of Federal Direct Loans an eligible student may borrow is \$138,500 including any Federal Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loans borrowed for undergraduate study. A graduate student may borrow up to the annual cost of attending Mississippi Valley State University minus any other aid for which the student is eligible.

Graduate PLUS Loan

The Graduate PLUS loan is a non-need based loan available to graduate students. The student must demonstrate credit worthiness. If you are determined to have an adverse credit history, you may still receive a Direct PLUS Loan if you obtain an endorser who does not have an adverse credit history. If other aid is received, the amount that a student may borrow is based on the annual cost of attending Mississippi Valley State University minus any other aid for which the student is eligible. There is no maximum aggregate limit.

Non Federal Loans

Alternative/Private Loans are available from private sources that are not based on financial need. We recommend that students apply for federal loans first and then pursue additional sources of funding if

necessary. The interest rate for non-federal loans is higher than that of the interest rate for federal loans and repayment may vary for the lender.

Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note

If you haven't previously received a loan at Mississippi Valley State University, you must complete Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note before the school will credit the first disbursement of your loan. Entrance counseling helps you to understand your responsibilities regarding your loan. Master Promissory Note is a legal document in which you promise to repay your federal student loan(s) and any accrued interest fees to your lender or loan holder. There is one MPN for Direct Subsidized/Unsubsidized Loans and a different MPN for Direct Plus Loans. Mississippi Valley State University requires students to complete Entrance Counseling and Master Promissory Note online at www.studentloans.gov. In-person counseling is only done in extenuating circumstances.

STANDARD OF SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS

Purpose

The intent of this policy is to (1) ensure that students using federal financial aid are demonstrating responsible use of federal funds in pursuit of their educational goals; and (2) set standards for monitoring all financial aid recipients' course completion rate each year to assist the student from exhausting financial aid eligibility before completion of the degree program.

Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) is mandated by federal regulations to determine and enforce standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress as it relates to your eligibility to receive federal aid funds including grants, loans, and work-study. The guidelines are established to encourage students to successfully complete courses for which aid is received. Students who are not successfully completing courses are suspended from receiving federal student loans.

Policy

Mississippi Valley State University students must show measurable academic progress towards a degree. Graduate students are required to earn a 3.00 Cumulative Grade Point Average in major courses of study in order to graduate. Students are required to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) by meeting requirements, both Qualitative and Quantitative Standards, to complete their educational program.

Qualitative Standards

Students must meet the standards for Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) as set by the Graduate School. Measurable academic progress must be shown toward completion of degree requirements and students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 and above.

Quantitative Standards

Students are expected to complete degree requirements within a reasonable time frame. Graduate students pursuing a degree are allowed to attempt up to 150% of the length of their academic program. For example, length of program = $36 \times 150\% = 54$ hours. MVSU graduate programs vary in length. Therefore, an average of the Master's degree programs is used. A graduate student will be allowed to receive financial aid for a second Master's degree up to 90 attempted credit hours. Incremental progression toward the degree must be made. Therefore, a minimum percentage of hours attempted must be completed. To meet this standard, students must complete 67% of hours attempted. This is calculated by determining the cumulative number of credit hours the student has successfully completed divided by the number of cumulative credit hours the student has attempted.

Grades

All MVSU credit hours attempted are in the Satisfactory Academic Progress calculation. Grades "F", "I", and "W" are not counted as hours completed. However, they are counted as hours attempted. Also, all repeat hours are counted as attempted hours. Passed hours may only be repeated ONCE for Title IV assistance.

Satisfactory Academic Progress Review

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) is measured at the end of each payment period (semester).

Financial Aid Suspension

Students who fail to complete the required hours and maintain the required cumulative GPA will be placed on Financial Aid Suspension. Students who fail to bring the cumulative GPA into compliance and/or complete the required hours, will be considered as not maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress and will be ineligible for Title IV assistance. Students placed on financial aid suspension may submit an appeal for reinstatement of aid due to mitigating circumstances that prevent them from maintaining Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).

Financial Aid Probation

Probation is an official warning from the university that the student has not maintained his/her academic standing. Students will be placed on Financial Aid Probation for one payment period (semester) after a successful appeal. At the end of the probationary period (semester), the student should have established Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP).

Appeal Procedures

Students who fail to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and have been placed on financial aid suspension may submit an appeal due to mitigating circumstances for reinstatement of aid. The appeal must clearly explain what mitigating circumstances caused the student to fail the standards and what has changed that will allow the student to make Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). A complete appeal application, due to mitigating circumstances, with supporting documentation must be submitted to the Office of Financial Aid. Satisfactory Academic Progress Appeal Applications received after the first day of class, will not be accepted. SAP Appeal Applications without supporting documentation will be deemed incomplete. The Financial Aid Appeals Committee will render a decision to the student by telephone and/or written notification. **The appeal decision is final.**

Mitigating Circumstances

Mitigating circumstances are unforeseen, special or unusual/traumatic conditions which caused undue hardship. These circumstances may include serious illness or injury relating to the student, death or serious illness of an immediate family member, significant traumatic occurrence that impaired emotional and/or physical health or other documented circumstances.

SAP Appeal Decisions

Reinstatement of Financial Aid will be based on the depth of the appeal statement, documentation received, and the academic record. Filing an appeal **does not** guarantee Financial Aid reinstatement. If your appeal is denied, you will be required to make payment arrangements with the Office of Student Accounts to pay any incurred charges. **You are responsible for all charges incurred during periods of ineligibility.** If your appeal is approved, your financial aid eligibility will be reinstated, and you will be placed on financial aid probation for one semester.

Financial aid will be reinstated for students who re-establish eligibility by maintaining the standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP). Reinstatement of an Academic Suspension to attend the university **does not** reinstate financial aid.

Winter session and Summer Session

Students (both undergraduate and graduate) who are deficient in credit hours or Grade Point Average at the end of the Spring Semester may make up the deficiencies during the winter session and/or Summer sessions.

Amendment to the Policy

This policy will be amended whenever applicable federal or state laws and regulations are changed.

Office of Graduate Studies Graduate Degree Programs

Department of Business Education

Master of Business Administration

Department of Criminal Justice

Master of Science in Criminal Justice

Department of Education

Master of Arts in Teaching

Master of Science in Elementary Education

Master of Science in Special Education

Department of Natural Science and Environmental Health

Master of Science in Bioinformatics

Master of Science in Environmental Health

Department of Social Sciences

Master of Arts in Rural Public Policy and Planning

Department of Social Work

Master of Social Work

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION



Purpose of the Program

The MBA Program will provide an opportunity to pursue an advanced management education for employees in the mid-delta region who have a strong desire for advanced degrees, but jobs and family responsibilities prevent them from traveling a long distance and also for those employees in the public and private sector who need advanced management skills.

The MBA Program at MVSU is modeled to reflect real-work business environments and conditions which require the integration of sound business and management practices, technological innovation, entrepreneurial vision, and effective human resource utilization, in both Domestic and International Business.

PROGRAM GOALS

The goals of the Department of Business Administration are to prepare students to be:

1. Articulate with business communication skills required in business situations and challenges, including non-verbal, written, and all forms of oral communication;
2. Familiar with and able to utilize an international perspective when examining business issues. That is, graduates will be able to meet both the personal and professional challenges in the culturally diverse global community. Students will understand the cultural diversity and the global interdependency that must be considered when contemplating the various aspects of international business including national and international policies (political environment), economics, trade factors (economic environment), ethics, cultural, and ethnic differences (social environment);
3. Computer literate; that is, have an understandings of the concepts, terminology, and operations related to general computer use and have the knowledge and ability to use computers and technology efficiently and effectively to research, prepare, and publish documents; research, prepare, and deliver presentations, charts, graphs, and illustrations. Graduates will have the essential knowledge needed to function independently with a computer, including solving problems, adapting to new situations, keeping information organized, and communicating effectively with other computer literate people;
4. Familiar with and able to utilize a range of theories and theoretical concepts related to core areas of business that are used and useful in today's business environment, including communication theories, business models, economic theory, accounting theory, marketing theory, management theory, among

others; and

5. Familiar with and have the entrepreneurial mindset to be able to effectively and efficiently engage in business practices within the mid-Delta region in particular and across the country in general.

Regular Admission Requirements

(A) Admission as a degree-seeking student

The MBA Program welcomes students with undergraduate degrees in any discipline.

Applicants to the MBA Program must submit the following:

1. A complete application form for the MVSU MBA Program certified transcripts of collegiate work.
2. Three letters of recommendation.
3. A written personal statement of career objective and how a MBA Program will aid in achieving the objective, is highly recommended for all applicants.
4. For international students, scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

The student's admission to the MBA program will be evaluated by the MBA Admission Committee in the Department of Business Administration.

(B) Admission as a Non-degree seeking student

Applicants who have met the undergraduate foundation CPC requirements but who have either a 2.80 overall GPA or 3.00 GPA in the last 60 hours of academic work attempted may be accepted on a non-degree-seeking basis. In this case, the student may take no more than six hours of graduate courses.

(C) Post Baccalaureate Students

Students who have received baccalaureate degrees, but have not been admitted to Graduate Studies are classified as post baccalaureate students. Post baccalaureate enrollment is offered to accommodate students who intend to enter Graduate studies at some future time, but need a substantial number of prerequisite or foundation courses.

Degree Requirements:

1. For those students who have a business degree and have met all CPC requirements, the following graduate credit hours constitute the requirements for MBA degree.
2. Earn a cumulative grade point average of not less than 3.00.
3. Earn a grade of "B" or better in courses approved for graduate credit.

Common Professional Component

Required Courses:	18 hrs
MBA 602 Managerial Economics	3 hrs
MBA 622 Managerial Accounting	3 hrs
MBA 624 Financial Management	3 hrs
MBA 634 Marketing Management	3 hrs
MBA 642 Operations Management	3 hrs
MBA 655 Strategic Management	3 hrs

Electives for Concentration:	12 hrs
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TOTAL 30 hrs

The MBA Program welcomes students with an undergraduate degree in any discipline. However, if a student has a non-business degree and lacks all or part of the course work for the foundation courses, the student needs to take all or part of the following courses prior to taking MBA 600 level courses.

Foundation Courses:

AC 221 Principles of Accounting	3 hrs
BA 212 Principles of Economics II	3 hrs
BA 322 Business Finance	3 hrs
BA 314 Management	3 hrs
BA 205 Business Statistics	3 hrs
BA 343 Principles of Marketing	3 hrs
TOTAL	18 hrs

GENERAL INFORMATION

Advisement

Each student will be assigned a faculty advisor upon the admission to the MBA Program. The student will meet the faculty advisor for course selection and receive approval of courses to be taken for the degree. Consultation on all academic matters should begin with the faculty advisor. Each student is expected to learn all rules, regulations, procedures published in this bulletin, and in departmental publications. Failure to do so may result in unnecessary delay in the student's study progression and thus, his/her graduation.

Academic Grades

The following grades are used in the graduate program: A, B, C, D, F, I (Incomplete), or W (Withdrawal). Students in the MBA Program must earn an overall average of "B" or higher in all graduate work toward the degree. Two "C's" and one "D" or "F" grade will result in an automatic withdrawal from the MBA Program. Students withdrawn from the program may re-apply after one year of self-development. Any student withdrawn twice shall no longer be accepted into the program.

Class Absences

Students in the MBA Program are expected to attend all regular class meetings. In case a student can not make the classes, the student should inform the instructor prior to the class time. Authorized absences do not relieve the student of his/her class responsibilities such as assignments and tests.

Load Limit

The normal load for a full-time student is nine semester hours during a regular semester and six semester hours per summer session. The recommended load for persons with a full time employment is six semester hours during a regular semester.

Time Limit

The degree must be completed within four calendar years from the time of initial enrollment in the graduate program.

Transfer of Credit

A maximum of six semester hours of graduate credit successfully completed in a graduate school of acceptable standing may be accepted toward fulfillment of the course requirements for the MBA degree provided the following conditions are met:

- A grade of "B" or better has been earned in the courses for which graduate credit is being sought.
- The credit has been earned within five years from the time that the student enrolled in the MBA program.
- The credit to be transferred must be recommended by the MBA Program Director and approved by the Dean.

Exit Examination (Major Field Tests by Education Testing Service)

MBA graduates are recommended to take the Major Field Tests by Education Testing Service as an exit examination which is designed exclusively to measure the level of competency in functional areas of business to determine the extent to which the intended student learning outcomes of the program have been achieved. The result of this exit examination will be the basis for the quality improvement on a continual basis.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE



Purpose of the Program

The Criminal Justice Master's Degree Program prepares students for both entry and supervisory level career positions in the federal, state and local criminal justice and juvenile justice agencies. Students who graduate from the program have the competence to assume policy, research and instructional responsibilities. A strong foundation is also laid for students who plan to pursue a doctorate degree in the discipline or related fields. In line with the student-centered focus of the University, course schedules are flexible. Most of the graduate classes are offered in the evening and on-line course schedules are designed to be flexible.

Admission

An applicant may be granted a regular or conditional admission to the Master of Science program in Criminal Justice.

Regular Admission

Requirements for regular admission are:

1. The applicant must hold a baccalaureate degree from an institution approved by a recognized accrediting agency.
2. The applicant must be eligible to re-enter, in good standing, the last college or university attended.
3. The applicant must provide evidence, by official transcript, of a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.50 for all undergraduate work, or a 3.00 GPA in at least six hours of graduate work from an accredited university or college.
4. The applicant must submit three letters from persons familiar with the applicant's fitness for graduate studies.
5. The applicant must complete an application for admission.

Conditional Admission

Conditional admission may be granted to applicants who do not meet the GPA requirement for admission. However, the conditional status may be removed if the student maintains a GPA of 3.00 or better in the first 12 credit hours of completed graduate work.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Advisement

When accepted into the Master of Science program in Criminal Justice, each student will be assigned to an advisor who must be a graduate faculty. The advisor will be responsible for advising the student on courses to take to meet the program requirements. It is, however, the student's responsibility to meet all requirements, including meeting with his or her advisor regularly.

Academic Grades

The following grades are used in the graduate program: A, B, C, D, F, I (Incomplete), or W (Withdrawal). A candidate of the Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice must earn an overall average of "B" or higher in all graduate work toward the degree. Two "C's", or one "D", or one grade of "F", will result in an automatic withdrawal from the program. Students withdrawn from the program may re-apply after one year of self-development. A student withdrawn twice shall no longer be accepted in the program.

Choice of Concentration

Students under the Concentration Curriculum Option must declare their area of concentration within the first or second semester and promptly inform their respective advisors and the graduate program coordinator. Students wishing to pursue the Generalist Curriculum Option must also declare their interest likewise.

Class Absences

There is no provision for absences from classes. Graduate students are expected to attend all regular class meetings.

Comprehensive Exam

A comprehensive examination will be administered to all candidates for the Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice at or near the completion of their required course of study. The examination is designed to test the student's knowledge of the Criminal Justice system, Criminology, and Research Methods. Students must pass the comprehensive examination before they can graduate. Students are allowed three attempts at the comprehensive examination. Students who cannot pass all areas of the comprehensive examination after three trials will be automatically withdrawn from the program. Comprehensive examination candidates are advised to take and pass Criminal Justice Overview, Administration and Management in Criminal Justice, Criminology, and Research Methods before signing up for the comprehensive examination. Failing any area of the Comprehensive Examination will require that the students retake the failed areas.

Load Limit

The normal load for a full-time student is nine semester hours during a regular semester and six semester hours per summer session. The recommended load for persons employed full-time is six semester hours during a regular semester and three hours each summer session.

Time Limit

The degree must be completed within four calendar years from the time of initial enrollment in the graduate program.

Transfer of Credit

A maximum of six semester hours of graduate credit successfully completed in a graduate College of acceptable standing may be accepted toward fulfillment of the course requirements for the Master of Sciences Degree in Criminal Justice, if the following conditions are met:

- A. A grade of "B" or better has been earned in the courses for which graduate credit is being sought.
- B. The credit has been earned within five years from the time that the student enrolled in the Master of Science in Criminal Justice program.
- C. The credit to be transferred must be recommended by the graduate program coordinator and approved by the department chair.
- D. Transfer credit is not granted for courses taken through correspondence.

Workshops

With the recommendation of the graduate program coordinator and the approval of the department chair, a maximum of three semester hours of workshop credit may be applied toward the degree requirements. Such workshops must be graduate credit awarding workshops.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM CURRICULA

The curriculum is designed to cover the components of the criminal justice system. The master's program offers two curricula options;

* Generalist Option – 36 Credit Hours

The generalist option is designed for students with no specific area of interest, and thus are prepared generally to fit into any area of the criminal justice system.

* Concentration Option – 36 Credit Hours

The Concentration option is designed for students with a specific chosen area of interest, such as criminology, law enforcement, corrections, or criminal justice system administration.

Required Courses (<i>Need 18 Credit Hours</i>)		Credit Hours
CJ 550*	The Criminal Justice System- An Overview	3
CJ 560*	Seminar in Criminological Theory	3
CJ 615	Advanced Research Methods	3
CJ 620	Seminar in Criminal Law and Procedure	3
CJ 640	Thesis (Prerequisite -- CJ630) or (two elective courses for non thesis students)	6

Required Concentration Courses (*Need 12 hours in any one concentration*):

A. Criminology

CJ 561	Crime and Criminal Behavior System	3
CJ 562	Seminar in Juvenile Delinquency	3
CJ 600	Law and Social Control	3
CJ 605	Environmental Criminology	3

B. Law Enforcement Concentration

CJ 563	Seminar in Law Enforcement	3
CJ 570	Seminar in Private and Industrial Security	3
CJ 593	Seminar in Police and Society	3
CJ 602	Seminar in Police Administration and Management	3

C. Corrections Concentration

CJ 564	Seminar in Corrections	3
CJ 589	Special Topics in Correctional Administration	3
CJ 603	Seminar in Rehabilitation and Resocialization	3
CJ 606	Seminar in Community Corrections	3

D. Criminal Justice Administration

CJ 565	Principles of Administration	3
CJ 567	Administrative and Management in Criminal	

Justice Organization	3
CJ 608 Human Resources Development in Organizational Chart	3
CJ 609 Seminar in Public Administration	3

Electives (Need 6 Credit Hours):

CJ 590 Comparative Criminal Justice	3
CJ 591 Special Topics in Criminal Justice	3
CJ 593 Seminar in Police Society	3
CJ 596 Seminar in Organized Crime	3
CJ 597 Seminar in Terrorism and Homeland Security	3
CJ 598 Seminar in Forensic Science	3
CJ 603 Seminar in Community Corrections	3
CJ 609 Seminar in Public Administration	3
CJ 630 Thesis Practicum	3
CJ 640 Thesis	3

Total Credit Hours Required for Graduation 36

*** To be taken in first semester of program**

Single Track (Generalist) Option Curriculum

In this curriculum, students are required to take 24 credit hours of core courses and 12 credits hours of elective courses of which six will be Thesis hours for thesis students.

