

**Name of Institution:** Francis Marion University

**Name of Program (include concentrations, options, and tracks)**

Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) concentrations in a) Arts & Humanities; b) Social & Behavioral Science; c) Natural Sciences and Math; and d) Management Technology

Proposed Name of Program (include concentrations, options, and tracks)

Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) concentrations in a) Arts & Humanities; b) Social & Behavioral Science; c) Natural Science and Math d) Management Technology e) Health Studies f) Educational Studies

It is the same name but we are adding a new concentration in Educational Studies.

**Program Designation**

- Associate's Degree
- Master's Degree
- X Bachelor's Degree: 4 Year
- Specialist
- Bachelor's Degree: 5 Year
- Doctoral Degree: Research/Scholarship (e.g., Ph.D. and DMA)
- Doctoral Degree: Professional Practice (e.g., Ed.D., D.N.P., J.D., Pharm.D., and M.D.)

Does the program qualify for supplemental Palmetto Fellows and LIFE Scholarship awards?

- Yes
- X No

**Proposed Date of Implementation** Fall 2016 **CIP Code** 24.0101

**Delivery Site(s):** Francis Marion University, Florence, SC site # 50301

**Delivery Mode**

- X Traditional/face-to-face\*  
\*select if less than 50% online
- Distance Education
  - 100% online
  - Blended (more than 50% online)
  - Other distance education

**Program Contact Information** (name, title, telephone number, and email address)

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**Institutional Approvals and Dates of Approval**

Sept 11, 2015 – Educational Studies BGS track passed Academic Affairs Committee.

October 20, 2015 – Faculty Senate Approved (In Minutes)

December 1, 2015 – General Faculty Approved (In Minutes)

**Background Information**

Provide a detailed description of the proposed modification, including its nature and purpose and centrality to institutional mission. (1500 characters)

The concentration in Educational Studies was added to the BGS options to provide greater variety to students pursuing the BGS degree. Students are required to complete a minimum of 120 credit hours, meet all general education requirements and have 30 credit hours above the 299 level in an area of concentration. The new concentration is designed for students who leave the School of Education and their teaching degree programs and lack the correct subjects to start a new major without adding many hours above 120.

The Bachelor of General Studies (B.G.S.) Program is offered for the benefit of certain students who, for specific reasons, are unable to complete a regular program in the academic disciplines within normal time limits. These students will normally have earned many college credits at other institutions and in various disciplines over a long period of time but have not met the specific requirements for a major. Students accepted into the B.G.S. program at FMU choose from one of the following areas of concentration: Arts and Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Natural Science and Mathematics, Management Technology, Health Studies, or Educational Studies. Students earn a Bachelor of General Studies degree (rather than a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree).

**List the objectives of the modified program.** (1500 characters)

The major objective of this modification to include an Educational Studies concentration in BGS for our students is to help them complete a college degree. Students do not routinely declare BGS as their major; instead they fall into a BGS degree when they have struggled with other majors and programs. We have found that some students upon failing to pass Praxis II or unsuccessfully completing their student teaching component fail to progress in our School of Education and subsequently look for some other way to complete a college degree. Thus, the addition of a BGS with a concentration in Educational Studies will make it possible for those students to finish their degree in a shorter time frame, while using many of their accumulated Education related credit hours in this new BGS concentration. By giving our students this new option, we hope to see an increase in both our student retention as well as graduation rates.

**Assessment of Need**

Provide an assessment of the need for the program modification for the institution, the state, the region, and beyond, if applicable. (1500 characters)

The Bachelor of General Studies (BGS) Coordinator/Committee has noted that an increasing number of BGS applicants are coming from the School of Education (SOE). In many cases, these students were unsuccessful in passing Praxis II or student teaching, and they are thus unable to progress in the SOE program. These students then seek to change their major to a Bachelor of General Studies. Many of these students have well over 100 credits, but since no current BGS concentration area relates to education, they often have to spend an additional 2-3 semesters to meet the requirements of the BGS degree. By offering an educational concentration area, it is anticipated that students will be able to continue their education focus, graduate in 1-2 semesters, and avoid having to take numerous additional credit hours to meet the BGS requirements.

Former Coordinator of the BGS Program, Dr. Karen Gittings reported in 2015 that there were 15 BGS majors with the following breakdown by concentration area: Arts/Humanities (2); Management Technology (2); Social/Behavioral (1); and Health Studies (10). She noted that those 5 students in the concentration areas other than Health Studies were all former education majors. **Source: Bachelor of General Studies Committee September 3, 2015 Minutes**

Will the proposed modification impact any existing programs and services at the institution?

- Yes
- X  No

**List of Similar Programs in South Carolina**

<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Similarities</b>	<b>Differences</b>
B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies	University of South Carolina	Interdisciplinary program that provides the student with the ability to finish a college degree by making use of course credits already amassed in various disciplines.	Bachelor of Arts degree. The FMU program would lead to a BGS degree not a BA degree.
B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies	University of South Carolina	Interdisciplinary program that provides the student with the ability to finish a college degree by making use of course credits already amassed in various disciplines.	Bachelor of Science degree. The FMU program would lead to a BGS degree not a BS degree.
B. A. Interdisciplinary Studies	Coastal Carolina University	Interdisciplinary program that provides the student with the ability to finish a college degree by making use of course credits already amassed in various disciplines.	Bachelor of Arts degree. The FMU program would lead to a BGS degree not a BA degree.
B. S. Interdisciplinary Studies	Coastal Carolina University	Interdisciplinary program that provides the student with the ability to finish a college degree by making use of course credits already amassed in various disciplines.	Bachelor of Science degree. The FMU program would lead to a BGS degree not a BS degree.
General Studies major	North Greenville University	Interdisciplinary program that provides the student with the ability to finish a college degree by making use of course credits already amassed in various disciplines.	This is an On-Line degree. Students required to complete senior research project and service project.
B.S. or B.S in Interdisciplinary Studies	North Greenville University	Interdisciplinary program that provides the student with the ability to finish a college degree by making use of course credits already amassed in various disciplines.	The student chooses either a B.A. or a B.S. track. The FMU program would lead to a BGS degree not a BA or BS degree.
Liberal Studies major	Limestone College	Interdisciplinary program that provides the student with the ability to finish a college degree by making use of course credits already amassed in various disciplines.	Bachelor of Science degree. The FMU program would lead to a BGS degree not a BS degree.

