GRADUATE COUNCIL
Winthrop University
Tuesday, December 9, 2025
Thurmond Hall 212

Members present: Charles Randle, Jessie Hoffman, Tim Drueke, Gina Jones, Melissa McCartney, Lisa Harris, Kelly Richardson, Cody Walters, Anna Boddicker, Melda Gain, Justice Odjeawo, Brantley Therrell, Philip Gibson, Sherry Hoyle, and Alice Burmeister.

I. Call to Order at 11:02am

II. Approval of minutes October 31, 2025.
Motion to approve: AB (Alice Burmeister). Second: JH (Jessie Hoffman). Approved by acclimation.

III. Curriculum Action

Program Changes GC votes GFA may or may not vote	
Program	**Overview of Changes**
MBA-FINTECH (MBA-FTEC) **GC Votes** **GFA Votes**	**New Program** Creates a 36-hour MBA with a FinTech concentration using three existing FINC courses plus the regular MBA core. Also sets up an accelerated BS/MBA-FINTECH pathway that shares up to 6 hours of 500-level FINC courses. The goal is to give students skills in financial technology (data analytics, AI, machine learning, blockchain) and meet job demand in the Charlotte financial market. *Approved by acclimation.*
MS in Accounting and Analytics (MSAA) **GC Votes** **GFA No**	**Program Modification** The program is adding ACCT 620 (CPA Exam Preparation) as an elective option within the Accounting Analytics Micro-Certificate to help students prepare for the CPA exam while enrolled. This change aims to provide greater flexibility and align the curriculum with other regional graduate accounting programs. *Approved by acclimation.*

Micro-certificates GC votes GFA does not vote	
Micro-certificate	**Overview of Changes**
Micro-certificate in Healthcare Leadership **GC Votes** **GFA No**	**New Micro-certificate** The Healthcare Leadership Micro-Certificate equips students with essential management and leadership skills specific to the complex healthcare industry. This focused two-course program provides practical knowledge and strategic thinking capabilities needed to lead effectively in hospitals, health systems, pharmaceutical companies, and other healthcare organizations. Students will take HCMT 621: Foundations of the U.S. Healthcare System and HCMT 623: Transforming Healthcare: Quality & Performance. *Approved by acclimation.*

600-Level Course(s)
GC Does not vote
GFA Does not vote

Type	Course	Overview of Changes
New Course	ACCT 620	(CPA Exam Preparation) This new elective course provides structured support for students preparing for the CPA exam, allowing them to establish study goals and track progress. It is designed to align with similar offerings at other universities.
	ATRN 680	(BOC Certification Exam Preparation) This new course provides structured guidance to help graduate students prepare for the Board of Certification national exam, a method shown to increase success rates. It formalizes a course previously offered as an "X" course.
	ATRN 681	(BOC Certification Exam Preparation, Individualized) This new individualized course follows ATRN 680, offering students specific assistance to fine-tune their preparation for the BOC exam. It allows students to implement a study plan and address personal strengths and weaknesses in athletic training domains.
	SPED 696	(Independent Study in Special Education) This new variable-credit independent study course provides a 600-level option for graduate students to investigate specialized topics. It helps ensure graduate students can meet the requirement that 50% of their coursework be at the 600 level.
Course Modification	ACCT 600	(CPA Exam Overview) The grade mode is changing from non-graded to Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory so the course will appear properly in Degree Works.
	NUTR 607	(Research Methods) Updating prerequisites.
	NUTR 611	(Public Health and Global Nutrition) Updating prerequisites.
	NUTR 620	(Maternal and Child Nutrition) Updating prerequisites.
	NUTR 621	(Nutrition and Aging) Updating prerequisites.
	NUTR 624	(Vitamin and Mineral Metabolism) Updating prerequisites.
	PSYC 613	(Advanced Statistics and Research Methods) Content on research methods is being moved into this course from PSYC 614 to meet NASP accreditation standards. This adjustment is part of a larger realignment of the curriculum to satisfy accreditation requirements.
	PSYC 670	(Continuing Professional Development in School Psychology) The credit hours for this course are being adjusted from 1.0 to 0.5 credits to better align with actual seat time and the university's pricing structure. This change applies to workshops offered in partnership with the South Carolina Association of School Psychologists.
Course Inactivation	PETE 691	(Reflective Teaching in PETE) This course is replaced by PETE 510 (2 credits) to provide more time for content and the edTPA.