Required Core Courses (Need 24 Credit Hours)

CJ 550*The Criminal Justice System-An Overview	3
CJ 560*Seminar in Criminological Theory	3
CJ 562 Seminar in Juvenile Delinquency	3
CJ 563 Seminar in Law Enforcement	3
CJ 564 Seminar in Corrections	3
CJ 567 Administration and Management in Criminal Justice	3
CJ 615 Advanced Research Methods	3
CJ 620 Seminar in Criminal Justice Law and Procedure	3

Elective Courses (Need 12 Credit Hours)

CJ 590 Comparative Criminal Justice	3
CJ 591 Special Topics in Criminal Justice	3
CJ 593 Seminar in Police & Society	3
CJ 596 Seminar in Organized Crime	3
CJ 597 Seminar in Terrorism	3
CJ 598 Seminar in Forensic Science	3
CJ 606 Seminar in Community Corrections	3
CJ 609 Seminar in Public Administration	3
CJ 630 Thesis Practicum	3
CJ 640 Thesis	6

Total Credit Hours Required For Graduation 36

*** To be taken in first semester of program**

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING



Purpose of the Program

The Master of Arts in Teaching Degree Program (MAT) is for individuals matriculating from non-teacher education programs. It is designed to prepare such graduates to become teachers, to accept professional responsibilities at the elementary and secondary levels, and to increase their leadership roles as community change agents. The program was conceived by the Mississippi State Department of Education and approved by the State Legislature to address the teacher shortage problem in Mississippi.

The Master of Arts in Teaching program at Mississippi Valley State University, like other graduate programs in education, adheres to the conceptual model of the teacher as a Holistic Transformer and the expected outcomes of the model, i.e., the teacher as a scholar, a facilitator, a reflective thinker, and a responsible professional as well as fosters the dispositions expected of a professional teacher. As such, the MAT program seeks to increase the competence that teachers need in the following professional areas:

Assessment - Graduate teacher candidates will...

1. Use research to assess the teaching/learning environment and enhance their practice.
2. Apply effective approaches to assessment, evaluation and diagnosis
3. Evaluate and select appropriate resources and materials to support student learning.
4. Use technology to collect, analyze and interpret data.
5. Effectively communicate with parents, students and stakeholders about assessment policies, plans and outcomes.

Diversity - Graduate teacher candidates will...

1. Meet the needs of diverse learners by differentiating instruction, activities and assessments.
2. Implement culturally responsive curriculum pedagogy and classroom management practices.
3. Establish collaborative partnerships with families, schools, and communities to promote a positive school culture and climate.
4. Use technology to differentiate instruction for learners and understanding of...

Leadership - Graduate teacher candidates will demonstrate an understanding of...

1. How to use effective communication, team-building and collaboration to facilitate a nurturing, inviting, inclusive, supportive and respectful classroom environment.
2. How to use knowledge, skills and dispositions to promote an educational environment that values reflective practice.
3. Professional learning communities and their function within the educational setting.
4. The importance of professional literature and continued professional development.

Research - Graduate teacher candidates will...

1. Understand the fundamental assumptions, goal, and practices of educational research.
2. Understand and use the research process to adapt instruction and guide student learning.
3. Distinguish features of various research designs traditionally used in education.
4. Critique published research in order to influence practice.
5. Engage in the research process to effect change and solve educational challenges/issues.

Admission to the Program

For admission to the Master of Arts in Teaching Degree Program, applicants must:

1. *Hold a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution;
2. *Have left the last college or university attended in good standing;
3. Present evidence, by official transcript, of a minimum grade point average of 2.50 on all undergraduate study on a 4.00 GPA system;
4. Present PRAXIS I (Professional Skills Test-PPST)(Praxis Core Test) or Computer-Base Test scores which meet Mississippi Certification requirements for all subjects;
5. Present PRAXIS II Specialty Area scores which meet Mississippi Certification requirements in the content area required;
6. Submit three letters of recommendation which address professional qualifications, potential for success as a classroom teacher, and potential for program completion. **Applicants must request their references to address these characteristics; and**
7. Demonstrate writing ability. All applicants are required to submit a two-page (minimum), computer generated, self-created essay on their philosophy of education and why they wish to pursue the Master of Arts in Teaching Degree.

Note: **These must be on file to qualify for conditional admission. Applicants are responsible for securing their own transcripts, even from Mississippi Valley State University.*

An applicant who meets all admission requirements specified above is granted full admission. Conditional admission may be assigned to students who either (1) have not fulfilled one or more admission requirements, or (2) do not possess a GPA of 2.50 at the undergraduate level (on a 4.00 scale), but meet other criteria for full admission. Students can earn full admission in the first semester of full-time enrollment or in the first 12 hours of part-time enrollment (1) by supplying any missing credentials and (2) by acquiring a GPA of 3.00 on all graduate work within the first 12 hours as well as a “B” average in the courses prescribed to correct deficiencies.

Academic Grades

The following grades are assigned to graduate work: A, B, C, D, F, I (Incomplete), and W (Withdrawal). Other grade requirements are as follows:

- Master of Science Degree candidates in Elementary Education, Special Education or Master of Arts in Teaching must maintain an overall GPA of 3.00 (“B” average) on all graduate work leading toward the degree.
- A grade of “C” within the first 12 hours will require the student to take the GRE.
- Students who have been in the graduate program for two or more semesters and do not have a 3.00 GPA will be terminated.
- Students who do not have a 3.00 GPA after one semester will receive a letter of academic probation.
- Students who are placed on academic probation will have one semester to bring their average to a GPA of 3.00. Failure to raise the GPA will result in termination.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Non-Degree Status

Applicants with no intention of pursuing a graduate degree and with an undergraduate grade-point average of 2.50 or higher will be admitted as non-degree seeking students. Non-degree students who later

apply for and are accepted in a degree program may transfer a maximum of nine hours earned in this category. Enrollment is restricted to courses at the 500 level.

Advisement

When admitted to the program, each student will be assigned an advisor from the graduate faculty. Coordinators of Graduate Programs of each college or department will serve as advisors for all conditional students.

Candidacy

Students must apply for admission to candidacy when: (1) all admission criteria have been met and (2) all core courses have been successfully completed with at least a 3.00 GPA.

Graduate Comprehensive Examination

A final examination is required of all degree candidates. This may include a written examination, an oral examination, or both. This examination will assess the candidate's familiarity with the content, knowledge, and the literature and assess the candidate's proficiency in oral and written communication. The purpose of the examination is to ensure that candidates have acquired the knowledge, skills, and dispositions expected of them. Candidates must take and pass the Comprehensive Examination two months before graduation. Students applying to take the Comprehensive Examination must be within six hours of completing course work. Application forms for the Graduate Comprehensive Examination may be obtained from the department. All candidates intending to take the Comprehensive Examination must enroll in ED 599.

Graduate Requirements

To exit the program, MAT candidates must:

1. Complete 33 hours of course work with a 3.00 GPA with not more than one "C" grade;
2. Take and pass the Comprehensive Examination; and
3. Submit a professional portfolio.

Off-Campus Credits

Graduate credits earned at the Greenville Higher Education Center may be applied to the degree program as long as those courses meet program requirements. Graduate credits from correspondence courses cannot be used to meet degree requirements.

Professional Portfolio

MAT candidates will develop and present a portfolio highlighting and tracing their development through the program. The portfolio will include, but will not be limited to, the following details:

1. Autobiographical information and educational philosophy
2. Knowledge of subject matter
3. Knowledge of Human Development and Learning
4. Adapting Instruction for Individual Needs
5. Multiple Instructional Strategies
6. Classroom Motivation and Management
7. Communication Skills
8. Instructional Planning Skills
9. Assessment of Student Learning
10. Professional Commitment and Responsibility
11. Partnerships

Program Requirements

1. A minimum of 33 semester hours of course work is required in the Master of Arts in Teaching Program. Students must maintain a minimum GPA of 3.00.

2. A special license can be obtained through the State Office of Teacher Licensure in order to secure employment in a school district. The license, valid for three years, is issued upon completing the two pre-teaching courses and upon receipt of test scores, transcript, application, and institutional recommendation.
3. Upon completion of the first 12 hours of coursework, a five year standard teaching license (class A) will be issued by the State Office of Teacher Licensure, MDE. It is the student's responsibility to pursue this.
4. A Graduate Comprehensive Examination is required of all degree candidates.

Residence

At least 27 semester hours applied to the degree must be met in residence. Other residence requirements of the University must be met, also.

Responsibilities of the Graduate Student

Each graduate student is responsible for knowledge of all regulations and procedures published in this catalog and in departmental publications. The student must assume the initiative in such matters as securing approval of a program of study and arranging for the required tests and examinations. Failure to do so may result in unnecessary delay or interruption of graduate study.

Special Provisions

1. Applicants must have a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution in any discipline.
2. Applicants must present successful scores of the PRAXIS I & II. The PRAXIS II must be taken in one of these areas: Social Science (History), Mathematics, English, Science (e.g., General Science, Biology), Music, Physical Education, or Elementary Education (4-8).
3. An applicant in the secondary areas must take six hours of content courses at the graduate level in the discipline in which he or she took the PRAXIS II, the discipline in which he or she is preparing to teach.
4. Only six hours of transfer courses will be accepted. Only three credit hours can be transferred from the pre-teaching area. These issues must be discussed during the semester of admission.
5. Persons with **Class-A Alternative Route Certification are also eligible for the program**, provided they choose to complete the total program, including the pre-teaching courses.
6. The approved teacher education areas at MVSU as of July 1998 are:

Biology Education

Mathematics Education

Elementary Education

Physical Education

Social Studies Education

English Education

Music Education

Time Limit

Only course credits less than six years old may be applied to degree requirements.

Transfer Credit

Transfer credits from another university may be accepted toward fulfilling the requirements for the master's degree. These credits must be from an accredited university and must be appropriate to the program. A maximum of six hours may be transferred; however, grades below "B" are not acceptable. Internship credit hours cannot be transferred, and only three credit hours may be transferred from the pre-teaching category.

PRAXIS I and PRAXIS II (Content Area) Codes

For admittance to the Master of Arts in Teaching program, candidates **MUST** take and pass Praxis I (Praxis Core) and Praxis II (Content Area). The approved content areas and test codes for the following can be obtained from www.ets.org.

Biology
English
Mathematics
Music

Elementary Education
Physical Education
Social Studies

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING PROGRAM CURRICULA

Pre-Teaching Required Courses

ED 502 Classroom Management and Organization	3 hours
ED 503 Development, Assessment, and Evaluation	3 hours

Courses Required During First Year of Teaching

*ED506 Dimensions of Learning/Internship	3 hours
*ED507 Dimension of Learning/ Internship	3 hours

**Candidates must secure employment in a school district in order to sign up for these internship (one year duration).*

Upon completion of the above course, candidates must apply for a Class A License.

Core Courses for AA Licensure

SE 550 Assessment & Individualized Programming for Disabled	3 hours
ED 510 Research in Education	3 hours
ED 512 Technology for Teachers	3 hours
ED 528 Language & Communication Arts Across the Curriculum	3 hours

At this point, candidates may elect to complete either the Elementary or Secondary Track

Elementary Track

ED 520 Reading in the Elementary School	3 hours
ED 521 Children's Literature	3 hours
ED 540 Effective Teaching Strategies	3 hours

Secondary Track

ED 540 Effective Teaching Strategies	3 hours
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(Minimum of 6 hours of Content in a Specified Area)

English

EN 500 Seminar in Literacy Stylistics	3 hrs
EN 501 Contemp. Perspective on Lit. Criticism	3hrs.
EN 502 Twentieth Century Novel	3hrs.
EN 503 World Drama	3hrs.
EN 504 Studies Mod. Eng. Grammar & Ling.	3hrs.
EN 505 Creative Writing and Editing	3hrs.

Social Science

HI 601D Colonial America	3hrs
HI 601E History of the South	3hrs
HI 603 Reading in Latin American History	3hrs

Science

SC 534 Phy. Sci for Sec. Schl. Teachers	3 hrs
SC 544 Bio. Sci for Sec. Schl. Teachers	3 hrs

Mathematics

MA 525 Probability & Statistics	3 hrs
MA 533 Concepts of Mathematics III	3 hrs
MA 502 Elementary Statistics	3 hrs

Music

MU 541 Instrumental Conducting	3hrs
MU 543 Music Methods and Material	3hrs

Physical Education

PE 530 Physiological Aspects of Exercise	3 hrs
PE 605 Curriculum Design in PE	3 hrs
PE 607 Advance Teaching Methods of PE	3 hrs
PE 611 Research Methods in PE and Sports	3 hrs

ED 599 Comprehensive Examination (P/F)

0 hrs.

- Upon completion of 33 hours in Elementary or Secondary Track, candidates would be eligible for a Class AA (4-8 or 7-12 as appropriate) License.
- All graduate students must take and pass the Comprehensive Exam to exit any graduate program.
- MAT candidates must complete and submit a Professional Portfolio. This is a graduation requirement.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION



Purpose of the Program

The Master of Science Degree program in Elementary Education is designed to prepare students to accept professional responsibilities at the elementary school level and to increase their leadership role as community change agents. Consistent with the larger education unit, this program not only adheres to the Conceptual Model of the Teacher as Holistic Transformer, but also has as its goals the extension of the four expected outcomes of the model:

Assessment - Graduate teacher candidates will...

1. Use research to assess the teaching/learning environment and enhance their practice.
2. Apply effective approaches to assessment, evaluation and diagnosis
3. Evaluate and select appropriate resources and materials to support student learning.
4. Use technology to collect, analyze and interpret data.
5. Effectively communicate with parents, students and stakeholders about assessment policies, plans and outcomes.

Diversity - Graduate teacher candidates will...

1. Meet the needs of diverse learners by differentiating instruction, activities and assessments.
2. Implement culturally responsive curriculum pedagogy and classroom management practices.
3. Establish collaborative partnerships with families, schools, and communities to promote a positive school culture and climate.
4. Use technology to differentiate instruction for learners and understanding of...

Leadership - Graduate teacher candidates will demonstrate an understanding of...

1. How to use effective communication, team-building and collaboration to facilitate a nurturing, inviting, inclusive, supportive and respectful classroom environment.
2. How to use knowledge, skills and dispositions to promote an educational environmental that values reflective practice.
3. Professional learning communities and their function within the educational setting.
4. The importance of professional literature and continued professional development.

Research - Graduate teacher candidates will...

1. Understand the fundamental assumptions, goal, and practices of educational research.

2. Understand and use the research process to adapt instruction and guide student learning.
3. Distinguish features of various research designs traditionally used in education.
4. Critique published research in order to influence practice.
5. Engage in the research process to effect change and solve educational challenges/issues.

Admission to the Program

To be considered for full admission to the graduate program in Elementary Education, the applicant must:

1. Have at least a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution.
2. Have appropriate undergraduate preparation and Mississippi Teacher Licensure in the proposed major field (Class A Certification). **
3. Have left his or her last college or university attended in good standing.
4. Present evidence, by official transcript, of a grade point average of at least 2.50 on all undergraduate studies.
5. Present PRAXIS II scores which at least meet the Mississippi Certification requirements. Students from states not requiring PRAXIS II for certification must present GRE scores on the General Test (verbal and quantitative). Applicants licensed in Mississippi may not have to show PRAXIS scores.
6. Submit three letters of recommendation which address:
 - a. Professional qualifications
 - b. Potential for success as a classroom teacher
 - c. Potential for program completion
 * Applicants must request their references to address these characteristics.
7. Demonstrate writing ability. All applicants are required to submit a two-page (minimum), computer generated self-created essay on their philosophy of education and why they wish to pursue a master's degree in Elementary Education.

* Applicants with certification from other states must seek reciprocity from the Mississippi Department of Education.

* Applicant who meet all admission requirements specified above are granted full admission.

Conditional Admission may be granted to students who:

1. Have not fulfilled one or more of the admission requirements and
2. Do not possess a cumulative GPA of 2.50 at the undergraduate level on a 4.00 scale-only in the case of candidates with other strong qualities. Students must earn regular admission by:
 - Supplying all missing credentials and
 - Acquiring a GPA of 3.00 on all graduate work within the first 12 hours with a "B" average in the undergraduate courses prescribed.

Non-Degree Status

Applicants with no intention of pursuing a graduate degree program and whose undergraduate grade point average is 2.70 or higher will be admitted as non-degree students. Non-degree students who later apply for and are accepted in a degree program may apply for a maximum of nine hours of graduate work taken in non-degree status towards their degree. Such courses must be at the 500 level.

Academic Grades

1. The following are assigned to graduate course work: A, B, C, D, F, I (Incomplete), and W (Withdrawal). Master of Sciences Degree candidates in Elementary Education, Special Education or Master of Arts in Teaching must retain an overall GPA of 3.00 ("B" average) on all graduate work leading toward the degree.
2. A grade of "C" within the first 12 hours will require students to take the GRE.

3. Students who have been in the graduate program for two or more semesters and do not have a 3.00 GPA will be terminated.
4. Students who do not have a 3.00 GPA after one semester will receive a letter of academic probation.
5. Students who are placed on academic probation will have one semester to bring their average to a GPA of 3.00. Failure to raise the GPA will result in termination.

Visiting Status

Applicants wishing to earn certification, update professional skills, earn transfer credit, or engage in other meaningful lifelong learning experiences may enroll in a visiting status by: (1) filing an application for admission and (2) providing official transcripts from colleges or universities previously attended. This status does not entitle an applicant to any specific program. Students with visiting status who wish to earn a graduate degree at a later date must meet all criteria for regular admission and must have a 3.00 GPA for any graduate course taken as a visiting student with no grade less than "B."

Deadline for Admission

Admission to a degree program is made in the Fall and Spring Semesters. The deadlines for fall applications is March 15, and the deadline for Spring applications is September 15. Applicants for Conditional Status or Visiting Status must meet appropriate admission criteria before registering for classes. This policy applies to both regular semesters and to summer school.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Responsibilities of the Graduate Student

Each graduate student is responsible for knowledge of all regulations and procedures published in this catalog and in departmental publications. The student must assume the initiative in such matters as securing approval of a program of study and arranging for required tests and examinations. Failure to do so may result in unnecessary delays or interruptions of graduate study.

