GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
Graduate Council MODIFIED/DELETED Certificate, Concentration, Track, or Degree Program
Coordination/Approval Form
Graduate School of Education

(Please complete this form and attach any related materials. Forward it as an email attachment to the Secretary of the Graduate Council. A printed copy of the form with signatures should be brought to the Graduate Council Meeting. If no coordination with other units is requires, simply indicate “None” on the form.

Title of Program/Certificate, etc: Early Childhood Education (UTEEM)
Level (Master’s/Ph.D.): Master’s

Please Indicate:  

Program ______ Certificate ______ Concentration ______ Track ______

Description of the change in the certificate, concentration, or degree program:

Request:
The UTEEM program requests that the total number of credits for the degree (currently 63) be changed to 45-63.

Background/Rationale:
Several GSE programs have adopted the variable credit format for their degrees and have found it advantageous in several ways. Many of our students come to us with course work from other degrees and other universities and don’t want to repeat the content in those courses. If GSE waives those courses, the student then has to take “electives” to reach the total credits for the degree. Requiring these electives lengthens the time it takes for a student to enter the classroom and adds to the student’s expenses. In these times of teacher shortages, we want to get our students into the classroom as soon as possible while making sure that they have all of the necessary content.

Proposal:
The UTEEM program requests that the total number of credits for its degree be changed from 63 credits to 45-63 credits. This will allow program advisors to waive up to 18 credits for students who have had previous course work. The student can complete the degree with as few as 45 credits and not have to take extra “elective” courses.

Approval from other units:
Please list those units outside of your own who may be affected by this. Each of these units must approve this change prior to its being submitted to the Graduate Council for approval.

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Submitted by: Eva Thorp, Sylvia Sanchez & Mark Goor Email: mgoor@gmu.edu

Graduate Council approval: Date: 
Graduate Council representative: Date: 
Provost Office representative: Date: 