		500-Level Course(s) GC Votes GFA Does not vote	
Type	**Course**	**Overview of Changes**	**Graduate/Undergraduate Differences**
New Course	HSCI 500 **?**	(Contemporary Health Problems) This new course creates a cross-listed version of HLTH 500 to support the new Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences. It focuses on current health challenges, prevention, and intervention strategies, which are standard components of health science curricula.	Students cannot take this course for graduate credit as there is no graduate program in this major. (See information from Alice McClain)
	HSCI 501 **?**	(Substance Abuse) This new course creates a cross-listed version of HLTH 501 for the BS in Health Sciences program. It covers the causes and prevention of substance abuse, fulfilling a key educational need identified in peer programs and workforce demands.	Students cannot take this course for graduate credit as there is no graduate program in this major. (See information from Alice McClain)
	PETE 510 **?**	(Reflective Teaching in Physical Education) This new 2-credit course replaces the 1-credit PETE 691 to provide more time for students to cover Pre-K through 12 content and complete the edTPA assessment. The increase in credit hours is balanced by removing a 1-credit aquatics requirement, keeping the total program credits unchanged.	Graduate students will be graded on a higher grading scale.
	SPED 580	(Mathematics Interventions) This course creates an undergraduate version of the existing SPED 680 graduate course for Education Studies majors enrolling in the accelerated MAT program. It covers evidence-based math interventions and instructional supports for students with learning difficulties.	Graduate students will be required to develop a research-to-practice lesson plan. This assignment requires a degree of research application that goes beyond what is expected in common assignments.

Approved by acclamation. GJ (Gina Jones) will need to make corrections to the graduate corequisites.

Course Modification	ATRN 505 **?**	(Essential Clinical Skills for Athletic Training) The course content is being adjusted to better align with the first-semester curriculum, focusing on lower extremity injuries and basic emergency skills. This content blending with ATRN 515 ensures students learn assessment and diagnosis skills concurrently with related coursework.	None Provided
	ATRN 515 **?**	(Advanced Clinical Skills for Athletic Training) This course is being modified to focus on upper extremity injuries and advanced emergency skills, aligning with concurrent coursework and preparing students for clinical rotations. The course title is also changing to better reflect this advanced content.	None Provided
	BADM 571 **?**	(Applied Analytics and Data Visualization) The prerequisites are being updated to include MATH 341 as an alternative, accommodating students in the new AI degree program who take MATH 341 instead of BSAN 210. This change aims to expand access for AI students needing to fulfill elective requirements. *Pending clarification from department chair on language.*	None Provided

		500-Level Course(s) GC Votes GFA Does not vote	
Type	Course	Overview of Changes	Graduate/Undergraduate Differences
	EDCO 591	(Praxis Subject Area Preparation) "Graduate Status" is being added as a prerequisite option to allow MAT-traditional students to take the course before formal admission to the teacher education program. This change eliminates the need for manual overrides for these students.	There is no specific assignment to differentiate between graduate and undergraduate work due to the individualized nature of the course. Students at both levels take the same assessment.
	FINC 570	(Foundations in Financial Data Analytics) MATH 341 is being added as a prerequisite option to serve students in the AI program who take this course as an elective. This aligns the prerequisites with the curriculum path of AI students who do not take BSAN 210.	Graduate students will be assigned a data analysis project requiring them to actively conceptualize, apply, analyze, and evaluate information to make a data-informed business decision.

Approved by acclimation.