Program Requirements

A minimum of 36 semester hours is required for all Master of Science degree programs in education. Students must maintain at least a 3.00 GPA to exit any graduate program.

Candidacy

Students may apply for admission to candidacy when: (1) all admission criteria have been met and (2) all core courses have been successfully completed with at least a 3.00 GPA.

Transfer Credit

Transfer credits from another university may be accepted toward fulfilling the requirements for the master's degree. These credits must be from an accredited university and must be appropriate to the specified program. A maximum of six hours may be transferred; however, grades below "B" are not acceptable.

Off Campus Credits

Graduate credits may be earned at either the Greenville Higher Education Center or the Greenwood Center as long as those courses meet program requirements. Graduate credits from correspondence courses cannot be used to meet degree requirements.

Advisement

When admitted at regular status, each student will be assigned an advisor from the graduate faculty. Coordinators of Graduate Programs will serve as advisors for all conditional and visiting status students.

Directed/Individual Studies

No more than three semester hours of individual studies or workshops will apply toward degree requirements. Workshops and individual studies must be approved by the student's advisor, the appropriate coordinator, and the dean.

Residence

At least 27 semester hours applied to the degree must be met in residence. Other residence requirements of the University must also be met.

Time Limit

Only course credits less than six years old may be applied to degree requirements.

Graduate Comprehensive Examination

A final examination is required of all degree candidates. This may include a written examination, an oral examination, or both. This examination will assess: (1) the candidate's familiarity with the content knowledge and the literature, (2) the candidates proficiency in oral and written communication, and (3) the professional dispositions expected of classroom teachers. Candidates must take and pass the Comprehensive Examination two months before graduation. Students applying to take the Comprehensive Examination must have a 3.00 GPA and must be within six hours of completing the course work. Application forms for the Graduate Comprehensive Examination may be obtained from the appropriate graduate school or college. All candidates intending to take the Comprehensive Examination must have registered for ED 599-Comprehensive Examination Seminar.

Research Project

All degree candidates are required to conduct research in a scholarly and systematic manner for the Master of Science Degree. The completion of the research project must be in accordance with the Research Manual of the College of Education. The research project is a graduation requirement

CURRICULA PATTERN FOR MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PROGRAM

ED 501 Advanced Education psychology	3
ED 505 Historical and Philosophical Foundation	3
ED 508 Curriculum Development	3
ED 510 Research in Education	3
ED 512 Technology for Teachers	3

Required Major Courses (15 Semester Hours)

ED 520 Reading in Elementary School	3
ED 522 Trends in Teaching Science	3
ED 524 Trends in Teaching Mathematics	3
ED 526 Trends in Teaching Social Studies	3
ED 528 Language and Communication Arts Across the Curriculum	3

Required Research

ED 530 Field Project/Research	3
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Suggested Electives (Minimum of 6 Hours)

ED 540 Effective Teaching Strategies	3
ED 542 Leadership Skills for the Elementary Teachers	3
ED 544 Diagnostic and Remedial Reading	3
ED 546 Social Problems in the Elementary School	3
SE 550 Assessment and Individualized programming for Disables	3
SE 552 Education of Children with Emotional Disabilities	3
SE 557 Education and Psychology of Children w/ Learning Disabilities	3

SE 577 Education and Psychology of Students w/ Mental Retardation	3
ED 593 Workshop in Education	3
ED 595 Individual Studies	3

TOTAL HOURS REQUIRED 36

Notes:

1. ED 599 Comprehensive Examination (P/F) 0 hours
2. A maximum of 3 hours of Workshop in Education or Individual Studies may be applied to the degree program.
3. All graduate students must take and pass the Comprehensive Exam to exit any graduate program.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION



Purpose of the Program

The Master of Science Degree program in Special Education is designed to prepare graduates to accept professional responsibilities at the elementary school and secondary school levels and to increase their leadership role as community change agents. Consistent with the larger Education Unit, this program not only adheres to the Conceptual Model of the Teacher as Holistic Transformer, but has as its goals the extension of the four expected outcomes of the model. The program seeks to increase the competence that teachers need in performing, at least, the following five professional roles:

1. Acquiring the knowledge base in education to provide leadership and to guide the learning process (Scholarship);
2. Fostering students' personal growth and independence (Facilitator);
3. Solving problems and thinking critically (Reflective Thinker);
4. Continuing professional growth throughout their careers (Responsible Professional); and
5. Inculcate in them an understanding and appreciation of diversity and professional dispositions.

Admission to the Program

To be considered for full admission to the above graduate program, the applicant must:

1. Have at least a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution;
2. *Have appropriate undergraduate preparation and certification in the proposed major field, and a Mississippi Class A Standard Certification in either Special Education or any Education area. Applicants without an undergraduate degree in Special Education will be expected to complete prescribed undergraduate hours in Special Education;
3. Have left his/her last college or university attended in good standing;
4. Present evidence, by official transcript, of a grade point average of at least 2.50 on all undergraduate studies;
5. Present PRAXIS II scores which at least meet the Mississippi Certification requirements; students from states not requiring PRAXIS for certification must present GRE scores on the General Testing (verbal and quantitative); applicants licensed in Mississippi may not have to show PRAXIS scores;
6. Present three letters of recommendation which address:
 - a. Professional qualifications

- b. Potential for success as a classroom teacher
- c. Potential for program completion

Applicant must request their references to address these characteristics; and

7. Demonstrate writing ability. All applicants are required to submit a two-page (minimum), computer generated, self-created essay on their philosophy of education and why they wish to pursue a master's degree in Special Education.

* Applicants with certification from other states must seek reciprocity from the Mississippi Department of Education. Applicants who meet all admission requirements specified above are granted full admission.

Conditional Admission may be granted to students who:

1. have not fulfilled one or more admission requirements or
2. do not possess a cumulative GPA of 2.50 at the undergraduate level on 4.00 scale- only in the case of candidates with other strong qualities.

Student must earn regular admission by:

1. supplying any missing credentials and
2. acquiring a GPA of 3.00 on all work within the first 12 hours with a "B" average in the undergraduate course prescribed.

Academic Grades

1. The following grades are assigned to graduate course work: A, B, C, D, F, I (Incomplete), and W (Withdrawal).
2. Master of Science Degree candidates in Elementary Education, Special Education or Master of Arts in Teaching must retain an overall GPA of 3.00 ("B" average) on all graduate work leading toward the degree.
3. A grade of "C" within the first 12 hours will require the student to take the GRE.
4. Students who have been in the graduate program for two or more semesters and do not have a 3.00 GPA will be terminated.
5. Students who do not have a 3.00 GPA after one semester will receive a letter of academic probation.
6. Students who are placed on academic probation will have one semester to bring their average to a GPA of 3.00. Failure to raise the GPA will result in termination.

Non-Degree Status

Applicants with no intention of pursuing a graduate degree program and whose undergraduate grade point average is 2.70 or higher will be admitted as non-degree students. Non-degree students who later apply for and are accepted in a degree program may apply a maximum of nine hours of graduate work taken in a non-degree program. Such courses must be at the 500 level.

Visiting Status

Applicants wishing to earn certification, update professional skills, earn transfer credit, or engage in other meaningful lifelong learning experiences may enroll in a visiting status by: (1) filing an application for admission and (2) providing official transcripts from colleges or universities previously attended. This status does not entitle an applicant to any specific program. Students with visiting status who wish to earn a graduate degree at a later date must meet all criteria for regular admission and must have a 3.00 GPA for any graduate course taken as a visiting student with no grade less than "B."

Deadline for Admission

Admission to a degree program is made in the Fall and Spring Semesters. The deadline for Fall

applications is March 15 and the deadline for Spring application is September 15. Applicants for conditional status or visiting status must meet appropriate admission criteria before registering for classes. This policy applies to both regular semesters and to summer school.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Responsibilities of the Graduate Student

Each graduate student is responsible for knowledge of all regulations and procedures published in this catalog and in departmental publications. The student must assume the initiative in such matters as securing approval of a program of study and arranging for required tests and examinations. Failure to do so may result in unnecessary delay or interruptions of graduate study.

Program Requirements

A minimum of 36 semester hours is required for all Master of Science degree programs in education. Students must maintain at least a 3.00 GPA to exit any graduate program.

Candidacy

Students may apply for admission to candidacy when: (1) all admission criteria have been met and (2) all Core Courses have been successfully completed with at least a 3.00 GPA.

Transfer Credits

Transfer credits from another university may be accepted toward fulfilling the requirements for the master's degree. These credits must be from an accredited university and must be appropriate to the specific program. A maximum of six hours may be transferred; however, grades below "B" are not acceptable.

Off Campus Credits

Graduate credits may be earned at either the Greenville Center or the Greenwood Center as long as those courses meet program requirements. Graduate credits from correspondence courses cannot be used to meet degree requirements.

Advisement

When admitted at regular status, each student will be assigned an advisor from the graduate faculty. Coordinators of Graduate Programs will serve as advisors for all conditional and visiting status students.

Directed/Individual Studies

No more than three semester hours of individual studies or workshops will apply towards degree requirements. Workshops and Individual Studies must be approved by the student's advisor, the appropriate coordinator, and the dean.

Residence

At least 27 semester hours applied to the degree must be met in residence. Other residence requirements of the University must also be met.

Time Limit

Only course credits less than six years old may be applied to degree requirements.

Graduate Comprehensive Examination

A final examination is required of all degree requirement candidates. This may include a written examination, an oral examination, or both. This examination will assess the candidate's familiarity with the content knowledge and the literature, assess the candidate's proficiency in oral and written communication, and assess the candidate's professional disposition expected of classroom teachers. Candidates must take and pass the Comprehensive Examination two months before graduation.

Candidates applying to take the Comprehensive Examination must have a 3.00 GPA and must be within

six hours of completing course work. Application forms for the Graduate Comprehensive Examination may be obtained from the appropriate graduate school or department. All candidates intending to take the Comprehensive Examination must have taken ED 599-Comprehensive Examination Seminar.

Research Project

All degree candidates are required to conduct research in a scholarly and systematic manner for the Master of Science Degree. The completion of the research project must be in accordance with the Research Manual of the College of Education. The research project is a graduation requirement, and must be completed and approved two months before graduation.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM CURRICULA

Core Courses (6 Semester Hours)		Hours
ED 505	Historical and Philosophical Foundation of Education	3
ED 508	Curriculum Development	3
ED 510	Research Methods +	3
ED 530	Research Project	0

Required Major Courses (15 Semester Hours)		
SE 510*	Organizational Procedures for Special Education	3
SE 547*	Behavior Management for Special Education	3
SE 550*	Assessment and Individual Programming for Children with Disabilities	3
SE 555*	Education of Students with Mild to Moderate Disabilities	3
SE 560*	Inclusion of Children with Disabilities in Regular Education	3
ED 599	Comprehensive Exam**	0

Emotionally Disabled Concentration Requirements (12 Hours)		
SE 542	Characteristics of Children with Emotional Disabilities	3
SE 552	Education of Children with Emotional Disabilities	3
SE 556*	Method of Teaching Secondary Students with/ Moderate Disabilities	3
SE 559	Early Intervention for Infants/Toddlers with Disabilities	3

Mildly/Moderately Disabled Concentration Requirement (12 Hours)		
SE 556*	Methods of Teaching Secondary Students with /Moderate Disabilities	3
SE 557*	Education and Psychology of Children with /Learning Disabilities	3
SE 559	Early Intervention for Infants/Toddlers with Disabilities	3
SE 577	Education and Psychology of Students with /Mental Retardation	3

**A Research Project is required as part of course work in the student's area of concentration.
This is a graduation requirement.**

Electives (Minimum of 3 Semester Hours)		
SE 544	Diagnostic and Remedial Reading	3
SE 558	Teaching Children with Severe/Profound Disabilities	3
SE 579	Psychology and Education of the Gifted Students	3
SE 580	Technology in Special Education	3
SE 581	Method, Materials, and Resources for Teaching the Gifted	3

Total Semester Hours	36
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Notes:

1. SE 325, Survey of the Exceptional Child, or its equivalent is a prerequisite for this program.
2. *Indicates courses which may be used to meet “add-on” certification requirements.
3. Course work for endorsement in (a) Education of Students Who are Gifted and Talented, (b) Special Education in Early Childhood, and/or (c) Education of Children with Severe and Profound Disabilities may be taken in addition to the 36 hours above.
4. All graduate students must take and pass a comprehensive examination and submit an acceptable and approved research project to exit the program.
5. **ED 599 is a prerequisite for the Comprehensive Exam.
6. Special Education candidates must complete a research project.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOINFORMATICS



Purpose of the Program

The Bioinformatics Program is a two-year, multi-disciplinary program in molecular biology, computer science, and mathematics designed to train students through a combination of core and advanced courses, workshops, lectures by leading scientists in various areas of bioinformatics, research/internships, and seminars. Emphasis is placed on providing high quality research experiences through close relations with scientists of the program and scientists from partnering institutions and industries.

To receive a Master's degree in two years, students must demonstrate mastery of the core subject matter. Students must also demonstrate a working knowledge of computational methods available to the modern bio-informatician and also complete an internship in one of the fields of bioinformatics. Upon completion of the internship, the student is required to submit a written and oral report on her/his internship experience.

Admission Requirements

To be considered for admission, a first time graduate student or a student transferring from a graduate program at another university or from another graduate program at Mississippi Valley State University must fulfill the following general admissions requirements:

1. A bachelor's degree from an accredited university;
2. A minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale;
3. An acceptable GRE general test score (verbal and quantitative combined);
4. Two lab based science courses, a statistics course, a calculus course, and a computer science course;
5. Three letters of recommendations;
6. A statement of interest;
7. Complete transcripts of undergraduate work or any previous, relevant graduate work;
8. Submit TOFEL scores, if an international student; and
9. A completed MVSU Graduate School application.

An applicant may be granted regular or conditional admission to the Master of Science Program in Bioinformatics (BF). The general guidelines of the MVSU Graduate Studies Program apply.

Degree Requirements

The Master of Science Program in Bioinformatics welcomes all students with undergraduate degrees in the sciences or a related discipline who believe they are prepared to meet the challenges of the program. The curriculum for the Master of Science in Bioinformatics has provisions for a thesis and non-thesis option. The requirements for completion of each consists of the following 27 graduate credit hours which constitute the course core requirements for a Master in Bioinformatics degree, all workshops, journal clubs and the following non-core requirements:

Core Requirements

Courses	Hours
BF 601 Introduction to Bioinformatics	3
BF 602 Databases –Mining, Relationships and Programming	3
BF 603 Design of Experiments	3
BF 611 Genomics and Genome Technology	3
BF 612 Algorithms –Design and Analysis	3
BF 613 Bioinformatics Programming	3
BF 701 Systems Biology	3
BF 711 Proteomics	3
BF 712 Statistical Bioinformatics	3
TOTAL	27

Required Examinations

All students will be required to take and pass both an oral and written comprehensive examination during the semester prior to their anticipated graduation. These examinations should be viewed as an opportunity for students to look at their total graduate experience and visualize connections between both application and theory. The examinations are not intended as a test or rote regurgitation of facts, but as a way of demonstrating proficiency and knowledge about the fields of bioinformatics. An application to take the tests must be submitted to the Bioinformatics Program Office no later than September 15 or February 15 of the semester prior to the anticipated graduation date. Each student is allowed to take these examinations twice. Failure to pass these examinations twice will result in dismissal from the program. An application for examination may be obtained from the Bioinformatics Program office.

Time Limit

The degree must be completed within five calendar years from the time of initial enrollment in The Bioinformatics Program.

Advisement

After admission into the Master of Bioinformatics Program, each student will be assigned an advisor who must be a graduate faculty within the Program. The advisor will be responsible for advising the students to meet the program requirements for graduation and, in conjunction with the student, complete and submit a Program of Study form. This form must be filed with the BF Program office during his or her first semester of enrollment. It is the student's responsibility to meet all the requirements, including meeting with his or her advisor on a regular basis.

Non-Core Requirements

Thesis Option

Nine hours of thesis research in Bioinformatics (mathematics/computer science/molecular biology) combined with 27 credit hours and an oral defense.

BF 795 Thesis Research	3 hours
BF 796 Thesis Research	3 hours
BF 797 Thesis Research	3 hours

Thesis Advisor

The thesis advisor may be any member of the BF core faculty group. The student should consult the faculty member with whom he or she wishes to work and secure that person's consent. The thesis advisor will be responsible for guiding the student through the process of writing, revising, and submitting the thesis.

Thesis Committee

The Thesis Committee, to be chosen by the student in consultation with the thesis advisor, will consist of three members: the thesis advisor and two readers familiar with the proposed area of study. If the topic necessitates a specialist outside the BF core faculty, a curriculum vitae must be submitted documenting the person's expertise. An "Appointment of Thesis Committee" form must also be submitted to the Bioinformatics Program's office with the appropriate signatures. The student will also be responsible for setting up a work schedule, carrying out research on the proposed topic, and writing the thesis. The members of the Thesis Committee will act only in an advisory capacity.

Thesis Proposal

The thesis proposal should consist of (1) a one or two-page statement of purpose, addressing aims, methods, and sources, as well as topic feasibility and work schedule; (2) a working outline; and (3) a preliminary bibliography. The proposal must be approved by the student's thesis advisor and then submitted, along with the appropriately signed form (The Master's Thesis Proposal), to the Bioinformatics Program Office for approval by the director of Bioinformatics and the Thesis Committee.

Request for Oral Defense

Each student will be required to submit the final draft of his or her thesis to be reviewed for technical and grammatical correctness by his/her thesis advisor, to each of the committee members at least four weeks before the oral defense. The student should secure the signatures of all members of the Thesis Committee on the "Preliminary Approval of Thesis and Request for Oral Defense" form and submit it to the Bioinformatics Program Office. By signing, each member acknowledges receipt of a copy of the thesis draft and agrees to be present at the defense on the schedule date. Upon completion of the oral defense, the student will meet with the thesis advisor to complete a "Thesis Defense Report" form. This document will be signed by all committee members and submitted to the Bioinformatics Program Office.

Review by Thesis Committee

Copies of the thesis are submitted to the Committee, who will read and evaluate the work. The copies are then returned to the student with comments and recommendations for revision. The thesis advisor will oversee the review and the final revised copy. Final approval of the thesis will be indicated by a signature on the title page of the thesis by the members of the Thesis Committee.

Submission of the Thesis

Three final copies of the thesis must be submitted to the Thesis Committee for original signatures of approval. The student will retain one copy, and the others copies will be filed with the Office of The Bioinformatics Program for inclusion in the Bioinformatics and MVSU libraries. The submitted copies, including text and illustrations, must be printed on acid-free paper.

