



Graduate Council

Agenda

May 2026

Electronic Meeting

Call to Order: Electronic Meeting Initiated May 8, 2026

Approval of April 9, 2026 minutes (Appendix A)

1) Committee Reports

- a. Research: No report
- b. Policy: No report
- c. Curriculum: Report attached (Appendix B)



Appendix A

Graduate Council

Agenda

April 9, 2026

3:00pm WAB 227

Members present: Whitley Stone, Jeremy Logsdon, Melissa Tolbert, Dan Strunk, Leslee Tarbett, Jerry Brotzge, Daniel Keller, Jonathon Ross, Michael Healy (for Jessi Thomsen), Elnad Jasaveric, Mikhail Kenner, Laura Hudson (for Wes Cottongim), Adam West (for Erin Warfel), Sara McCaslin

Guests: Cathleen Webb, Cy Dixon, Danita Kelly, Merrall Price, Michael Smith, Scott Gordon, Rheanna Plemmons

- 2) Call to order *Stone called to order at 3:02 p.m.
- 3) Sign-in sheet
- 4) Consideration of March 12, 2026 minutes (Appendix A): Motion to consider – Strunk/McCaslin. Friendly amendment to change one mistyped word. Approved unanimously and stand approved as revised.
- 5) Committee Reports
 - a. Research (Jeremy Logsdon): No report
 - b. Policy (Wes Cottongim): No report
 - c. Curriculum (Erin Warfel or Jessi Thomsen): Report attached (Appendix B): Motion to approve – Stone. One friendly amendment made after GCCC to reflect a math error in TESOL program. At GCCC, Dr. Hammonds provided clarification on criteria for expedited versus full review to help reduce the curriculum committee's workload, and updates to both workflows are reflected in the curriculum minutes. A Courseleaf update removed the measurement plan requirement for new programs and added a CPE checkbox acknowledging that programs are primarily educational and scholarly. At this meeting, Dr. Plemmons clarified that minor improvements to student learning outcomes are not considered substantive changes, though complete revisions would require full faculty approval. Report was approved unanimously
- 6) Other business

- a. Graduate Studies (Scott Gordon): Dr. Gordon shared that census enrollment for spring was 2,149 (1% increase), and they are starting to recruit for summer and fall terms, work on degree audits, and that college awards and Minton awards should be announced shortly.
- b. Graduate Council Elections
 - i. Welcome Newly Elected Members
 - 1. Faculty:
 - a. Jessi Thomsen (PCAL, *returning*),
 - b. Peter Lin (GFCB),
 - c. Jeremy Logsdon (CEBS, *returning*),
 - d. Melissa Tolbert (CHHS),
 - e. Michael Smith (OCSE),
 - f. Tony Paganelli (Libraries)
 - g. Faculty Rep from Senate (August appointment)
 - 2. Students:
 - a. Jacob Gillespie (CHHS),
 - b. Elnad Jasarevic (CEBS, *returning*).
 - c. Needs representatives from GFCB, PCAL, and OCSE
 - d. Need SGA rep (August appointment)
 - ii. Graduate Council Executive Committee
 - 1. Vice Chair nominations (need two years of service ahead)

Daniel Keller – nomination, 2nd by Warfel (proxy West)

Keller voted in unanimously.

- 2. Secretary nominations

Melissa Tolbert – nomination, 2nd by Stone

Tolbert voted in by unanimously.

- c. Open forum to council

Dr. Ross asked about the university's progress toward R2 status, and Dr. Price explained that designation depends on both research expenditures and the number of doctoral graduates, which makes it a long-term process. Dr. Webb noted it typically takes 8–12 years, while Dr. Khenner shared that progress is going well and that updates will be shared

with the university soon. Dr. Stone indicated plans to coordinate with the provost's office and engage Graduate Council in identifying ways to support the effort.

Dr. Stone also shared that she wants perspective on how Grad Council can be meaningful for all participants beyond simply moving reports forward. She requested of all members that if there is anyone they would like to invite or learn from to please share that with her over the summer so appointments can be made for next academic year.

7) Calendar and next meeting: 5/14/26^a

- a. Held only if needed, potential for curriculum process. Willing to hold virtually?

Dr. Stone shared the need for a final May meeting of this academic year to be held virtually, via email with email vote.

Strunk motion, McCaslin second, for this May meeting to be held virtually.

Approved unanimously.

8) Adjournment: Motion to adjourn 1st/2nd Strunk/Tarbett at 3:41 p.m.

Attachments: Reports and Prior Meeting Minutes

Appendix B

Graduate Council Curriculum Committee

Minutes – May 7, 2026, 2:30 PM (CT)

Voting Members: Erin Warfel, Dan Strunk, Leslie Tarbett, Jessi Thomsen, and Eland Jasarevic.

Advisory Members: Cate Webb, Jennifer Klemm, Danita Kelley, and Jamie DeYoung

Guests: James Simmons and Tonya Bragg-Underwood

Approval of Minutes – April 2, 2026 - 1st/2nd: Tarbett/Thomsen **Vote:** Approved (5 Yes)

Course Administration:

Graduate Curriculum Committee (23)				
Code	Title	Status	Initiator	Received
Motion to Bundle all NURS classes – 1st/2nd: Strunk/Tarbett				
Vote to Bundle: Approved				
Discussion – within each course separately.				
Vote: Approved (5 Yes)				
NURS 833	NURS 833: Clinical Practicum I	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description.				
<i>Friendly Amendment - Within this area – “Is this related to other courses at WKU – Yes” – Add the following language: “There are existing graduate nursing clinical courses offered where students apply advanced concepts in nursing practice. This course will be focused on settings for nurse anesthesia.”</i>				