Type	Course	Overview of Changes	Graduate/Undergraduate Differences
Course Inactivation	ATRN 563	(Medical Aspects of Sport) ATRN563 was part of the BS-ATRN degree which is no longer offered. This course was overlooked when the other courses in the BS-ATRN were removed.	
	ATRN 563H	(Medical Aspects of Sport) ATRN563 was part of the BS-ATRN degree which is no longer offered. This course was overlooked when the other courses in the BS-ATRN were removed.	
	CSCI 581	(Special Topics in Computer Science) This course has not been offered in years and should be removed from the list of available courses to prevent any confusion among students. Our department has no intent to use this course in the foreseeable future.	

Approved by acclimation.

IV.   Old Business

V.   New Business

VI.   Announcements

VII.   Graduate Petitions (None) – Voting Members Only

VIII.   Adjournment

Motion: CR. Second: JH. Approved by acclimation

2025-2026 Meeting Dates
~~September 16, Tuesday, 11:00 am: Tillman 308~~
October 31, Friday, 2:00 pm: Zoom (**Teams)**
December 9, Tuesday, 11:00 am: ~~Tillman 308~~ **Thurmond 212**
January 23, Friday, 2:00 pm: Zoom (**Teams**)
March 10, Tuesday, 11:00 am: ~~Tillman 308~~ **Thurmond 212**
April 14, Tuesday, 11:00 am: ~~Tillman 308~~ **Thurmond 212**

Graduate Faculty Assembly and Graduate Council Website:
https://www.winthrop.edu/graduateschool/graduate-faculty-governance.aspx

CourseDog
https://app.coursedog.com/#/login

2025-2026 Committee			
Voting Members *The voting members of the Graduate Council also serve as the Graduate Petitions Committee.*			**Term Expires**
Charles Randle, CBT, Chair	randlee@winthrop.edu	Appointed (VPAA)	2026
Jessie Hoffman, CAS, Vice Chair	hoffmanjb@winthrop.edu	Appointed (VPAA)	2026
Kelly Richardson, CAS	richardsonk@winthrop.edu	Elected (CAS)	2028
Alice Burmeister, CVPA	burmeistera@winthrop.edu	Elected (CVPA)	2028
Malayka Klimchak, CBT	klimchakm@winthrop.edu	Elected (CBT)	2027
Anna Boddicker, COE	boddickera@winthrop.edu	Appointed (VPAA)	2027
Sherry Hoyle, COE	hoyles@winthrop.edu	Elected (COE)	2027
Ex Officio, non-voting, and other invitees			
Cody Walters	waltersw@winthrop.edu	Elected, Library Faculty, Non-voting	2027
Alice McClaine	mclainea@winthrop.edu	Elected, GFA (**from CUC**), Ex Officio	2026
Melissa McCartney	mccartneym@winthrop.edu	Dean of Graduate Studies, Online Learning, and Extended Education	
Gabby Jacobsen	jacobseng@winthrop.edu	Grad School, Appointed Ex Officio	
Melda Gain	gainm2@mailbox.winthrop.edu	Student, CAS Appt. Ex Officio	
Justice Odjeawo	odjeawoj2@mailbox.winthrop.edu	Student, CBT Appt. Ex Officio	
O. Jennifer Dixon-McKnight	dmcknightoj@winthrop.edu	GFA Chair	
Tim Drueke	drueket@winthrop.edu	Assistant Provost for Curriculum and Program Support	
Gina Jones	jonesgg@winthrop.edu	Registrar	
Maria D'Agostino	dagostinom@winthrop.edu	Associate Registrar	
Tracy Patterson	pattersont@winthrop.edu	Graduate Director, CVPA	
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Philip Gibson	gibsonp@winthrop.edu	Graduate Director, CBA	
Brantley Therrell	therrellb@winthrop.edu	Graduate Petitions Coordinator	
Adam Glover	glovera@winthrop.edu	Faculty Conference Chair	

Graduate Faculty Assembly Meeting Dates
~~October 17, Friday, 2:00 pm: Whitton Auditorium, Carroll Hall~~
~~December 5, Friday, 2:00 pm: Whitton Auditorium, Carroll Hall~~
February 27, Friday, 2:00 pm: Whitton Auditorium, Carroll Hall
April 24, Friday, 2:00 pm: Whitton Auditorium, Carroll Hall