Schedule for Submission of the Thesis for Graduation

In order for a student to take part in the Mississippi Valley State University Commencement Ceremony in late May, the following schedule must be observed; dates given indicate *the latest dates* by which the various steps must be concluded; earlier submission is encouraged, as it will facilitate the process: (1) a complete and finished draft of the thesis, with illustrations, must be submitted *no later than* February 15 to the thesis advisor, who will recommend revisions and corrections to the finished draft; (2) two copies of the revised thesis should be submitted to the Thesis Committee, submitting recommendations for final revisions to the student by March 31; and (4) the final revised copy of the thesis, signed by members of the Thesis Committee, must be filed with the Office of the Bioinformatics Program by April 15, along with a completed "Final Approval of Thesis" form. Students wishing to take part in the May

Commencement Ceremony must have completed all requisite course work (with no outstanding incompletes and at least a 3.0 GPA).

Those unable to meet this schedule will be eligible to receive the M.S. degree and take part in the Commencement Ceremony to be held the following May.

Non-Thesis Option

Nine additional hours of electives in computer science or molecular biology combined with 27 credit hours of graduate courses and approval of the internship by the Director of the BF Program.

BF Electives 9 hours

Upon approval of the internship, an "Approved Internship" form must be submitted to the BF Program Office.

Non-Degree Status Requirements

Applicants with no intention of pursuing a Master of Science degree in Bioinformatics will be admitted as non-degree seeking students. Non-degree students who later apply for and are accepted into the program may apply a maximum of six hours of graduate work in Bioinformatics taken as a non-degree student. Such courses must be at or above the 600 level.

BIOINFORMATICS GRADUATE CURRICULUM THESIS OPTION

FIRST YEAR

FALL

BF 601 - Introduction to Bioinformatics

BF 712 - Statistical Bioinformatics

BF 613 – Bioinformatics PERL/C++

SPRING

BF 611 - Genomics and Genome Technology

BF 612 - Algorithms - Design and Analysis

BF 602 - Databases - Mining, Programming -
Relationships and Programming

Research Project/Internship

SECOND YEAR

FALL

BF 701 - Systems Biology

BF 795 – Thesis

BF 796 – Thesis

SPRING

BF 711 – Proteomics

BF 795 – Thesis

BF 603 - Design of Experiments

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH



Purpose of the Program

The program of study leading to a Master of Science in Environmental Health involves emersion in an in-depth and analytical study of current issues in environmental health and practical research in chosen areas of specialization. This is a professional training program aimed at providing students with theoretical and practical tools that pertain to exploring healthy and unhealthy interactions between humans and their environment. In such, this program addresses competencies developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Environmental Public Health Performance Standards. In doing so, the Environmental Health Program produces exemplary qualified graduates.

The educational objectives of this program are to provide students with the opportunity to:

1. Become proficient in (a) collecting, analyzing, storing and retrieving data (b) monitoring, analyzing, and management of experimental designs (c) identifying community and environmental needs
2. Developing an understanding of (a) the chemical, biological, physical, and social factors which affect healthy communities (b) environmental systems and
3. Acquire skills which are needed to produce both practitioners and scientist

Admission Requirements

Applicants interested in pursuing a masters' degree in Environmental Health must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university. The applicant should submit to the Admission Office:

1. The Graduate Application for Admission,
2. Official transcripts from all accredited colleges/universities

Other requirements to be included with the Application include:

1. Three (3) letters of recommendation.
2. Special application forms and materials required by departments.
3. Acceptable GRE or IELTS test scores
4. The prospective student must have completed a minimum of 16 semester

- hours in science, two general biology courses, two general chemistry courses
5. Statement of interest
 6. Submit TOFEL scores, if an international student
 7. Student must have a 3.00 undergraduate GPA on a 4.00 scale.

Regular Status

Students who have a minimum GPA of 3.00 (on a 4.00 scale) at the undergraduate level is awarded regular status.

Conditional Admission

Students admitted to the program conditionally must maintain a 3.00 overall GPA during the first nine semester hours of graduate course work. Failure to do so will result in notification of dismissal. However, the conditional status may be removed if the student maintains a GPA of 3.00 or better.

Academic Dismissal and Probation

A graduate student who fails to maintain an overall GPA of 3.00 or who fails to make satisfactory progress in a degree program will be dismissed from graduate study at the University. Student must maintain a 3.00 grade point average. If a student's overall grade point average on graduate courses drops below a 3.00, the student will be placed on academic probation. A student placed on academic probation is given one semester to raise the overall grade point average to 3.00.

Degree Requirements

Maintenance of a 3.00 GPA is the minimum academic requirement for good standing in the program. Any student who does not meet this requirement will be placed on academic probation for a period of one semester. Failure to meet the requirement at the end of the probationary period will result in dismissal of the student from the graduate program. A student dismissed from the program will not be re-admitted. Students admitted conditionally must have a 3.00 GPA at the end of the first semester. Failure to meet this requirement at the end of the first semester will result in dismissal of the student from the graduate program. An "I" grade may be given to a student at the discretion of an instructor if a student misses a final examination or has not completed the required course work because of reasons accepted by the instructor. This "I" grade must be removed no later than one semester after it is given. An "I" or "IP" grade will not be awarded to any student who is admitted conditionally. All students are required to successfully complete the core courses in addition to the required courses for their chosen concentration.

Curriculum Pattern indicate the core courses and the competencies each course address. Failure to complete the required hours and maintain the above grade point average will result in a one semester probationary period. Probation is intended to provide a student whose performance is less than fully satisfactory a period of time to bring his/her performance up to a level consistent with the minimum standards enforced by the Graduate School and/or the program in which the student is enrolled.

Areas of Concentration

The areas of concentration within the graduate program are: (1) Environmental Quality Control, (2) Environmental Management, (3) Water Resource Management, and (4) Natural Disaster. All students are required to complete a ten-week internship or thesis (EH 610 or EH 630) which must be approved by the chair and coordinator of the program prior to the semester that the internship or thesis is to begin.

Program Objective

The Master of Science degree program in Environmental Health enables students to broaden and expand their knowledge and skills in the field as it intellectually challenges students to explore their academic and professional potential.

Degree Program

The curriculum for the Master of Science program in Environmental Health has provisions for a thesis and non-thesis option. The requirements for completion of each are below:

Thesis Option: The thesis option for the degree in Environmental Health, depending on the project, is proposed and conducted by the student. The faculty conducts a formal process for these projects to familiarize students with the professional requirements such as program requirements that should be met. Students can obtain a concentration in one of the following areas: Water Resource Management 36 hours, Environmental Quality Control 37 hours, Environmental Management 37 hours of course work and Natural Disasters 39 hours of course work, not including internship or thesis hours.

The comprehensive examinations will be administered during the final semester of the student's matriculation. The written and oral examination will be administered during the first and second week of April. Each student is allowed to take these examinations twice. Failure to pass each of these examinations will result in dismissal from the program. All students exiting the Environmental Health Program MUST successfully pass both oral and written examinations.

Non-Thesis Option: Students must complete a minimum of 34 hours of course work in Water Resources Management, 35 hours in Environmental Quality Control, 35 hours in Environmental Management, or 35 hours of course work in Natural Disasters. Also, all non-thesis students must complete an eight-10 week internship in environmental health and pass both oral and written comprehensive examinations.

Oral and Written Comprehensive Examination

The comprehensive examinations will be administered during the final semester of the student's matriculation. The written examination will be given during the last week of March in the spring semester. The oral examination will be administered during the first week of April of the spring semester. Each student is allowed to take these examinations twice. Failure to pass each of these examinations will result in dismissal from the program. All students exiting the Environmental Health Program MUST successfully pass both oral and written examinations.

Master of Science in Environmental Health

Environmental Health Core Courses	Credit Hours
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EH 588 Public Health Administration and Planning	3
EH 500 Principles of Environmental Health	3
EH 530 Biostatistics	3
EH 533 Epidemiology	3
EH 610 Internship or EH 630 Thesis	6
EH 591/691 Seminar	1
EH 592/692 Seminar	1
EH 620 Research in Environmental Health	3
Total Semester Hours	23

Environmental Quality Control Concentration Requirements

EH 510 Environmental Health Practice	3
EH 520 Water Chemistry	4
EH 550 Environmental Microbiology	4
EH 558 Institutional Health	3
EH 570 Insect and Vector Control	3
EH 540 Air Pollution	3
Total Semester Hours	20

Environmental Management Concentration Requirements

EH 520 Water Chemistry	4
EH 540 Air Pollution	3
EH 550 Environmental Microbiology	4
EH 558 Institutional Health	3
EH 570 Insect and Vector Control	3
EH 510 Environmental Health Practice	3
Total Semester Hours	20

Natural Disasters Concentration Requirements

EH 596 Economics of Natural Hazards	3
EH 597 Emergency and Disaster Theory	3
EH 598 The Catastrophic Earth-Semi in Natural Disaster	3
EH 540 Air Pollution	3
EH 503 Environmental Economics	3
EH 595 Environmental Law	3
EH 525 Water Chemistry	4

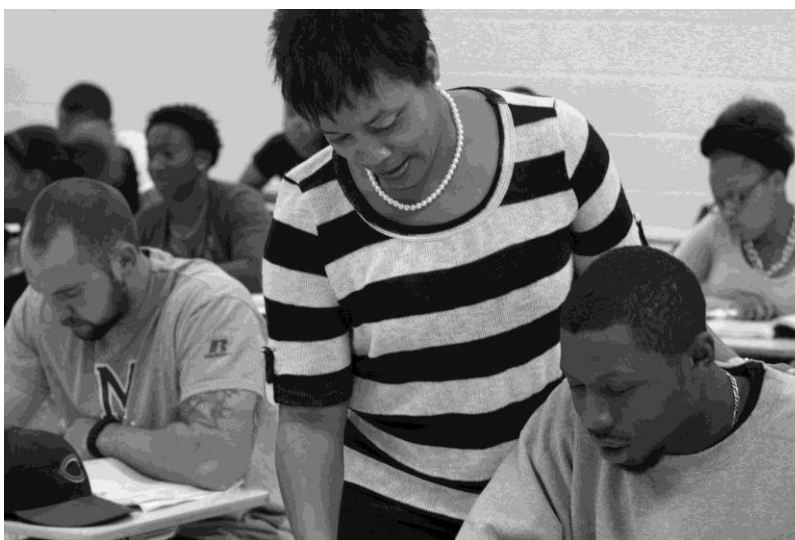
Total Semester Hours	22
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Water Resource Management Concentration Requirements

EH 520 Water Chemistry	4
EH 525 Waste Water Analysis	4
EH 547 Environmental Toxicology	3
EH 553 Limnology	4
EH 563 Environmental Chemistry	4

Total Semester Hours	19
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MASTER OF ARTS IN RURAL PUBLIC POLICY AND PLANNING



Purpose of the Program

The Master of Arts in Rural Public Policy and Planning seeks to fulfill the need for graduate study in rural communities and small town governments like those in the Mississippi Delta and the broader Delta region. The Program provides opportunities for graduate education for those individuals interested in or currently serving in various administrative capacities in rural and small town governments, private and non-profit organizations as well as those who desire to pursue doctoral studies in public policy, planning, administration, management, and related fields. The program appeals to the non-traditional students seeking to expand their knowledge bases and problem solving approaches in addressing the myriad of problems in the everyday life of rural communities. The program goals are:

1. To prepare professional practitioners who demonstrate state-of-the-art knowledge and expertise in the formulation, implementation, evaluation, and analysis of rural public policies;
2. To prepare professional practitioners with the skill set for policy and program planning and evaluation for rural private, public, and nonprofit agencies; and
3. To prepare students for doctoral studies.

Admission Standards

Admission into the program will be based upon formal recommendations by the programs' Admissions Committee.

Applicants seeking admission to graduate programs at Mississippi Valley State University must be admitted both to the Graduate Studies Program and the degree program.

Graduates of regionally accredited institutions in the United States who do not intend to seek an advanced degree from Mississippi Valley State University, but wish to take courses may register as non-degree status students. A non-degree student, who subsequently seeks full or restricted admission, must complete an application for admission to the Graduate Studies Program and be accepted by a department and the Graduate Studies for the degree study.

Non-degree students initially granted permission to take graduate courses on a non-degree basis are permitted to take up to nine semester hours of graduate credit. If a student later chooses to undertake a graduate degree program, only nine semester hours taken as a non-degree student may be applied to a program.

To be eligible for admission to the Graduate Studies Program, the following requirements must be met:

1. An applicant must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university.
2. An application for admission must be filed with the Graduate Studies Program.
3. An official transcript of all college work (undergraduate and graduate) must be obtained from the registrar of each college previously attended.
4. A minimum undergraduate cumulative grade point average of 2.50 on a 4.00 grading scale is required for regular graduate degree status.
5. Three letters of recommendation from persons in the field of the applicant's academic major or area of concentration must be supplied.
6. Official scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) are required.
7. The department chair of the graduate program applied for must recommend admission to the Graduate Studies Program who must formally accept the student.
8. Immunization records must be submitted.

To be eligible for **unconditional admission** to the program, applicants must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, meet the basic requirements for graduate admission at MVSU, and demonstrate academic proficiency based on the following indicators:

- (a) Grade Point Average (GPA) of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale
- (b) Submission of Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test Results
- (c) Three Letters of Recommendation
- (d) A Personal Statement
- (e) General or Scholarly Writing Sample

Students who show academic promise, but fail to meet the requirements based on the aforementioned indicators may be admitted on a conditional basis. Students will be required to complete nine hours toward the degree while on conditional status, and must earn a minimum of a "B" or above in each class. After the conditional period, the faculty will review the student's progress and determine if he or she should be allowed to continue. Those students who are allowed to continue will then be unconditionally admitted to the program.

Academic Grades

1. The following grades are assigned to graduate course work: A, B, C, D, F, I (Incomplete), and W (Withdrawal).
2. Master of Arts Degree candidates in Rural Public Policy and Planning must retain an overall GPA of 3.00 ("B" average) on all graduate work leading toward the degree.
3. Students who do not have a 3.00 GPA after one semester will receive a letter of academic probation.
4. Students who have been in the graduate program for two or more semesters and do not have a 3.00 GPA will be terminated.
5. Students who are placed on academic probation may only register for a minimum of nine credit hours and will have one semester to bring their average to a GPA of 3.00. Failure to raise the GPA will result in termination from the program.

Non-Degree Status

Applicants with no intention of pursuing a graduate degree program, and whose undergraduate grade point average is 2.70 or higher, will be admitted as non-degree students. Non-degree students who later apply for and are accepted in a degree program may apply a maximum of nine hours of graduate work taken in a non-degree program. Such courses must be at the 500 level.

Deadline for Admission

Admission to a degree program is made in the fall and spring semesters. The deadline for fall applications is March 15 and the deadline for spring application is September 15. This policy applies to both regular semesters and to summer school.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Advisement

When accepted into the Master of Arts program in Rural Public Policy & Planning (MRPP) each student will be assigned to an advisor who must be a graduate faculty. The advisor will be responsible for advising the student on courses to take to meet the program requirements. It is, however, the student's responsibility to meet all requirements, including meeting with his or her advisor regularly.

Admission to Candidacy

A student must apply, in writing, for admission to candidacy for the MRPP Degree by filing the proper application forms through his/her advisor to the graduate program coordinator. Students are to apply for candidacy at least one semester before the degree is conferred, or in some cases, the same semester in which the degree is awarded.

Academic Grades

The following grades are used in the graduate program: A, B, C, D, F, I (Incomplete) or W (Withdrawal). A candidate of the MRPP must earn an overall average of "B" or higher in all graduate work toward the degree. Two "Cs", one "D" or an "F" grade will result in an automatic withdrawal from the program.

Class Absences

There is no provision for absences from classes. Graduate students are expected to attend all regular class meetings.

Comprehensive Exams

A written comprehensive examination will be administered to all candidates for the MRP at or near the completion of their required course of study. The examination is designed to test the students' knowledge of the core and research requirements: Rural Policy Planning, Evaluation, and Analysis, Rural Community and Economic Development, Economic Analysis of State and Local Governments, Intergovernmental Relations, Research Methods for Public Policy, and Statistical Analysis. Students must also pass the comprehensive examination. Students who cannot pass all areas of the comprehensive examination after two trials will be automatically withdrawn from the program. Students must take and pass the core and research requirements prior to registering for the comprehensive examination. Failing two or more areas of the Comprehensive Examination will require the student to retake the entire examination.

Load Limit

The normal load for a full-time student is nine semester hours during a regular semester and six semester hours per summer session. The recommended load for persons employed full-time is six semester hours during a regular semester and three hours each summer session.

Time Limit

The degree must be completed within four calendar years from the time of initial enrollment in the graduate program.

Transfer of Credit

A maximum of six semester hours of graduate credit successfully completed in a graduate college

of acceptable standing may be accepted toward fulfillment of the course requirements for the Master of Arts Degree in Rural Public Policy & Planning, if the following conditions are met:

- A. A grade of “B” or better has been earned in the courses for which graduate credit is being sought.
- B. The credit has been earned within five years from the time that the student enrolled in the Master of Arts in Rural Public Policy & Planning program.
- C. The credit to be transferred must be recommended by the graduate program coordinator and approved by the department chair.
- D. Transfer credit is not granted for courses taken through correspondence.

MASTER OF ARTS IN RURAL PUBLIC POLICY AND PLANNING CURRICULUM

Thirty-six credit hours are required to complete the Master of Arts in Rural Public Policy and Planning Program.

Core Requirements	12 hours
RP 503 Rural Policy Planning, Evaluation and Analysis	3
RP 504 Rural Community and Economic Development	3
RP 505 Economic Analysis of State and Local Governments	3
RP 506 Intergovernmental Relations	3

Research Requirements	6 hours
RP 507 Research Methods for Public Policy	3
RP 508 Statistical Analysis	3

Thesis or Non-Thesis Option	6 hours
RP 509 Thesis: Masters Thesis	6
RP 510 Non-thesis: Practicum	6

Prerequisite (For non-public administration/policy majors)	3 hours
RP 515 Seminar in Public Administration	3

Electives/Area Specialty Courses (3 hours required outside of your area of specialty)

RP 511 Political Environment of Public Policy
RP 512 Town Planning and the Political Process
RP 513 Independent Study in Public Policy
RP 514 Special Topics in Public Policy
RP 515 Seminar in Public Administration
RP 516 Southern Politics and Public Policy
RP 517 Public Health Administration and Planning
RP 518 Principles of Environmental Health
RP 519 Legal Issues in Healthcare Delivery
RP 520 Epidemiology in Rural Districts
RP 521 Voluntary Nonprofit Sector and Public Policy
RP 522 Nonprofit Management and Leadership
RP 523 Financial Accounting in the Public and Nonprofit Sectors
RP 524 Dispute Resolution
RP 525 Rural Planning and Social Policy
RP 526 Rural Demography and Growth

RP 527 Housing Facilities and Community Development
RP 528 Small Business Development

Areas of Specialization

12 Hours Required

Core Requirements, Research Requirements, and Thesis/Non-Thesis options must be taken.