**Description of the Program**

<b>Projected New Enrollment</b>						
<b>Year</b>	<b>Fall</b>		<b>Spring</b>		<b>Summer</b>	
	Headcount	Credit Hours	Headcount	Credit Hours	Headcount	Credit Hours
2016	5	75	5	75	0	0
2017	5	75	5	75	0	0
2018	5	75	5	75	0	0
2019	5	75	5	75	0	0
2020	5	75	5	75	0	0

**Curriculum**

Attach a curriculum sheet identifying the courses required for the program.

For the BGS Concentration in Educational Studies at Francis Marion University, the student is required to:

1. Meet all General Education Requirements for either a BA or a BS degree
2. Have a minimum 30 credit hours above the 299 level with designation in one area of Concentration (Educational Studies)
3. For the Concentration in Educational Studies those course requirements are:

Must include the following 12 credit hours of education:

- EDUC 305 (3) Foundations of Curriculum and Instruction
- EDUC 310 (3) Using Technology Effectively in the Classroom
- EDUC 311 (3) Foundations of Instructional Planning and Assessment
- EDUC 313 (1) Field Experiences in Instructional Planning and Assessment
- EDUC 380 (2) Introduction to Exceptional Students

and must include 18 credits hours from the following:

- ENG 300 (3) Foundations for Literary Studies
- ENG 310 (3) Modern English Grammar
- ENG 313 (3) Literature for Young Children OR ENG 315 Literature for Children
- ENG 340 (3:3-2) Theories of Writing
- ENG 341 (3) Advanced Composition for Teachers
- MATH 370 (3) Intuitive Geometry
- PSY 304 (3) Brain and Behavior
- PSY 306 (3) Pediatric Psychology
- PSY 315 (3) Child Behavior: Growth and Development
- PSY 316 (3) Adolescent Behavior: Growth and Development
- PSY 317 (3) Applied Behavior Analysis
- PSY 318 (3) Educational Psychology
- PSY 334 (3) Life Span Development,

or other appropriate courses approved by the coordinator of the B.G.S. program

**Curriculum Changes**

**Note: Complete this table only if there are changes to the curriculum.**

Courses Eliminated from Program	Courses Added to Program

**Faculty**

Provide a brief explanation of any additional institutional changes in faculty and/or administrative assignment that may result from implementing the proposed program modification. (1000 characters)

No new hires in faculty or support staff will be necessary to support the new BGS track in Educational Studies. All existing faculty, staff, administration as used to offer and support other programs and disciplines would be sufficient to deliver and support the new BGS concentration in Educational Studies.

**Resources**

Identify any new library/learning resources, new instructional equipment, and new facilities or modifications to existing facilities needed to support the modified program. (2000 characters)

No new library/learning resources or instructional equipment is necessary to support the new BGS track in Educational Studies. All existing courses, facilities, and instructional resources as used to support other programs and disciplines would be sufficient to support those students in the BGS Educational Studies concentration.

**Financial Support**

**No new costs will be associated with the addition of the Educational Studies Concentration BGS degree.**

Estimated New Costs by Year						
Category	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	Total
Program Administration						
Faculty and Staff Salaries						
Graduate Assistants						
Equipment						
Facilities						
Supplies and Materials						
Library Resources						
Other*						
<b>Total</b>						
Sources of Financing						
Category	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	Total
Tuition Funding						
Program-Specific Fees						
State Funding (i.e., Special State Appropriation)*						
Reallocation of Existing Funds*						
Federal Funding*						
Other Funding*						
<b>Total</b>						
<b>Net Total</b> (i.e., Sources of Financing Minus Estimated New Costs)						

\*Provide an explanation for these costs and sources of financing in the budget justification.

### Budget Justification

Provide a brief explanation for the other new costs and any special sources of financing (state funding, reallocation of existing funds, federal funding, or other funding) identified in the Financial Support table. (1000 characters)

**Note: Institutions need to complete this budget justification *only* if any other new costs, state funding, reallocation of existing funds, federal funding, or other funding are included in the Financial Support table.**

### Evaluation and Assessment

Will any the proposed modification impact the way the program is evaluated and assessed?

Yes

X  No

If yes, explain. (1000 characters)

Will the proposed modification affect or result in program-specific accreditation?

Yes

X  No

If yes, explain; if the modification will result in the program seeking program-specific accreditation, provide the institution's plans to seek accreditation, including the expected timeline for accreditation. (500 characters)

Will the proposed modification affect or lead to licensure or certification?

Yes

X  No

If yes, explain how the program will prepare students for licensure or certification. (500 characters)

### Teacher or School Professional Preparation Programs

Is the proposed modified program a teacher or school professional preparation program?

Yes

X  No

If yes, complete the following components.

Area of Certification

Attach a document addressing the South Carolina Department of Education Requirements and SPA or Other National Specialized and/or Professional Association Standards.