Graduate Curriculum Committee (23)				
Code	Title	Status	Initiator	Received
NURS 842	NURS 842: Clinical Practicum II	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description. <i>Friendly Amendment - Within this area – “Is this related to other courses at WKU – Yes” – Add the following language: “There are existing graduate nursing clinical courses offered where students apply advanced concepts in nursing practice. This course will be focused on settings for nurse anesthesia.”</i>				
NURS 861	NURS 861: Clinical Practicum IV	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description. <i>Friendly Amendment – Change to 6 credit hours.</i> <i>Friendly Amendment - Within this area – “Is this related to other courses at WKU – Yes” – Add the following language: “There are existing graduate nursing clinical courses offered where students apply advanced concepts in nursing practice. This course will be focused on settings for nurse anesthesia.”</i>				
NURS 871	NURS 871: Clinical Practicum V	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description. It should be a 6-credit-hour course, not 4. <i>Friendly Amendment – Change to 6 credit hours.</i> <i>Friendly Amendment - Within this area – “Is this related to other courses at WKU – Yes” – Add the following language: “There are existing graduate nursing clinical courses offered where students apply advanced concepts in nursing practice. This course will be focused on settings for nurse anesthesia.”</i>				
NURS 881	NURS 881: Seminar I	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description.				
NURS 882	NURS 882: Clinical Practicum VI	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description.				

Graduate Curriculum Committee (23)				
Code	Title	Status	Initiator	Received
<i>Friendly Amendment - Within this area – “Is this related to other courses at WKU – Yes” – Add the following language: “There are existing graduate nursing clinical courses offered where students apply advanced concepts in nursing practice. This course will be focused on settings for nurse anesthesia.”</i>				
NURS 890	NURS 890: Seminar II	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description. <i>Friendly Amendment – Change minimum grade to B.</i>				
NURS 891	NURS 891: Clinical Practicum VII	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description. <i>Friendly Amendment - Within this area – “Is this related to other courses at WKU – Yes” – Add the following language: “There are existing graduate nursing clinical courses offered where students apply advanced concepts in nursing practice. This course will be focused on settings for nurse anesthesia.”</i>				
NURS 830	NURS 830: Foundations of Nurse Anesthesia	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description.				
NURS 831	NURS 831: Advanced Pharmacology for Nurse Anesthesia	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description.				
NURS 832	NURS 832: Applied Sciences of Anesthesia	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description.				
NURS 840	NURS 840: Foundations of Nurse Anesthesia II	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026

Graduate Curriculum Committee (23)				
Code	Title	Status	Initiator	Received
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description. Strunk asked about the student who makes a C. Simmons, this is an accreditation requirement for all students to make a B and above. Kelley, All the courses say they can't be repeatable, but they can be repeated.				
NURS 841	NURS 841: Applied Physiology and Assessment	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description.				
NURS 850	NURS 850: Advanced Principles of Nurse Anesthesia I	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description. <i>Friendly Amendment – Change to 3 credit hours.</i> <i>Friendly Amendment – Change minimum grade to B.</i>				
NURS 851	NURS 851: Anesthesia for Special Populations	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description. <i>Friendly Amendment – Change to 3 credit hours.</i>				
NURS 860	NURS 860: Advanced Principles of Nurse Anesthesia II	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description. <i>Friendly Amendment – Change to 3 credit hours.</i>				
NURS 852	NURS 852: Clinical Practicum III	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description. <i>Friendly Amendment - Within this area – “Is this related to other courses at WKU – Yes” – Add the following language: “There are existing graduate nursing clinical courses offered</i>				

Graduate Curriculum Committee (23)				
Code	Title	Status	Initiator	Received
where students apply advanced concepts in nursing practice. This course will be focused on settings for nurse anesthesia.”				
NURS 862	NURS 862: Nurse Anesthesia Doctoral Project I	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description. It should be a 1-credit-hour course, not 4. <i>Friendly Amendment – Change to 1 credit hour.</i>				
NURS 870	NURS 870: Advanced Principles of Nurse Anesthesia III	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description. It should be a 3-credit-hour course, not 4. <i>Friendly Amendment – Change to 3 credit hours.</i> <i>Friendly Amendment – Change minimum grade to B.</i>				
NURS 872	NURS 872: Nurse Anesthesia Doctoral Project II	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description.				
NURS 880	NURS 880: Advanced Principles of Nurse Anesthesia IV	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description. It should be a 3-credit-hour course, not 4. <i>Friendly Amendment – Change to 3 credit hours.</i> <i>Friendly Amendment – Change minimum grade to B.</i>				
NURS 883	NURS 883: Nurse Anesthesia Doctoral Project III	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description.				

Graduate Curriculum Committee (23)				
Code	Title	Status	Initiator	Received
NURS 892	NURS 892: Nurse Anesthesia Doctoral Project IV	Added	jms60847	4/29/2026
Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description.				

Review Program Changes:

Graduate Curriculum Committee (2)				
Code	Title	Status	Initiator	Received
0011	0011: Nursing	Edited	jms60847	4/29/2026
Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Tarbett/Strunk Discussion: Simmons gave a brief description. <i>Friendly Amendment – Do you plan to offer this 100% of this program online? Change to No.</i> Vote: Approved (5 Yes)				
149	149: Nursing	Edited	tny63665	4/30/2026
Motion to Approve – 1st/2nd: Tarbett/Strunk Discussion: Bragg-Underwood gave a brief description. Vote: Approved (5 Yes)				

Informational Item(s): None

Other Business: None

Adjourn at 3:40pm - 1st/2nd – Tarbett/Thomsen

Respectfully submitted,
GCCC Recorder
Jessica Steenbergen