Rural Health Policy

12 Hours

RP 517 Public Health Administration and Planning	3
RP 518 Principles of Environmental Health	3
RP 520 Epidemiology in Rural Districts	3
Elective	3

Nonprofit Policy

12 Hours

RP 521 Voluntary Nonprofit Sector and Public Policy	3
RP 522 Nonprofit Management and Leadership	3
RP 523 Financial Accounting in the Public and Nonprofit Sectors	3
Elective	3

Social and Economic Policy

12 Hours

RP 525 Rural Planning and Social Policy	3
RP 526 Rural Demography and Growth	3
RP 528 Small Business Development	3
Elective	3

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK



Mission for the Program

The Master of Social Work (MSW) Program at Mississippi Valley State University prepares students for professional social work practice at the micro, mezzo, and macro levels. Through the curriculum, the program instills in students advanced social work knowledge, values, and skills in a manner which enables students to work with diverse populations in a wide range of settings. Concurrently special emphasis is placed on social work practice with impoverished minorities living in rural regions, such as the Mississippi Delta in which the University is located and in the larger, diverse communities elsewhere. Within the framework of rural social work practice, the area of concentration is Child and Family Welfare.

Admission Requirements

For admission to the MSW Program, applicants must exhibit the leadership potential and professional capabilities essential to function effectively in the profession and meet minimum academic requirements. An applicant may be granted regular, conditional, or advanced standing admission to the MSW Program.

Regular Admission

Minimum standards for regular admission are:

1. The applicant must hold a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university.
2. The applicant must be eligible to re-enter in good standing at the last college or university attended.
3. The applicant must provide evidence, by official transcript, of a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 on all undergraduate study, or a minimum grade point average of 3.0 on the last 60 semester hours of study. GPA is based on a 4.0 scale.
4. The applicant must have completed a minimum of 30 semester hours of undergraduate courses in the liberal arts including three hours of biological science which includes content on human development.
5. The applicant must submit three references from persons familiar with the applicant's fitness for graduate school or character.
6. The applicant must submit a two-page typed essay on why he/she would like to be a social worker. The applicant's response should reflect important family and community influences on his/her development, as well as, a description of characteristics that distinguish him/her as a potential candidate for the MSW degree.
7. The applicant must complete an Application for Admission to the Master of Social Work Program as well as an Application for Admission to the Graduate College.

NOTE: An interview with the Admission Committee may be required.

Conditional Admission

Conditional admission may be granted to applicants who do not meet the GPA requirements for admission, but who have other outstanding credentials. Such conditional status may be removed if the student maintains a GPA of 3.0 or better in the first semester completed. Failure to do so constitutes grounds for dismissal from the program.

Advanced Standing

Admission to the Advanced Standing MSW Program is determined on a selective basis according to the following criteria:

1. Graduation from a Council on Social Work Education accredited baccalaureate program within the past five years a total of 30 semester hours.
2. A letter grade of "B" or better in all social work courses.
3. A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale for undergraduate courses.

NOTE: *An interview with the Admissions Committee may be required.*

Advanced standing students may complete the degree requirements in three semesters. Applicants to the MSW program will not be required to duplicate course content in the Professional Foundation Curriculum if proficiency can be demonstrated. Students may be exempt from courses in the foundation curriculum that represent duplication of course content previously taken by proficiency examination. Students must have earned an accredited BSW degree to qualify for challenge exams.

Graduation Requirements

Students must complete all degree requirements before they will be allowed to participate in graduation. The requirements for the graduation must be met under a catalog which is no more than five years old at the time of the student's graduation. Graduation requirements must be met under a catalog dated the time student entered or re-entered the program (most recent of the 2 catalogs). A catalog dated earlier than the time of the student's entrance into the University does not apply.

To complete degree requirements, a graduate student must:

1. Complete 60 graduate social work semester hours. (30 hours for Advance Standing students)
2. Earn a cumulative grade point average of not less than 3.0.
3. Complete all course work within five years of admission to the program.
4. Earn no more than two grades of "C."

NOTES: *The Master of Social Work Program at MVSU does not grant social work course credit for life or work experience.*

International Students

International students must meet the Graduate Program requirement for admission. A student whose first language is not English must submit an official score for a test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or must have earned a degree from an accredited United States college or university.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR SOCIAL WORK GRADUATE STUDENTS

Foundation Courses

SW 500	Social Work Practice I	3
SW 501	Social Work Practice II	3
SW 510	Social Welfare Policy and Services I	3
SW 511	Social Welfare Policy and Services II	3
SW 520	Human Behavior and the Social Environment I	3
SW 521	Human Behavior and the Social Environment II	3
SW 531	Methods of Social Work Research	3
SW 540	Diversity: Micro, Mezzo and Macro Approaches	3
SW 580	Field Practice Seminar I	3
SW 581	Field Internship I	<u>6</u>
Total Foundation Hours:		33

Child Welfare Concentration

SW 600	Advanced Social Work with Children and Families: Direct Practice	3
SW 610	Family and Child Welfare Policy	3
SW 615	Advanced Social Work with Children and Families: Indirect Practice	3
SW 620	Rural Social Work	3
SW 630	Mental Health Assessment and Intervention	3
SW 650	Needs Assessment and Program Evaluation	3
SW 680	Field Practice Seminar II	3
SW 681	Field Internship II	<u>9</u>
Total Concentration Hours:		27

CONTINUING EDUCATION AND WEEKEND COLLEGE

The Office of Continuing Education and the Weekend College at Mississippi Valley State University provides credit and non-credit activities, (on and off-campus) for traditional and non-traditional (21 years old and older) students. Non-traditional students are individuals who enroll in higher education for the first time or are returning after a period of separation. Continuing Education and Weekend College activities allow participants to: (a) work toward an undergraduate or master's degree; (b) upgrade professional and paraprofessional skills; (c) document qualifications for licensure or certification; (d) give evidence of personal and vocational growth needed to change careers; (e) increase chances for employment; (f) advance in a present job; (g) learn a new skill to keep abreast of advancing knowledge and technology; or (h) improve the quality of personal life through intellectual stimulation and good health maintenance. Vocational and technical courses and workshops are offered for which Continuing Education Units (CEUs) may be awarded. A CEU represents 10 contact hours of participation in an organized non-credit activity under responsible leadership, capable direction, and qualified instruction.

Weekend College at Mississippi Valley State University

Mississippi Valley State University is a regional institution responding to the needs of the Mid-Delta region of the state of Mississippi for accessible, relevant, and quality undergraduate and graduate programs, as well as, public service programs and non-credit activities.

Weekend College

The contemporary world is changing rapidly, both technologically and environmentally, making it imperative to train and retrain the labor force, allowing it to adapt to new demands.

Consistent with the University's mission of providing educational opportunities to the Mid-Delta region, the University has established a Weekend College degree program designed specifically for people whose responsibilities such as work, family, or other life circumstances make full-time study difficult. This program is also for those people who wish to upgrade their job skills. The program is a compact, intensive and accelerated paced program that enables students to complete a degree under circumstances which would otherwise be impossible. The length of each session is five weeks, meeting Friday evenings for three hours and Saturdays for seven hours. Students receive up to nine credit hours taking only Friday and Saturday courses. Students wishing to take a full 12 hours of instruction are advised to register for three credit hours through Evening or E-Course. Since it is an intensive study program, it is imperative that students have a strong commitment to their own professional development.

Program Options

The Weekend College offers programs in a variety of formats to meet the needs of the non-traditional student. They include:

* Accelerated Master's Program in Business and Criminal Justice	18 months
* BA for Non-Majors	2.5 years
* Master's Program in Environmental Health	24 months
* Transfer Students	24 months
* First Time College Students	Evening/Weekend Program
* Advanced Standing – Master's in Social Work	12 months

Accelerated Master's Program

The Accelerated Master's Program is focused in two areas. The BA program allows the non-traditional

students who hold a bachelor's degree in Business to complete a master's degree in approximately 18 months. The Criminal Justice Program allows Liberal Arts majors to complete the Master's Degree program in approximately 18 months. Students can complete the Master of Social Work Advanced Standing in 12 months.

BA FOR Non-Majors

This program allows non-traditional students who hold a bachelor's degree in a field other than business to obtain a BA in approximately two and a half years.

Master in Environmental Health

This program allows non-traditional students with a bachelor's degree in Environmental Health to complete a Master's Degree in approximately two years.

Transfer Students

This program is structured to meet the needs of students who have met their core requirements for the bachelor's degree and are ready to begin work toward one of the following majors: Criminal Justice
Industrial Technology
Social Work
Environmental Health
Early Childhood Education

Transfer students may complete a degree in approximately two years.

Core Course Program (CCP)

First-time and transfer students wishing to pursue a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree, but have not completed their core curriculum may register in the Core Course Program through the Office of Continuing Education. CCP provides freshmen and transfer students who wish to participate in the Weekend College access to services not otherwise available to students attending MVSU on the weekend. CCP staff provides orientation, advisement, financial aid information, and assistance with registration to Weekend College students.

Undergraduate Admission Process

Admission to programs offered in the Weekend College must follow the University Admissions Policy for graduate and University programs. MVSU students can register for the Weekend College term in-person or online using established University procedures.

For students who have not been previously admitted as an undergraduate to the University, the Office of Admissions needs the following documents in order to accept students at MVSU:

1. A complete application for admission;
2. An official American College Test (ACT) score or Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) score;
3. A transcript of secondary school record; if a student wishes to transfer from another college, a transcript from each college or university attended;
4. Adult students who are at least 21 years old may be admitted without an ACT score;
5. MVSU will allow students to earn up to 30 semester hours of credit by examination from the Advanced Placement Test or the College Level Examination Program (CLEP);
6. A student with military service may submit the appropriate military documents and receive up to 24 semester hours of credit for military training and experience.

Graduate Admission Process

Individuals wishing to gain admission to a graduate program must make application to the Office of Graduate Studies.

Contact Information:

For more information on the Weekend College Program, please contact:
Mississippi Valley State University
Dr. Kenneth Done, Director of Continuing Education & Weekend College
662.254.3624/3625

Distance Education

Distance Education at Mississippi Valley State University is the delivery of courses away from the main campus. The University operates two off-campus Centers where classes are taught in a traditional teaching mode with an instructor being present in each class. The Greenville Higher Education Center is located 40 miles west of the main campus and the Greenwood Center is located 10 miles to the east. In addition to these two centers, the University also offers courses in Indianola, Belzoni, Ruleville, Clarksdale, Marks, and Grenada. MVSU is committed to offering classes throughout the Delta Community in a manner that meets the needs of its citizens. Courses at these sites are taught by MVSU faculty who possess the same standards and pre-requisites expected of campus based faculty. Hence, these classes follow the same policies and procedures as all classes taught at the main campus.

The Office of Continuing Education provides administrative coordination and oversight for two other distance learning programs. They are: Interactive Video, and Online E-Courses.

Interactive Video Courses: Using compressed video classrooms located on the MVSU main campus, the two Centers, and compressed video classrooms, located throughout the state and nation, the University is able to expand its credit offerings. Offering courses in this manner allows Continuing Education students at various locations to join together when requesting classes. Students can register for, and take classes, at their home sites which will save time, money, and travel.

Online E-Courses: These are Internet user-friendly courses that allow students to interact with instructor and course mates. Online credit courses are equivalent to their on-campus counterparts and are approved by the appropriate MVSU academic departments.

Credit for Military Service

Mississippi Valley State University, through the Office of Continuing Education (OCE), offers college course credit for military experience and training provided by the armed forces and service schools. The administrative policies and procedures are structured in accordance with governing regulations of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning and the University. The most current Guide to The Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services, published by the American Council on Education, is used to convert military training experiences into college course credit.

The goal of this initiative is to assist active military personnel and veterans in their matriculation at Mississippi Valley State University. The objective is to evaluate the military training and experiences of these individuals and recommend their conversion to academic credit. Credit recommendation must be approved by the service member's department chair and dean of the college.

High School Equivalency Program (HEP)

The High School Equivalency Program (HEP) helps migrant and seasonal farm workers (or children of such workers) who are 17 years of age or older and not currently enrolled in school to obtain the equivalent of a high school diploma and subsequently to gain employment or begin postsecondary education or training. The goal of the Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) HEP is to assist students to prepare, take, and pass the GED exams.

Who funds HEP? The MVSU HEP is sponsored by the Department of Continuing Education and is funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The HEP is designed to meet the needs of migrant and seasonal farm workers in pursuit of a General Educational Development (GED) diploma.

What does HEP provide? Classroom instruction and GED preparation, tutorial assistance, academic and vocational counseling, career advisement, transportation for commuting students, housing for residential students, assistance for placement in universities, colleges, military services, or career positions, weekly stipend (\$20.00), cultural, and recreational enrichment.

GREENVILLE HIGHER EDUCATION CENTER

The Greenville Higher Education Center is a collaborative effort of three state supported higher education institutions: Mississippi Valley State University, Delta State University, and Mississippi Delta Community College.

The facility consists of over 88,000 square feet with three floors, 17 regular sized classrooms, two large classrooms, two distance learning rooms, two media seminar classrooms, one large multi-purpose room, student lounge, four computer labs, two art classrooms, nursing lab, A & P lab, chemistry lab, physics lab, biology lab, and several faculty and staff offices.

The mission of the Greenville Higher Education Center is to:

1. Act as a higher education center for lifelong learning;
2. Be a source of research/development services and public relations for MVSU, DSU and MDCC;
3. Be a resource and assistance center for community and economic development; and
4. Provide computer technological resources, satellite learning facilities, and an auditorium or community room for public use.

The Office of Academic Programming has adopted the aforementioned mission which supports the general mission of the University.

In an effort to embrace MVSU's motto of "Moving from Excellence to Preeminence," it has become essential for the Office of Academic Programming to assist the University in providing an array of opportunities from which choices can be made. We are a Center that is responsive to the needs of a diverse population and the general public, which will be primed for the 21st century.

MVSU@GHEC offers a full range of upper level undergraduate and graduate courses taught by MVSU faculty members and adjuncts. Several different instructional delivery modes are used to maximize the facilitation of the courses. Certification programs, workshops, seminars, and non-credit courses are also offered.

Academic Programming at the Greenville Higher Education Center welcomes and extends its resources to all who would strive for academic excellence and economic independence whatever their nationality, race, ethnic, or religious affiliations.

DESCRIPTIONS OF COURSES

Each course is designated by a number containing three digits. Each course description begins with a two-letter subject prefix followed by course number and course title. All graduate courses are 500 level and above.

Courses in the department are designated by the following symbols:

BF	Bioinformatics
BA	Business Administration
CJ	Criminal Justice
ED	Education
EN	English and Foreign Languages
EH	Environmental Health
HI	History
MA	Mathematics
MU	Music
RP	Rural Public Policy and Planning
SC	Sciences
PS	Political Sciences
MSW	Social Work
SE	Special Education

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

BA 601. MANAGERIAL COMMUNICATION. Introduction to mass media communication and its impact on social, political and economic sectors of American economy. Study of the elements of news for print and electronic media: style, structure, interviewing, story types and practice of gathering material, and make marketing presentations as well as written format. (3)

BA 602. MANAGERIAL ECONOMICS. This course is a comprehensive study of micro and macro economic theory paying special attention to the concepts relevant to decision making, including demand, forecasting, cost analysis, production theory, and pricing under different market conditions. (3)

BA 612 MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATIONAL DESIGN THEORY. This course is designed to provide the student with the knowledge, skills, competencies, and ability to analyze and select OD paradigms to design organizations that are able to efficiently and effectively compete in the business environment and are able to adapt to the constant pressures of change within the competitive business environment. Students will be able to apply the various concepts of organizational design (OD) theory in developing the functional components of organizations through the study of OD history, the various theories, and techniques. Finally, students will be able to integrate the roles of people, leadership,

organizational ethics, design flow (internal and external customer service) and organizational culture and power in the overall design of an organization.

BA 620. ORGANIZATIONAL BEHAVIOR & LEADERSHIP. Emphasis upon development of administrative application to modern and developing forms of business organization. Heavy emphasis is on advanced applications of primary functions of the manager. It explores leadership, selection, motivation, performance assessment, and ethical and legal considerations related to these activities. (3)

BA 622. MANAGERIAL ACCOUNTING ANALYSIS. A study of advanced managerial accounting concepts and practices with emphasis on the uses of accounting data in the decision-making process and software applications. (3)

BA 624. FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT. A study of the basic concepts of accounting with an emphasis on the evaluation of transactions and the preparation and analysis of financial statements, including their use in the management planning and control process. (3)

BA626, ADVANCED TOPICS IN CORPORATE FINANCE. This course introduces MBA students to current research issues and tools in corporate finance. The course will be based primarily on research papers from theoretical and empirical corporate finance areas such as financial statement analysis, measurement of financial performance, valuation techniques of stocks and bonds, capital budgeting decision making criteria, capital structure, and long-term and short-term financial management. (3)

BA 628 . STATISTICS & QUANTITATIVE METHODS FOR MANAGEMENT DECISION. Designed to develop an appreciation for the needs for information in decision making; integrate data processing and analysis in a decision framework; integrate model building and information systems; provide an understanding of the basic anatomy of a decision model, introduce satisfying models and approximation by using various software. (3)

BA 632 . GLOBALIZATION AND THE NEW GLOBAL ECONOMY. Advanced study of the management of global or multinational organizations, with emphasis on areas of problems and managerial control techniques. Students develop an appreciation of various factors during globalization and consider the impact of these forces on competition, markets, industry structure, and organization. (3)

BA 633, INVESTMENT STRATEGY. This course is a graduate level study of concepts and theories that form the basis of investment analysis and portfolio management. Topics include valuation of financial instruments, risk-return analysis, optimal-portfolio selection in efficient financial markets. This course will focus on stocks and bonds, with a shorter treatment of financial derivatives (options, futures, and swaps). (3)

BA 634, MARKETING ANALYSIS. Survey, analysis, and evaluation of current trends, controversial issues, and advanced technology in marketing; oriented toward decision making from the standpoint of marketing administration in the firm in a global market environment. (3)

BA 635, DERIVATIVES AND FINANCIAL ENGINEERING. Derivative instruments (forwards, futures, options, swaps, etc.) are financial products whose values are derived from the prices of underlying assets such as stocks and bonds, commodities, interest rates and foreign exchange. BA635 focuses on the valuation, uses and regulation of these derivative instruments. This course is presented from the perspective of the corporate manager and institutional investor who use these valuable risk-shifting products for controlling financial risks. (3)

BA636, ADVERTISING MANAGEMENT. The primary objective of this course is to provide the students with an opportunity to learn and apply the core theories, strategies, principles and practices of effective advertising management. The course utilizes theory, marketing and communications research, and significant management experience that are relevant to the design, evaluation and management of advertising. The specific topics covered in the course include consumer segmentation and target

selection, consumer motivation and insight, developing a powerful communications strategy and advertising idea, evaluating and optimizing advertising execution, and developing a targeted and effective consumer connections and media plan.

