Program Proposal  
Form B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Group (College): Education</th>
<th>Date of Submission to College Dean: March 19, 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic Organization (Department): Graduate and Professional Studies in Education</td>
<td>Requested Effective: Fall X, Spring__, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department Chair: Sue Heredia</td>
<td>Contact if not Department Chair: Elisabeth Liles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title of the Program: Master of Science in Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy Specialization</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Type of Program Proposal:**

- **X** Modification in Existing Program:
  - X Substantive Change
  - ___ Non-Substantive Change
  - ___ Deletion of Existing Program

- ____ New Programs
  - ___ Initiation (Projection) of New Program on to Master Plan
  - ___ New Degree Programs
    - ___ Regular Process
    - ___ Fast Track Process
    - ___ Pilot Process
  - ___ New Minor, Concentration, Option, Specialization, Emphasis
  - ___ New Certificate Program

**PLEASE NOTE:** Form B is to be used only as a Cover Form. Additional information is requested for each of the above as noted in the corresponding procedure in the Policies and Procedures for Initiation, Modification, Review and Approval of Courses and Academic Programs found at [http://www.csus.edu/acaf/univmanual/index.htm](http://www.csus.edu/acaf/univmanual/index.htm)

**Briefly describe the program proposal (new or change) and provide a justification.**

The M.S. in Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy Specialization currently requires three co-requisite courses: EDUC 155 Introduction to Counseling; EDUC 156 Power, Privilege, and Self-Identity in Counseling; and EDUC 157 Child and Family Psychopathology or PSYC 168 Abnormal Psychology. These courses must be taken prior to admission in the program or during the first semester of a candidate’s program.

This proposal seeks to require that all applicants to the M.S. in Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy Specialization must complete EDUC 155, EDUC 156, and EDUC 157/PSY 168 or their equivalent with a minimum grade of B in order to be accepted into the program. Candidates will no longer be able to complete these courses as co-requisites during their first semester in the program. Applicants who have not completed these prerequisites or their equivalent will not be eligible for admission into the program.

This proposal also seeks to classify all admitted students to the M.S. in Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy Specialization as conditional during their first semester in the program. In order for students to change their status to classified, they must earn a minimum overall GPA of 3.4 during their first semester, as well as satisfy the requirements of the Counselor Education Student Code of Conduct. Failure to meet these requirements will result in automatic dismissal from the program.

Finally, this proposal seeks to change the minimum grade point average required for admission into the program. Currently, applicants must have a minimum 2.5 grade point average in their last 60 semester or 90 quarter units. The M.S. in Counseling, Marriage and Family Therapy Specialization will now require a 2.5 overall grade point average with a minimum 3.0 grade point average in the last 60 semester or 90 quarter units earned.
New Program

Admission Requirements
Admission as a classified graduate student in the Master of Science in Counseling program requires:

- A baccalaureate degree;
- Good academic standing at the last college attended;
- A grade point average of at least 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) in the last 60 semester (or 90 quarter units);
- An overall grade point average of at least 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) and a minimum grade point average of 3.0 in the last 60 semester (or 90 quarter units) earned;
- Completion of the University application materials;
- Completion and submission of all Departmental application materials which include:
  - Application form
  - Written statement(s) delineated in application;
  - Copies of transcripts (from all universities and colleges attended);
  - Professional letters of recommendation (3 total);
  - Passing score on the Writing Placement for Juniors examination (WPJ) or its equivalent;
  - Relevant work experience.
- Participation in an In-Person Admission Evaluation, which may include (but is not limited to) interviews, experiential activities, and writing samples.

Selected applicants, based on paper screening of completed applications, will be invited for an In-Person Admission Evaluation. Decisions for admission into the Master of Science in Counseling program are made based on a comprehensive assessment of all application materials and performance in the In-Person Admission Evaluation.

Admitted students will be required to take the following co-requisite courses under probationary status during their first semester in the program:

The following prerequisite courses or their equivalent with a minimum grade of B are required for admission into the program:

- EDUC 155: Introduction to Counseling;
- EDUC 156: Power, Privilege and Self Identity in Counseling (Minimum 3.4 overall average is required).

Old Program

Admission Requirements
Admission as a classified graduate student in the Master of Science in Counseling program requires:

- A baccalaureate degree;
- Good academic standing at the last college attended;
- A grade point average of at least 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) in the last 60 semester (or 90 quarter units);
- Completion of the University application materials;
- Completion and submission of all Departmental application materials which include:
  - Application form
  - Written statement(s) delineated in application;
  - Copies of transcripts (from all universities and colleges attended);
  - Professional letters of recommendation (3 total);
  - Passing score on the Writing Placement for Juniors examination (WPJ) or its equivalent;
  - Relevant work experience.
- Participation in an In-Person Admission Evaluation, which may include (but is not limited to) interviews, experiential activities, and writing samples.

Selected applicants, based on paper screening of completed applications, will be invited for an In-Person Admission Evaluation. Decisions for admission into the Master of Science in Counseling program are made based on a comprehensive assessment of all application materials and performance in the In-Person Admission Evaluation.

Admitted students will be required to take the following co-requisite courses under probationary status during their first semester in the program:

- EDUC 155: Introduction to Counseling;
- EDUC 156: Power, Privilege and Self Identity in Counseling (Minimum 3.4 overall average in these two EDC courses is required);
- EDUC 157: Child and Family Psychopathology OR PSYC 168: Abnormal Psychology (Minimum grade of C is required).

Failure to meet the above-stated grade requirements during the probationary period is grounds for automatic dismissal.
these two EDC courses is required); (Minimum grade of C is required).

- EDUC 157: Child and Family Psychopathology
- OR PSYC 168: Abnormal Psychology

Note: Failure to meet the above stated grade requirements during the probationary period is grounds for automatic dismissal.

Note: The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is not required for admission.

Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR): Applicants to the Master’s in Counseling program must show evidence of passing the Graduate Writing Assessment Requirement (GWAR) or its equivalent in order to be accepted into the program.

California Basic Educational Skills Test (CBEST): Although evidence of passing the CBEST is not required for admission into the Pupil Personnel Services Credential programs, the CBEST must be successfully passed prior to receiving the Pupil Personnel Services Credentials.

Conditional Classification: All students admitted into the program will be classified as Conditional during their first semester in the program. In order for students to progress to Fully Classified status, they must earn a minimum overall GPA of 3.4 during their first semester, as well as satisfy the requirements of the Counselor Education Student Code of Conduct (included in the Counselor Education Student Handbook). Students must submit a Classification Application to the Office of Graduate Studies in order to change their status to Fully Classified. Failure to satisfy these requirements will result in automatic dismissal from the program.