SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS

Substantive Program Modification Form

Use this form to request minor changes in existing programs (majors, minors, certificates, or specializations).

UNIVERSITY:	NSU
CURRENT PROGRAM TITLE:	Master of Science in Leadership and Administration
CIP CODE:	130301
UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:	Graduate Studies
BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:	NGST
UNIVERSITY DIVISION:	School of Education
BANNER DIVISION CODE:	5E

University Approval

To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.

Michael Wanous _____   4/1/2021

Vice President of Academic Affairs or   Date
President of the University

1. **This modification addresses a change in (*place an "X" in the appropriate box*):**

   ☒ Total credits required within the discipline   ☒ Total credits of supportive course work

   ☒ Total credits of elective course work   ☒ Total credits required for program

   ☐ Program name   ☐ Existing specialization

   ☐ CIP Code   ☐ Other (explain below)

2. **Effective date of change: 8/1/2021**

3. **Program Degree Level (*place an "X" in the appropriate box*):**

   Associate ☐   Bachelor's ☐   Master's ☒   Doctoral ☐

4. **Category (*place an "X" in the appropriate box*):**

   Certificate ☐   Specialization ☐   Minor ☐   Major ☒

5. If a name change is proposed, the change will occur (*place an "X" in the appropriate box*):

☐ On the effective date for all students

☐ On the effective date for students new to the program (enrolled students will graduate from existing program)

Proposed new name: _____

Reminder: Name changes may require updating related articulation agreements, site approvals, etc.

6. Primary Aspects of the Modification (*add lines or adjust cell size as needed*):

Existing Curriculum					*Proposed Curriculum (highlight changes)*			
Pref.	**Num.**	**Title**	**Cr. Hrs.**		**Pref.**	**Num.**	**Title**	**Cr. Hrs.**
FOUNDATION COURSES					**FOUNDATION COURSES**			
EDER	761	Grad Research & Design	3		EDER	761	Grad Research & Design	3
EPSY	742	Psych of Learning	3		EPSY	742	Psych of Learning	3
CORE COURSES					**CORE COURSES**			
EDAD	700	Mod of Educ Leadership	3		EDAD	700	Mod of Educ Leadership	3
EDAD	715	Supv & Mentoring	3		EDAD	715	Theoretical & Prac Framework for Inst Lead	3
EDAD	725	The Principalship	3		EDAD	725	The Principalship	3
EDAD	735	School Law	3					
					EDAD	745	Organizational Behavior for Student Development	3
SUPPORTING COURSES					**SUPPORTING COURSES**			
EDAD	720	SPED Law for Admin	3					
					EDAD	735	School Law	3
EDER	765	Data Driven Dec Making	3		EDER	765	Data Driven Dec Making	3
EDFN	742	School & Comm Partner	3		EDFN	742	School & Comm Partner	3
EDFN	752	Res Based Curr & Inst	3					
					SPED	704	Inclusive Education	3
RESEARCH OPTION (Choose 1)								
EDAD	788	Research Problem	3					
EDAD	730	Public School Finance	3					
INTERNSHIP					**INTERNSHIP**			
EDAD	794	Internship	2		EDAD	794	Internship	2
Total number of hours required for major, minor, or specialization			35		Total number of hours required for major, minor, or specialization			32
Total number of hours required for degree			35		Total number of hours required for degree			32

7. Explanation of the Change:

A historic shift is happening in the field of educational leadership. Policymakers, families, and other constituents of PK-12 schools are increasingly holding education leaders accountable for the academic success and personal well-being of every student. It is no longer enough to manage school finances, maintain a spotless and safe building, and keep the buses running on time. Education leaders must also provide clear evidence that the children in their care are being better prepared for college, careers, and life. A significant revision of the national standards that guide preparation and practice for educational leaders in the United States led to the development of the National Educational Leadership Preparation (NELP) national standards. The NELP standards address the most critical knowledge and skill areas for beginning building-level educational leaders and provide a framework for understanding how to best prepare, support, and evaluate education leaders in their efforts to help every child grow.

The NELP standards are approved by the Council for the Accreditation for Educator Preparation (CAEP), and align with the four CAEP principles. South Dakota Legislative Rule (24:53:08:02) for professional principal preparation, states " The required courses and experiences of a preschool through grade 12 principal program must meet the National Educational Leadership Preparation (NELP) Program Recognition standards 2018 edition."

After completing a crosswalk between the current curriculum for Northern State University's Master of Science in Leadership and Administration program and the multifaceted components of the NELP standards, a needs assessment determined necessary modifications to the curriculum. The revised overall program represents a synthesis of the knowledge, skills, and commitment articulated in the NELP standards. The revised curriculum provides students with more comprehensive education in the areas of:
- Instructional Leadership,
- Diversity and Inclusion, and
- Professional Staff and Student Development.

We also determined that the opportunity existed to reduce the number of credits from 35 to 32. Other Leadership and Administration programs in the state require fewer credits, and it would bode well for Northern State University to have similar requirements. The revised curriculum, though fewer credits, encompasses carefully determined coursework that is efficiently streamlined to manifest the rigorous NELP standards for performance, thus creating a more affordable, more intentional program of study for candidates.