BA 638, HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT. The primary objective of this course is to provide the students with an opportunity to learn and apply the core theories, strategies, principles and practices of effective human resource management. This course provides a manager's perspective on the effective management of the human resources of an organization.

BA 642, OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT. This course introduces two areas of production and operations management: design of the operation system, and operation and control of the system. It includes the methods, strategies and application of various economical and mathematical tools in solving the production and operation related problems. The primary objective of this course is to provide the students with an opportunity to learn and apply the core theories, strategies, principles and practices of effective human resource management. This course provides a manager's perspective on the effective management of the human resources of an organization.

BA 644. SMALL BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP. This course is well suited for those who wish to create a new enterprise, become an executive in a small company or family business, a venture manager, or work with venture capital firms and other financial service entities. This course addresses specific issues of finance, marketing and management relevant to the business plan. Students present their business plan as a part of the class assignment. A concept and case studies of entrepreneurship will be extensively reviewed. (3)

BA 645, MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM. This course explores the strategic use and implications of information technology for the managers in the business environment. It focuses on the business aspects of computer information systems, with understanding on hardware, software, and computer systems management. It introduces students with business productivity software with considerable hands on experience.

BA 652. BUSINESS LAW, ETHICS & DISPUTE RESOLUTION. Fundamental principles of law most frequently involved in business transactions, including contracts, agency and employment, commercial paper, personal property and bailment, and sales of goods. Ethical behavior issues will be discussed within the framework of the contemporary business environment. (3)

BA 654, GLOBAL MANAGEMENT ISSUES AND PERSPECTIVES. This course is designed to provide the student with the knowledge, skills, competencies, and ability to efficiently and effectively analyze, interpret the various aspects of the competitive business environment from a global perspective. Topics include (not an in-depth assessment); organizational environment of global business (organizational design, behavior, and leadership), multi-national corporations, foreign direct investments, trade theory, global monetary and investment policies, global politics, ethics, and international legal systems, country risk analysis, country risk analysis, foreign market potential (emerging markets), global organizational cultural, and cross border decision making.

BA 655. STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT. This is a capstone course and as such it uses a case discussion method to identify, analyze, and solve various strategic issues confronting international business leaders. (3)

BA 656 . TOPICS IN FINANCIAL MARKETS. This course is designed to help students understand how financial markets have been running visibly stable and efficient but invisibly instable and full of rent seeking greed. Topics taken in this course will explain how the improperly working financial markets could trigger the worldwide financial crisis. Lectures and writings in these matters will enlighten what kind of changes need to continue to sweep for the years to come.

BA 660 . INDEPENDENT RESEARCH PROJECT. Students will select a topic of their interest, product and or region with consultation with the instructor. The major thrust of this course is to apply the methodology and concepts of strategic management. Students must write a research paper as well as make a presentation in the class. (3)

Foundation Courses

BA 510. SURVEY OF ACCOUNTING. Designed for students who have completed a non- business degree and now wish to acquire a background in accounting and/or business. The essence of both financial and managerial accounting concepts will be covered. (3)

BA 520. SURVEY OF ECONOMICS. A comprehensive study of basic micro and macro economic theory designed to prepare the student for graduate study in business administration. (3)

BA 530. SURVEY OF FINANCE. This course covers the concepts of the financial management of business. Topics include: ratio analysis, financial planning, time value of money, capital budgeting, cost of capital, sources of financing, working capital management, and international financial management. (3)

BA 540. SURVEY OF MANAGEMENT. This course focuses on the development of management concepts and the functions of management with particular emphasis on planning, organizing, controlling and production and operation management. (3)

BA 550. SURVEY OF STATISTICAL METHODS. Applications of both statistical and quantitative analysis in business environment. Topics covered are: calculus and optimization techniques, simple and multiple regression, linear programming, and other quantitative methods that are computer based analysis. (3)

BA 560. SURVEY OF MARKETING. This course covers the concept of marketing which emphasizes the basic function of marketing is to identify and satisfy consumer needs. It provides insights into a dynamic world involving product, distribution, promotion, and price decisions for products and service involving profit and non- profit organizations. (3)

BA 570. MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS. This course covers analysis of strategic and management- related issues in information systems development, implementation, and application; the enabling role and the use of information technologies in transforming business and work group and individual processes to achieve competitive advantage, efficient operations, and effective decision making. (3)

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

CJ 550. THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM-AN OVERVIEW. An in-depth analysis of the American Criminal Justice System, including the examination of critical and contemporary issues in law enforcement. (3)

CJ 560. SEMINAR IN CRIMINOLOGICAL THEORY. Explanation of crime and its context, including an extensive coverage of each of the major criminological perspectives/theories. (3)

CJ 561. CRIME AND CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR SYSTEM. Analysis of the scope and nature of criminal activity. Emphasis will be on crime trends for both individual and group criminal activities. Crime prevention, control, and treatment strategies will be evaluated. (3)

CJ 562. SEMINAR IN JUVENILE DELINQUENCY. Theoretical problems related to causation and prevention of deviant careers. (3)

CJ 563. SEMINAR IN LAW ENFORCEMENT. An in-depth review of law enforcement, including history, practices, and future trends. (3)

CJ 564. SEMINAR IN CORRECTIONS. Reviews history and the operations of corrections, including the future of corrections. (3)

CJ 565. PRINCIPLES OF ADMINISTRATION. The study of bureaucracy and complex organizations, including principles, practices, and theories. (3)

CJ 567. ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE. An extensive examination and analysis of managerial skills applicable to the management of criminal justice agencies. (3)

CJ 570. SEMINAR IN PRIVATE AND INDUSTRIAL SECURITY. An extensive review of private and industrial security systems includes historical analysis, practices, and current and future trends. (3)

CJ 589. SPECIAL TOPICS IN CORRECTIONAL ADMINISTRATION. In-depth examination of special problems in administering correction institutions, including detailed analysis of several crucial administrative practices. (3)

CJ 590. COMPARATIVE CRIMINAL JUSTICE. A comprehensive comparative study of other criminal justice systems, as well as, the United States Criminal Justice System. (3)

CJ 591. SPECIAL TOPICS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE. Detailed examination of contemporary issues and trends within, and outside, the criminal justice system. (3)

CJ 593. SEMINAR IN POLICE AND SOCIETY. The examination of the evolution of the police in modern society with a special emphasis on the role of police in contemporary society. Current police research on police roles will be reviewed. (3)

CJ 595. PLANNING, BUDGETING, AND POLICY ANALYSIS. Examination of critical issues in the planning and budget management of an agency, including an in-depth coverage of police analysis. (3)

CJ 596. SEMINAR IN ORGANIZED CRIME. An extensive examination of the history, activities, and control strategies of organized crime. (3)

CJ 597. SEMINAR IN TERRORISM. An advanced examination of national and international terrorism, including theoretical explanations and control strategies. (3)

CJ 598. SEMINAR IN FORENSIC SCIENCE. Examination of techniques and practices in forensic science, including finger printing and crime scene investigating. Collection of evidence and laboratory are required. (3)

CJ 600. ADVANCED SURVEY RESEARCH. Extensive coverage for the technique of conducting survey research. Designed to give students hands-on experience. (3)

CJ 602. SEMINAR IN POLICE ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT. Extensive survey of police administration and management skills, including related theories. (3)

CJ 603. SEMINAR IN REHABILITATION AND RESOCIALIZATION. Detailed examination of the rehabilitative and resocialization process within the criminal justice system. (3)

CJ 605. SEMINAR IN EXPERIMENT AND FIELD RESEARCH. Extensive coverage of techniques for conducting experiments and field research in the social sciences. (3)

CJ 606. SEMINAR IN COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS. An analysis of community corrections, including historical development practices and future trends. (3)

CJ 608. HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT IN ORGANIZATIONAL CONTENT. Analysis of critical issues involved in managing human resources in criminal justice agencies. (3)

CJ 609. SEMINAR IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE LAW. Extensive examination and analysis of concepts, issues, and theories in public administration and the study of administrative law. (3)

CJ 615. ADVANCED RESEARCH METHODS. Extensive coverage of methods and techniques for social scientific research. (3)

CJ 620. SEMINAR IN CRIMINAL LAW AND PROCEDURE. Extensive examination of the criminal law and other criminal justice related laws and procedures. Designed to provide students with a working knowledge of laws in general and their applicability to the criminal justice system. (3)

CJ 630. THESIS PRACTICUM. Overview of research strategies, principles of research writing; procedures for initiating, executing, and completing a thesis; and preparation and approval of a thesis prospectus. Preliminary planning for the thesis should begin during the first semester of graduate work; the student may enroll in CJ 630 if he/she has completed 15 credit hours of graduate work. (3)

CJ 640. THESIS. The completion and defense of the thesis. Students are required to be registered in this course in the semester in which the thesis is to be defended. (6)

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING COURSES

ED 502. CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION. This course provides a study of the major theories of classroom management and the application of these theories in a classroom setting. Modeling practices will be an integral part of instruction. The course will explore current research and how this research has impacted the classroom. (3)

ED 503. DEVELOPMENT, ASSESSMENT, AND EVALUATION. This course explores the development of knowledge and skill in construction of tests, item analysis techniques, and interpretation and application of statistics for test scores. Topics include criterion-referenced testing and norm-referenced testing, with an emphasis on performance assessment tools currently used in our public schools. (3)

ED 506. DIMENSIONS OF LEARNING/INTERNSHIP. This is a supervised one year internship for MAT candidates. (3)

ED 507. DIMENSIONS OF LEARNING/INTERNSHIP. A continuation of the one year internship. (3)

ED 510. RESEARCH IN EDUCATION. This course covers various methods of research in education and statistical techniques, including the use of these techniques to solve problems in the field of educational research. Emphasis will be placed on selecting appropriate statistical techniques. The use of computers in educational research will also be studied. (3)

ED 512. TECHNOLOGY FOR TEACHERS. The course provides skills and various techniques for applying and integrating technologies into instruction and using the computer and software applications to promote effective teaching and learning. (3)

ED 528. LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION ARTS. This course is an analysis of current methods, issues, and trends in reading, speaking, and writing as they apply to the various disciplines. Emphasis is placed on current research findings regarding the nature of interdisciplinary learning. **(3)**

ELEMENTARY TRACK

ED 520. READING IN THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. This course covers current techniques, methods and materials utilized for effective reading instruction. Emphasis is on best practices and approaches used in schools. **(3)**

ED 521. CHILDREN'S LITERATURE IN THE ELEMENTARY READING PROGRAM. This course offers an in-depth study of a variety of literature genres suitable for children of elementary grades and the effective integration of these literature genres across the elementary curriculum. **(3)**

ED 540. EFFECTIVE TEACHING STRATEGIES. This course deals with contemporary approaches to teaching and analysis of instructional strategies using an interdisciplinary approach. A field experience provides practical experiences. **(3)**

SE 550. ASSESSMENT AND INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMMING FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES. This course will focus on the selection, development, administration, and interpretation of formal and informal instruments employed in the assessment and evaluation of children and youth with disabilities. The development of individual educational programs based on the results of such evaluations will also be a focal point. **(3)**

SECONDARY TRACK

ED 540. EFFECTIVE TEACHING STRATEGIES. This course deals with contemporary approaches to teaching and analysis of instructional strategies using an interdisciplinary approach. A field experience provides practical experience. **(3)**

SIX HOURS OF APPROVED SPECIFIED CONTENT COURSES. (6)

MATHEMATICS

MA 525. PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS. This course deals with probability theory as applied to mathematical models of random events, independent and dependent events, numerical valued events, mean and variance of a probability law, normal and Poisson probability laws and random variables. Prerequisite: MA 300. **(3)**

MA 533. CONCEPTS OF MATHEMATICS III. This course deals with deductive reasoning, points, lines, distance, rays, angles, angular measurements, bisector, congruent triangle, similar triangle, and overlapping triangle transformations, reflections, translations, rotations, inequalities, exterior angle theorem, triangle side and angle inequalities, parallel and perpendicular lines, quadrilaterals, area circles, chords, tangents, secants, regular polygons, and geometric solids. Prerequisite: MA 132 or Department Approval. **(3)**

ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES

EN 500. SEMINAR IN LITERARY STYLISTICS. This course will begin with theoretical definitions of style, stylistics, and literary stylistics. It will then focus on selected texts in fiction and poetry to illustrate a variety of styles in literature. **(3)**

EN 501. CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVES ON LITERARY CRITICISM. An investigation of the nature and development of critical approaches to literature in the 20th century. Attempts will be made to apply these theoretical precepts to specific works of art and literary movements in the last 100 years. (3)

EN 502. THE TWENTIETH CENTURY NOVEL. A study of the poetics of fiction with particular emphasis on the fiction produced from 1900 to the present. Novelists from several regions of the world will be studied based on either thematic or ideological affiliations. The topics will vary from time to time. (3)

EN 503. WORLD DRAMA. A study of major world dramatists beginning with Shakespeare to the end of the 20th century. Focus will be on the evolution of drama as a genre.

EN 504. STUDIES IN MODERN ENGLISH GRAMMAR AND LINGUISTICS. This course provides a review of traditional English grammar as well as an introduction to modern linguistics, with a special focus on phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics.

SCIENCE

SC 534. PHYSICAL SCIENCES FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS. This course is designed to provide teachers with basic topics of physical science, methods, and techniques of teaching physical science. (3)

SC 544. BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS. This course is a comprehensive survey of methods and techniques of teaching plant and human science topics. (3)

SOCIAL SCIENCE

HI 601D. COLONIAL AMERICA. This course examines the major developments in American history from the age of discovery to 1783. (3)

HI 601E. HISTORY OF THE SOUTH. This course focuses on the political, cultural, and economic history of the South since the founding of Virginia. (3)

HI 603. READINGS IN LATIN AMERICAN HISTORY. This course examines the development from colonial independence and the early national period to the present. (3)

MUSIC

MU 541. INSTRUMENTAL CONDUCTING. This course is for instrumental music majors covering skills and duties of the contemporary instrumental conductor.

MU 543. MUSIC METHODS AND MATERIALS. This course provides preparation for the role of the special music teacher and consultant in the elementary and high school systems.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION COURSES

ED 501. ADVANCED EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY. This course surveys applied psychology in education. Integration of learning theories, human development, and curricular issues are explored. Emphasis includes contemporary speech research as it applies to the integration process. (3)

ED 505. HISTORICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL FOUNDATIONS OF EDUCATION. This course is designed primarily to review the dominant ideas and institutions that have influenced the course of educational development in the western world. Emphasis will be placed on the review of the leading philosophies of education and their implications. (3)

ED 508. CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT. This course stresses procedures for organizing and conducting programs for curriculum improvement in both elementary and secondary schools. It also stresses techniques for the development and evaluation of curriculum materials. (3)

ED 510. RESEARCH IN EDUCATION. This course covers various methods of research in education and statistical techniques, with emphasis on the use of these techniques to solve problems in the field of educational research. Emphasis will be placed on selecting appropriate statistical techniques. The use of computers in educational research will also be studied. (3)

ED 512. TECHNOLOGY FOR TEACHERS. This course provides skills and various techniques for applying and integrating technologies into instruction and using the computer and software applications to promote effective teaching and learning. (3)

ED 520. READING IN THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. This course will cover current techniques, methods, and materials utilized for effective instruction. Emphasis will be on the best practices and approaches used in area public schools. (3)

ED 522. TRENDS IN TEACHING SCIENCE. This course will explore contemporary issues in teaching science in the elementary school. The use of media and technology for instruction will be emphasized, and the identification of newer curricular methods will be stressed. The course will also emphasize current research trends. (3)

ED 524. TRENDS IN TEACHING MATHEMATICS. This course will provide a study of elementary school techniques of teaching arithmetic based on research studies and current practices. The relationship between mathematics and other subject areas and methods for improving skills and understanding concepts will be included. Current research trends will also be emphasized. (3)

ED 526. TRENDS IN TEACHING SOCIAL STUDIES. This course will explore current methods, materials, issues, and trends in the development of social consciousness among elementary school children. It will also emphasize social science strategies in curriculum development. Current research trends will also be emphasized. (3)

ED 528. LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATIVE ARTS. This course is an analysis of current methods, issues and trends in reading, speaking, and writing as they apply to the various disciplines. Emphasis will be placed on current research findings regarding the nature of interdisciplinary learning and teaching. (3)

ED 530. RESEARCH PROJECT SEMINAR. This will be an individualized course for the completion of the student's research project initiated in ED 510 - Research in Education. Prerequisite: ED510. (3)

ED 542. LEADERSHIP SKILLS FOR ELEMENTARY TEACHERS. This course will provide a study of the organization and administration of the elementary school. Emphasis will be placed on research, current issues that elementary school teachers face in schools today, and the functions of these school leaders in a diverse school culture. (3)

ED 544. DIAGNOSTIC AND REMEDIAL READING. This course will cover classroom evaluation and correction of reading difficulties including effective use of formal and informal assessment procedures to determine student needs. Selection of appropriate methods and materials for remedial instruction is emphasized. Prerequisite: ED 520. (3)

ED 546. SOCIAL PROBLEMS IN THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. This course will examine a variety of social problems as they impinge on the teaching-learning process. Contemporary issues and research that may be useful in minimizing the effects of these problems will be explored. (3)

ED 593. WORKSHOP IN EDUCATION. This course is designed to meet the needs of teachers, students, administrators, and community leaders who have special needs or interests in selected areas of education. Workshop contents should meet program needs and objectives. (1-3)

ED 595. INDIVIDUAL STUDIES. This course will provide supervised exploration of special topics determined to meet the special needs of a student. Requires permission of the advisor and the dean. (3)

ED 599. COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION. This is a seminar designed to prepare candidates for the Comprehensive Exam. (0)

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPECIAL EDUCATION COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SE 510. ORGANIZATIONAL PROCEDURES IN SPECIAL EDUCATION. This course will provide the study of state and federal special education legislation and regulation. The course is also designed to develop a professional level of practical skills related to the organization and management of special education programs, and to the development of appropriate and effective individualized education programs. (3)

SE 542. CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN WITH EMOTIONAL DISABILITIES. This course presents a study of the identification of children and youth with emotional disabilities as well as the issues, theory, and knowledge base related to what are considered best educational practices in their education. This takes place in the context of a historical overview and analysis of theory and practice related to etiology and educational services. (3)

SE 544. DIAGNOSTIC AND REMEDIAL READING. This course focuses on methods for assessing reading problems and the development and implementation of instruction designed to remediate deficits in reading achievement. A variety of assessment techniques, methods, and materials from various theoretical orientations to reading instruction will be linked to appropriate instruction practice. (3)

SE 547. BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION. This course is designed to develop expertise in the application of the principles of behavior management in educational settings. (3)

SE 550. ASSESSMENT AND INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMMING FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES. This course will focus on the selection, development, administration and interpretation of formal and informal instruments employed in the assessment and evaluation of children and youth with disabilities. The development of individual educational programs based on the results of such evaluations will also be a focus of the course. (3)

SE 552. EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WITH EMOTIONAL DISABILITIES. This course is designed to develop practical, professional level, skills in the identification and education of children with emotional disabilities. Definitions, contributing factors, research methods, issues and trends, assessment, and educational and intervention strategies are also covered. (3)

SE 555. EDUCATION OF STUDENTS WITH MILD TO MODERATE DISABILITIES. This course will focus on methods, materials, and assessment techniques that are appropriate when working with students who are mildly to moderately mentally retarded, learning disabled, and have behavioral or emotional disorders. (3)

SE 556. METHODS OF TEACHING SECONDARY STUDENTS WITH MILD TO MODERATE DISABILITIES. This course will focus on assessment techniques, placement options, linkage with community resources, and methods and materials that are appropriate when working with students with mild to moderate disabilities at the secondary level. (3)

SE 557. EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY OF STUDENTS WITH LEARNING DISABILITIES. This course will focus on the identification of children and youth with learning disabilities as well as what are considered best educational practices employed with such students based on their social, emotional, physical, and academic needs. (3)

SE 558. TEACHING CHILDREN WITH SEVERE/PROFOUND DISABILITIES. This course presents behavioral, ecological, and developmental learning theories related to effective educational programs for children with severe/profound disabilities as well as the practical application of those theories in assessing current level of functioning, designing, implementing and evaluating individual education programs. (3)

SE 559. EARLY INTERVENTION FOR INFANTS AND TODDLERS WITH DISABILITIES. This course will focus on assessment techniques, service delivery options, materials selection and preparation, teachings methods, linkage with community resources, and the development of Individual Family Service Plans (IFSP) and Individual Education Programs (IEP) that are appropriate when working with infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families. (3)

SE 560. INCLUSION OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES IN REGULAR EDUCATION. This course includes the study of the issues associated with the practice of inclusion. The knowledge base related to inclusion will be presented, and students will develop practical skills in effective consultation, collaboration, and special education service delivery for children with disabilities who are placed in regular classroom environments. (3)

SE 577. EDUCATION AND PSYCHOLOGY OF STUDENTS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION. This course will focus on the etiology and psychological characteristics of individuals with mental retardation, issues related to their development; and best practices appropriate for their education based on their cognitive abilities, their needs related to their academic and communication skills, their emotional, physical, social development, and their levels of adaptive behaviors. (3)

SE 579. PSYCHOLOGY AND EDUCATION OF THE GIFTED STUDENT. Presents research findings and theory related to the characteristics and unique needs of gifted students as well as issues related to appropriate education for such students that are designed to maximize their development. (3)

SE 581. METHODS, MATERIALS AND RESOURCES FOR THE GIFTED STUDENTS. Focuses on models of education for gifted students. Included is the linkage of practical and successful applications of theory related to those models during the evaluation process, while selecting and developing curricula and instruction and while fostering creativity. (3)

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOINFORMATICS COURSE DESCRIPTION

BF 500. INTRODUCTION TO MOLECULAR BIOLOGY. Introduction to the characteristics and biological functions of nucleic acids and proteins in living cells with emphasis on the central dogma theory, molecular immunology and genetic engineering/recombinant DNA technology. (3)

BF 502. INTRODUCTION TO STATISTICS. Basic concepts of statistical models and use of sample – variation, statistical measures, distributions, test of significance, regression and correlation. (3)

BF 504. INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER PROGRAMMING. Introduction to database concepts and programming languages. Relational, hierarchal and network models, data models, lightweight database application protocol (LDAP), scripting languages, systems implementation security issues and data integrity. (3)

BF 601. INTRODUCTION TO BIOINFORMATICS. Recent developments of the sciences have produced a wealth of experimental data of sequences and three-dimensional structures of biological macromolecules. This course will provide students with an introduction to the theory and practice of bioinformatics and computational biology. It will discuss the basic concepts of bioinformatics and focus on how to identify, obtain, establish, maintain and exchange research information in biology. It will review the major scientific databases needed to research problems in biology. Students will learn basic Internet tools, as well as work in a team to design, write, and present a research project for the course mini-symposium. (3)

BF 602. DATABASES. Mining, relationships and programming. Introduction to principles of database design, and survey of alternative database organizations and structures. Logical database organization; schemas; subschemas; data description languages; hierarchical, network, and relational databases; database management systems; normal forms. **Prerequisite:** A computer programming course (CS 203/204/, CS 221, CS231, CS251, CD309 or BF 504). (3)

BF 603. DESIGN OF EXPERIMENTS. Advanced research design techniques and the planning of and theories in the statistical design of experiments. Applications from a wide variety of disciplines will be considered in detail. Students will learn the theoretical aspects of statistical design as well as the application of complex techniques to realistic situations. Optimization of experimental design techniques will also be covered. **Prerequisite:** A statistics (MA 302 or EH 350 or BF 502). (3)

BF 611. GENOMICS AND GENOME TECHNOLOGY. In-depth analysis of eukaryotic cell structure and function, including membrane structure and transport, cellular organelles and the cytoskeleton, and cell communication. Emphasis will be on experimental approaches to understanding concepts in cell biology/molecular biology. **Prerequisite:** Two biology courses with a lab (BI 11/112, BI 410, BI 311 or BF 501). (3)

BF 612. ALGORITHMS. Design and analysis – Introduction to the mathematical analysis of computer algorithms, correctness, complexity, asymptotic lower bounds, efficient data structures, and combinatorial algorithms. NP-complex problems. **Prerequisite:** BF602. (3)

BF 613. BIOINFORMATICS PROGRAMMING. Introduction to programming skills needed to perform large-scale genomic analysis in research and professional settings. The Perl programming language will be taught in the context of and with applications to bioinformatics. Libraries of Perl code modules with applications to bioinformatics, such as BioPerl and the NCBI Toolkit, will be introduced. **Prerequisite:** BF 602. (3)

BF 701. SYSTEMS BIOLOGY. Cells, tissues, organs and organisms are systems of components whose interactions have been defined, refined, and optimized over hundreds of millions of years of evolution. Computational systems biology is a field that aims at a system-level understanding of biological systems by analyzing biological data using computational techniques. **Prerequisite:** BF 611. (3)

BF 711. PROTEOMICS. Review of computational methods for the analysis, classification and prediction of three dimensional protein structures. This course is an introduction to the field of proteomics. The goal is to provide an understanding of the fundamentals required to perform and apply proteomic analysis to problems in modern biology, and to critique current literature in this field. **Prerequisite:** BF 611. (3)

BF 712. STATISTICAL BIOINFORMATICS. Introduction to the statistical methods used in bioinformatics. This course will focus on statistic issues related to DNA and protein sequence analysis. **Prerequisite:** BF 603. (3)

BF 795-BF 797. THESIS RESEARCH. To allow each student to demonstrate his/her independent learning ability and interest in advancing his/her knowledge through the pursuit of independent research and/or development work in an area related to bioinformatics. **Prerequisite: BF 500-603. (3-12)**

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COURSE DESCRIPTION

EH 500. PRINCIPLES OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH. Introduces the student to the basic principles of water management, waste disposal, food protection, and insect and vector control. **(3)**

EH 503. ECONOMICS OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT. Basic principles of economic analysis, decision making, policy formation, and environmental regulation under uncertainty in static and dynamic contexts. Introduction to regulatory assessment. **(3)**

EH 510. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PRACTICE. Discusses the practical aspects of food and milk sanitation, its role in disease transmission, the development of a food service training program, and the inspection of food facilities. **(3)**

EH 520. WATER CHEMISTRY. A quantitative and qualitative approach to water analysis with an emphasis on methods used to evaluate drinking water quality and water treatment efficiency. **(4)**

EH 525. WASTEWATER ANALYSIS. This course deals with the technical aspects of wastewater analysis and management. Emphasis is placed on wastewater analysis, treatment, and regulatory compliance. **(4)**

EH 530. BIostatISTICS. This course covers a range of statistical analysis tools. Students are provided with an in-depth understanding of advanced statistical methods with an applied focus on estimation, inferences, and prediction of models. This course examines the fundamentals of measuring data, summarizing observations and analyzing contingency tables. Major topics in statistical analysis will include chi-square tests, analysis of variance, regression and correlation, time series, forecasting, and nonparametric methods using statistical packages such as SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences). Fundamentals of statistical methods applicable to environmental health with emphasis on collection, and summarization. **(3)**

EH 533. EPIDEMIOLOGY. A study of the principles of epidemiology with an emphasis on control and prevention of infectious and chronic diseases; methods and techniques of disease investigation, and data interpretation. Considers how epidemiologic studies may be designed to maximize etiologic inference. This course also covers randomized controlled trials, cohort studies, case-control studies, cross-sectional studies, ecological and multilevel studies, and selected topics. **(3)**

EH 540. PRINCIPLES OF AIR POLLUTION. A study of the characteristics, sources, and control of air contaminants. Topics reviewed: ambient air sampling, analysis techniques, meteorology and control technologies. **(3)**

EH 547. ENVIRONMENTAL TOXICOLOGY. An examination of the principles of toxicology and the toxicity resulting from environmental exposure to chemical substances. **(3)**

EH 550. ENVIRONMENTAL MICROBIOLOGY. Practical laboratory experience in the fundamentals of bacteriology with applications to food, milk, and water. **(4)**

EH 553. LIMNOLOGY. Students will learn to apply basic limnological principles to diagnose lake and watershed problems, to understand lake response to pollution, to identify appropriate management solutions, and to predict lake response to management. **(3)**

EH 555. INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE. The recognition of hazards found in the workplace to include the evaluation and control of gases, particulate, and noise and ionizing radiation. Occupational diseases will be examined. (4)

EH 558. INSTITUTIONAL HEALTH. Examines the public health problems associated with hospitals, nursing homes, schools, and penal institutions. (3)

EH563.ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMISTRY LAB. Experimental work in environmental chemical analysis to demonstrate analytical methods and instrumentation used in environmental laboratories with reference to air, water, and soil quality. (4)

EH 565. SOLID AND HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT. Examines the nature of solid wastes, their environmental impact, and potential in disease transmission. Management, planning, and control technology will be discussed. (3)

EH 570. VECTOR CONTROL. Identification and collection of arthropods and rodents of public health importance. Biological and chemical controls and pesticides application techniques will be reviewed. (3)

EH 580. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION. Discussion of the theory and principles of management and their application to health departments and other health institutions and agencies. The role, function, and tasks of the environmental health professional will also be examined. (3)

EH 588. PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING. The organization, planning, and administration of environmental health programs in private and government agencies. Specific topics to be examined: developing program objectives and their implementation and evaluation, organizational structure, personnel, and legal and financial considerations. (3)

EH 591-EH 592. SEMINAR. Review of current topics and research in environmental health. (1)

EH 595. ENVIRONMENTAL LAW. A review of the legislative actions that have created organizations, standards and regulations of environmental significance, as well as, their need, purpose, and application. (3)

EH 596. ECONOMICS OF NATURAL HAZARDS. The aim of this course is to describe the macro-economic dynamics of natural disasters and their determinants in a large sample of disaster events. The overall goal of this course is to provide students with a solid understanding of the economic and financial impacts of natural disasters as well as examine the short and long term nature that such devastation most likely will have on the economy. This course will cover economic aspects of natural hazards that focus on: impacts, loss estimation, mitigation, recovery, modeling, policy analysis, risk, insurance, resiliency, and sustainability. (3)

EH 597. EMERGENCY AND DISASTER THEORY. The aim of this course is to address the fundamental principles and theories of emergencies and disasters. The overall goal of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the conceptual necessities for effective preparation, response, and recovery from emergencies and natural disasters and to identify specific examples of effective theories in practice in different systems. This course will also cover and explore the roles of first responders and emergency management officials at all levels of government. (3)

EH 598 THE CATASTROPHIC EARTH – A SEMINAR IN NATURAL DISASTER. Since the beginning of time, catastrophic events have played an important role in shaping the face of our planet. In the Catastrophic Earth: Seminar in Natural Disasters, students will examine the geological processes and hazards which may have triggered these natural disasters as well as those complex, unexplained occurrences. Class discussions will range from the mass extinction of dinosaurs to global warming,

volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, tsunamis, hurricanes, storm surges, thunderstorms, wind waves, and other natural disasters.

Within recent years catastrophic events and natural disasters have been more frequent and severe inflicting significant devastation and shock to the entire Earth. In this graduate level seminar students will engage in a high degree of involvement and critical reasoning to journey through an exploration of global and environmental catastrophes, their causes, effects, classification of and recurring risks. Students will observe the vulnerability of certain geographic regions (locally, regionally and globally) to experience catastrophic phenomena and future disasters. Discussions will be focused on disaster prevention, intervention options, and responsibilities for disaster mitigation. By the end of this course, students should gain a clearer understanding of the scientific, social, political, financial, and human dimensions of natural disasters in our lives and Planet Earth. (3)

EH 610. INTERNSHIP. An internship is required of all students in the department unless waived by the students Graduate Committee. The internship is to provide the student with practical field experience in selected areas of environmental health. (6)

EH 620. RESEARCH IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH. All students going the thesis route are required to take EH 620. This course is designed to assist graduate students in developing their research project and to assist them in defining their mode of inquiry. The course is constructed to guide students through a range of issues and considerations which expose them to general approaches to research. Students are introduced to a range of research tools, methods and equip them to plan and organize their research, as well as to communicate their findings. Students develop, conduct, and analyze experimental designs to gain a better understanding of research methods and prepare for thesis work. (3)

EH 630. THESIS RESEARCH The student will demonstrates the ability to conduct independent, original, and significant research. The dissertation shows that the student is able to, identify/define problems, generate questions and hypotheses, review and summarize the literature, apply appropriate methods, collect data properly, analyze and judge evidence, discuss findings, produce publishable results, engage in a sustained piece of research or argument, think and write critically and coherently. (6)

MASTER OF ARTS IN RURAL PUBLIC POLICY AND PLANNING COURSE DESCRIPTION

RP 503. RURAL POLICY PLANNING, EVALUATION AND ANALYSIS. This course explores a variety of theories of rural communities and their ability to explain the contemporary conditions and problems. The course also provides the basic techniques of rural policy analysis and the evaluation methods for the design and assessment of public policy programs. (3)

RP 504. RURAL COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. The course examines theory and contemporary practices for promoting the economic development of rural communities. This course will review alternative ways of understanding the dynamics of rural economic development and devise strategies that will benefit community residents. In addition, the course will examine the complex ways in which the concepts of community analysis and development are used and understood. Students will connect the concepts to issues, problems or policy alternatives affecting rural communities by participating in applied projects. (3)

RP 505. ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. The course develops the framework and concepts of macroeconomics for the purpose of applying them to the analysis of rural and public sector policies and issues from such topical areas as transportation, housing, energy, ecology, public health, community development, law enforcement, recreation and regulation. It provides an exploration of the rationale for public revenues and expenditures with emphasis on practical application and current state and local finance issues. (3)

RP 506. INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS.

This course provides students with an understanding of the formal and informal relationships among all levels of government. This course examines the evolution of the American federal system, reviews inter-unit cooperation and conflict; as well as, administrative issues such as revenue-sharing, federal grants, and regulations. (3)

RP 507. RESEARCH METHODS FOR PUBLIC POLICY. The course helps students develop an understanding of how basic quantitative and qualitative tools are used in public policy analysis. The course offers a comprehensive, systematic treatment of the scientific approach within the context of public policy. Emphasis is put on the relationship between theory, research, and practice, and integrates research activities in an orderly framework so that students can more easily comprehend the nature of public policy research. It explores the scope of policy research, scientific reasoning, problem identification, hypothesis formulation, planning for data analysis, and sampling procedures. (3)

RP 508. STATISTICAL ANALYSIS. This course covers a range of statistical analysis tools. Students are provided with an in-depth understanding of advanced statistical methods with an applied focus on estimation, inferences, and prediction of models. This course examines the fundamentals of measuring public policy data, summarizing observations and analyzing contingency tables. Major topics in statistical analysis will include chi-square tests, analysis of variance, regression and correlation, time-series, forecasting, and nonparametric methods using statistical packages such as SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences). (3)

RP 509. MASTER'S THESIS. The candidate for the Master of Arts in Rural Public Policy and Planning who elects the thesis option must obtain approval from his/her faculty advisors for the prospectus. All requirements by the Graduate School for submission dates must be met. (6)

RP 510. PRACTICUM. The course assists students in making decisions about specialization and internship objectives related to the Master in Rural Public Policy and Planning. The practicum provides students with the opportunity to participate in and observe, as a full-time working member of an agency's staff, the daily policy-related activities of a local, state, or federal government agency, or a non-government agency which is concerned with the public sector. This course develops short and long-term career skills. The course entails involvement in a government municipality or other public, private, or not-for-profit agency. The program faculty and the student will locate and acquire a practicum. The student will work 40 hours per week for a total 420 hours a semester. (6)

RP 511. POLITICAL ENVIRONMENT OF PUBLIC POLICY. The course examines political institutions and processes and the role of the political environment in economic policy decisions, trade, and investment. The issues of generalizability, objective knowledge and understanding, the nature of evidence, and how they impact public policy are also studied. The course involves an in-depth study of the political process used in American governments to address social, economic, and political issues. (3)

RP 512. TOWN PLANNING AND THE POLITICAL PROCESS. The course provides a study of the planning process in rural areas, with particular attention to governmental and administrative policies and the machinery for dealing with problems involving complex political, economic, and technological factors. (3)

RP 513. INDEPENDENT STUDY IN PUBLIC POLICY. This course is designed to permit the student to participate in focused and comprehensive study of a relevant topic in public policy. The independent study must be designed by the student and supervised by the professor. (3)

RP 514. SPECIAL TOPICS IN PUBLIC POLICY. This course explores and critique selected topics in the conceptualization, formulation, implementation, and analysis of public policy. It will provide a seminar treatment of contemporary issues, problems, and questions which frame discourses on the processes of public policy and their programmatic impact from the national government to local communities. (3)

RP 515. SEMINAR IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION. This course examines the literature which focuses on the historical and ecological factors influencing the development of the discipline of Public Administration. Concomitantly, a look at contemporary trends will be emphasized. Thus, students will discuss issues such as privatization, third sector ethics and executive leadership. In addition, some effort will be given to providing a comparative analysis to the context of public administration. (3)

RP 516. SOUTHERN POLITICS AND PUBLIC POLICY. This course describes, explores, and critiques the politics of the American South and how it has historically characterized development and public policy in the region. It examines the relationship between the politics that has given rise to particular development schemes and the public policies that have been informed by issues of political participation, resource allocation and service delivery. (3)

RP 517. PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING. This course will provide students with a basic understanding of the United States health system and give them practical experience in analyzing how health reform and health policy more generally affect various sectors of the economy. Emphasis is placed on policy, the process of government regulation, and the character of health settings at the federal, state, and local levels. (3)

RP 518. PRINCIPLES OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH. The course provides a general overview of health care systems, especially the free enterprise system utilized in America. The course includes a review of empirical studies of demand for health services, behavior of providers and the relationship of health services to the populations' health and how public input into health care organizations helps to form public policy for health care issues. It examines the relation between socioeconomic structure and health as a descriptive and conceptual framework for health policy analyses at national and local levels. The course views relations between health levels and socioeconomic structure, and changes in socioeconomic structure from spatial and historical perspectives. Dimensions of socioeconomic structure include income, education, occupation, industry, employment, and ethnicity. (3)

RP 519. LEGAL ISSUES IN HEALTHCARE DELIVERY. The course examines current and historical legal and ethical issues impacting health administration, including malpractice and other liability issues, licensing and regulation, professional ethics, contracts and property, insurance, corporate, taxation, antitrust, fraud and abuse, medical staff, confidentiality, health care access, peer review, ethics committees, legal and ethical aspects of patient care, decision making, and consent. It provides an introduction to public health law including a study of the legal powers available for implementing programs; methods for their most effective use; the recognition and management of legal problems; and an analysis of the legal relationship of public health personnel to the government, the staff, and the public. (3)

RP 520. EPIDEMIOLOGY IN RURAL DISTRICTS. This course provides a non-medical introduction to the epidemiological methods and procedures utilized in the study of the origin, distribution, and control of diseases. The course examines chronic and communicable diseases of special concern in rural public health and discusses the role of education in disease control. (3)

RP 521. VOLUNTARY NONPROFIT SECTOR AND PUBLIC POLICY. This course addresses the history, philosophy, roles, and scope of nonprofit organizations in the United States. The course includes the roles of the nonprofit and voluntary sector. It further examines the contemporary forces which impact philanthropy and charitable giving, both by institutions and individuals. The course examines the effective planning and management of development programs (i.e. annual giving), fund raising vehicles (i.e. mail solicitations) and the fund raising process, from planning through donor relations. (3)

RP 522. NONPROFIT MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP. This course explores the assumptions and practices of nonprofit organization management and leadership. Topics include issues of public accountability, ethics, evaluating organizational effectiveness, personnel motivation, board and staff relationships, the meaning of service, the economic and political scope of the independent sector, the role of

volunteerism in a democratic society, and the role and scope of philanthropy. (3)

RP 523. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING IN THE PUBLIC AND NONPROFIT SECTORS. This course addresses financial issues involved in governing and managing nonprofit organizations. The course will cover such topics as: cash flow analysis; budgeting; fund accounting; cost accounting (determining costs for programs and services); understanding and using standard financial statements, including balance sheets, cash flow statements, statements of activity, and operating and capital budgets. (3)

RP 524. DISPUTE RESOLUTION. The course examines conflict and cooperation between individuals, groups, and organizations over the control of work in a nonprofit agency. It provides an overview of theories of social conflict and introduces specific dispute resolution skills such as negotiation and mediation. A central theme is how this conflict is expressed, controlled, and resolved. Students will participate in exercises to learn the basics of two-party negotiations. (3)

RP 525. RURAL PLANNING AND SOCIAL POLICY. The course provides an introduction to the theory and practices of rural social policy planning with attention to spatial, policy, resource, and advocacy relationships. This course focuses on matters of social services, income maintenance, education, and health. (3)

RP 526. RURAL DEMOGRAPHY AND GROWTH. Small town planning, rural populations and development dynamics are explored. The course focuses on the techniques employed to manage growth-related change and to implement plans. It examines matters of capital investment strategies, development impact analysis, impact mitigation, ethical implications, and alternative growth potentials. (3)

RP 527. HOUSING FACILITIES AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT. The course focuses on the strategies and tools for developing housing facilities. It provides a thorough review of the problems and issues related to housing planning and an overview of the elements of the community development process including housing. This course focuses on the social and political aspects of housing policy in the United States. (3)

RP 528. SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT.

Emphasis is placed on the necessary steps to start, acquire, or expand an existing business. Also, the principles and practices applicable to the operation of small businesses are stressed. (3)

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

SW 500. SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE I. Presents the history of social work practice, values and ethics, generalist practice within an ecosystems theoretical framework, empowerment and strengths perspectives, and rural social work practice with emphasis on micro practice. **Prerequisite: Admission to the MSW Program.** (3)

SW 501. SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE II. Continuation of Social Work Practice I with emphases on mezzo and macro practice. **Prerequisite: SW 500 Social Work Practice I.** (3)

SW 510. SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY AND SERVICES I. . In depth analysis of the history and current structures of social welfare policies and services. **Prerequisite: Admission to the MSW Program.** (3)

SW 511. SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY AND SERVICES II. Focus is on analysis of current social welfare policies and services, and development of alternative policies and service delivery systems. **Prerequisite: SW 510 Social Welfare Policy and Services I.** (3)

SW 520. HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT I. The first of two foundation courses which explores knowledge, theories and concepts about human development and behavior from birth to old age with a focus on micro level applications. **Prerequisite: Admission to the MSW Program. (3)**

SW 521. HUMAN BEHAVIOR AND THE SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT II. Continuation of Human Behavior and the Social Environment I with a focus on mezzo and macro applications. **Prerequisite: SW 520 Human Behavior and Social Environment I. (3)**

SW 530. STATISTICS FOR SOCIAL WORK. Statistics is the tool that quantitative researchers widely use to understand the data and the language to report findings. It is incumbent upon social workers to learn this important research tool and “research language.” **Prerequisite: Admission to the MSW Program. (3)**

SW 531. METHODS OF SOCIAL WORK RESEARCH. Presents qualitative and quantitative research methodologies to develop, use and communicate empirically based knowledge including evidence-based interventions. **Prerequisites: SW 500 Social Work Practice I; SW 530 Statistics for Social Work. (3)**

SW 540. DIVERSITY: MICRO, MEZZO, AND MACRO APPROACHES. Preparation for culturally competent social work practice with diverse populations and advocacy for social and economic justice. **Prerequisites: Admission to MSW Program. (3)**

SW 580. FIELD SEMINAR I. Discussion on integration of social work knowledge, theories, and research into generalist social work practice during the internship experience. **Prerequisites: SW 500; SW 501; SW 510; SW 511; SW 520; SW 521; SW 531; SW 540. Co-requisite: SW 581 Field Internship I. (3)**

SW 581. FIELD INTERNSHIP I. Supervised generalist social work practice in an agency or organization requiring 450 clock hours. **Prerequisites: SW 500; SW 501; SW 510; SW 511; SW 520; SW 521; SW 531; SW 540. Co-requisite: SW 580 Field Practice Seminar I. (9)**

SW 600. ADVANCED SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE WITH CHILDREN AND FAMILIES: DIRECT PRACTICE. Preparation for specialized social work practice with children and families. **Prerequisite: SW 581 Field Internship I or Advanced Standing. (3)**

SW 601. SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE WITH THE AGING. This course is an examination of issues and techniques in working with elderly clients. **Prerequisite: SW 581 Field Internship I. (3)**

SW 610. FAMILY AND CHILD WELFARE POLICY. Focuses on child and family welfare policies from both historical and current perspectives along with the analyses of issues related to policy development and the role of the social worker in policy advocacy. **Prerequisite: SW 581 Field Internship I or Advanced Standing. (3)**

SW 611. SOCIAL WELFARE AND HEALTH POLICY. This course examines the history of Social Welfare and Health Policy. It focuses on the various conceptual frameworks to analyze and study current social welfare issues. **Prerequisite: SW 581 Field Internship I. (3)**

SW 615 ADVANCED SOCIAL WORK PRACTICE WITH CHILDREN AND FAMILIES: INDIRECT PRACTICE. Focuses on the development of advanced practice skills in social work supervision, administration, and program development for children and families in rural areas. **Prerequisite: SW 581 Field Internship I or Advanced Standing. (3)**

SW 620. RURAL SOCIAL WORK. Advanced practice skills in rural social work at micro, mezzo and macro levels of practice. **Prerequisite: SW 581 Field Internship I or Advanced Standing. (3)**

SW 630. MENTAL HEALTH: ASSESSMENT AND INTERVENTION. . Study of the etiology, symptoms and treatment of mental disorders. **Prerequisite: SW 581 Field Internship I or Advanced Standing. (3)**

SW 631. PSYCHOSOCIAL AND MENTAL HEALTH ASPECTS OF AGING. This course will examine the psychological, biological, and social aspects of aging. **Prerequisite: SW 581 Field Internship I. (3)**

SW 650. NEED ASSESSMENT AND PROGRAM EVALUATION. Enhancement of knowledge and skills in qualitative and quantitative research methods with a focus on the applications of methods in conducting needs assessments and outcome evaluations. **Prerequisite: SW 581 Field Internship I or Advanced Standing. (3).**

SW 680. FIELD SEMINAR II. Discussion on the integration of social work knowledge, theories, and research into advanced social work practice with children and families during the internship. **Prerequisites: SW 600; SW 610; SW 615; SW 620; SW 630. Co-requisite: SW 681 Field Internship II. (3)**

SW 681 FIELD INTERNSHIP II. Supervised advanced social work practice in child and/or family welfare in an agency or organization requiring 450 clock hours. **Prerequisites: SW 600; SW 610; SW 615; SW 620; SW 630. Co-requisite: SW 680 Field Seminar II. (3)**

GRADUATE FACULTY

The date in parentheses indicates the beginning date of service at this University.

AHANONU, CHUKWUMA, Professor of Education. B.S., Utah State University; M.S., Utah State University; Ph.D., University of Utah. (2000)

AMADI, EMMANUEL N., Chair and Associate Professor of Criminal Justice. B.A., Winthrop University; M.P.P.A., Jackson State University, M.S., University of Wisconsin - Platteville, Ph.D., State University of New York. (1997)

BANKS, TERESA, Assistant Professor of Education. B.S. Alcorn State University, M.A.T., Ed.S and Ed.D, Jackson State University (2012)

BARNES, JESSICA, Instructor of Accounting. B.B.A., B.A., Mississippi State University; M.S., Accounting, University of Virginia. CPA, State of MS. (2008)

BLAND, CHARLES E., Associate Professor of Bioinformatics. B.S., Alcorn State University, M.S., Ph.D., University of Mississippi. (2007).

BURKE, GARFIELD, Associate Professor of Mathematics and Education. B.S., Alcorn State University; M.A.T., University of Cincinnati; Ph.D., Kansas State University. (1996)

CHOWDHURY, A. A., Associate Professor of Business Administration. B.A. University of Dhaka; MBA, University of Dhaka, M.S., West Virginia University; Ph.D., Mississippi State University. (1993)

COBBS, ROCHELLE, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice, B.S., Delta State University, Ph.D, Prairie View A&M University (2015)

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GOLI, MUDLAGIRI B., Associate Professor of Biology. B.S., Karnaathaes University; M.S. University of Maryland-College Park; Ph.D., University of Maryland-College Park. (1991)

GOLDEN, KATHIE, Associate Vice-President for Academic Affairs, Professor of Political Science/Director of International Programs. B.A., Southern University; M.A. Southern University; Ph.D., University of Kentucky. (2001)

HONORE-COLLINS, CYNTHIA, Director of MSW Program and Assistant Professor of Social Work. B.S and M.S., Southern University-New Orleans, PhD, Jackson State University (2011)

HOQUE, MOHAMMAD, Associate Professor of Social Work. BA, University of Dacca; MA, University of Dacca; MCD, University of Philippines; Ph.D., University of Chicago. (1994)

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LIU, JIABO, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice. B.A., LL.M., Peking University; M.S. University of Cincinnati; A.B.D., Indiana University of Pennsylvania/University of London. (2007)

MAHONE, WILLIAM, Assistant Professor of Chemistry; B.S., Troy State University; M.S., New Mexico University; Ph.D., New Mexico State University. (1996)

MENGISTU, TADESSE, Associate Professor of Business. B.A., Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia; M.B.A., Ball State University; Ph.D., Indiana University. (2006)

MOORE, KALANYA, Assistant Professor/Director of Student Teaching of Education; B.S. Mississippi Valley State University, Ed.D, Jackson State University (2002)

MUSHI, RICHARD J., Chair/Coordinator of Rural Public Policy Program and Associate Professor of Public Administration. B.A., University of Dar-Es-Salaam; MPPA., Ph.D., Jackson State University, (2005)

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NEWSOME, BARBARA, Associate Professor of Social Work. B.A., Mary Manse College; MSSW, University of Wisconsin; DSW, Catholic University (2013).

NEWSOME, MOSES, Assistant Professor of Social Work. B.A., Toledo University; MSW, University of Michigan; PhD, University of Wisconsin. (2014)

OSBORNE, JR., CASSIE, Professor of Political Science. B.S., Mississippi Valley State University, MA, University of Toledo; Ph.D., Clark-Atlanta University. (1999)

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SINGLETON-WALKER, CATHERINE M., Chair and Associate Professor of Social Work. BSW, Jackson State University; MSW, University of Alabama; Ph.D., Jackson State University. (2007)

VENTURINI, VINCENT, Associate Professor. B.A., Mississippi State University; MSW, University of Southern Mississippi; Ph.D., University of Alabama (1992)

WAHOME, JOSEPH, Associate Professor of Biology, BSC., University of Nairobi; M.S.C., University of Nairobi, Ph.D., University of California Berkeley. (1995)

WANG, YING, Associate Professor of Reading. B.A. Hebei University, P.R. of China; M.Ed., Oklahoma City University; Ph.D., University of Southern Mississippi. (2003)

WARREN, JIMMIE, Assistant Professor of Business. B.A, University of Arizona; MBA and MD, University of Phoenix. (2013)

ZHENG, JOHN, Chair and Professor of English & Foreign Language; M.A. University of Southern Mississippi; Ph.D, University of Southern Mississippi (1996)

INDEX

A

Academic Administrators	13
Academic Calendars	5
Academic Dismissal	21
Academic Probation and Suspension	21
Accreditation	16
Administrative Office Hours	18
Administrative Officers	13
Admission Policies, Requirements and Procedures	20
Admission of Undergraduate to Graduate	
Course Work	24
Admission to the Program, MAT	42
Admission to the Program, Elementary Education	49
Admission to the Program, Special Ed	53
Admission to the Program, Bioinformatics	58
Admission to the Program, Rural Public Policy and Planning	66
Admission to the Program, Business Administration	35
Admission to the Program, Criminal Justice	38

Admission to the Program, Environmental Health	62
Admission to the Program, Social Work	71
Advisement	21
Alma Mater	18
Appeal of Academic Status	21
Appeal of Grade	21
Audit	22

B

Board of Trustees	11
Buckley Amendment	24

C

Cancellation Policy for Financial Aid	33
Catalog	2
Common Titles for the University	16
Comprehensive Exams	36
Conditional Admission for Criminal Justice	36
Continuing Education and Weekend College	74
Course Descriptions	78
Course Descriptions, Business Administration	78
Course Descriptions, Criminal Justice	81
Course Descriptions, Social Science	83
Course Descriptions, Music	85
Course Descriptions, Special Education	87
Course Descriptions, Bioinformatics	88
Course Descriptions, Environmental Health.	90
Course Descriptions, Master of Arts in Teaching	83
Course Descriptions, Master of Science in Elementary Education	85
Course Descriptions, Rural Public Policy and Planning	92
Course Descriptions, Social Work.	95
Course Loads	27

Course Numbering	27
Credit for Military Service	76
Criminal Justice	38
D	
Deadline for Admission	20
Degree Plans	22
Degree Requirements	22
Distance Education	76
E	
Executive Staff	12
F	
Federal Regulations	22
Financial Aid Programs	30
G	
General Information	14
Grading System	22
Graduate Assistantship	30
Graduate Catalog	2
Graduate Diversity Scholarship	30
Graduate Faculty	98
Greenville Higher Education Center	77
Goals	17
H	
Historical Milestones	15
I	
Immunization Requirements	22
Incomplete Grade	22
Institutional Focus	16
International Students	22
L	
Loans	31

Location	15
Logo	18
M	
Master of Arts in Teaching Program	42
Master of Business Administration	35
Master of Sciences in Criminal Justice	38
Master of Sciences in Elementary Education	48
Master of Sciences in Environmental Health	62
Master of Science in Special Education	53
Master of Art in Rural Public Policy	71
Master of Science in Bioinformatics	78
Membership	18
Mission	15
Motto	17
N	
Non-Degree Status	52, 73
O	
Off-Campus Credits	62
P	
Policy and Procedures on Cheating and Plagiarism	25
Probation	21
R	
Re-Admission to the University	20
Residence Halls	19
S	
Services for Students with Disabilities.	23
Student Housing	22
Summer Session Admission	32
T	
Time Limit on Work for Master's Degree	37, 45, 51, 68

Traditions	20
Transfer of Credit	24
Transfer of Graduate Credit from Another Institution	30
Tuition and Fees	35
U	
Unofficial University Withdrawals	29
University Colors	20
University Holidays	21
University Seal	20
University Traditions	18
V	
Visiting Status	
W	
Withdrawal from the University	29
Work-Study Program	31