

Middle Georgia State University
Academic Master Plan



MGA

Draft Version: Spring 2023

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Message from the Provost

I am pleased to share with you Middle Georgia State University's exciting vision for the next several years. As we live into our Level V SACSCOC designation, approved in June 2022, we are well-positioned to provide historical and new academic programming that will transform individuals and their communities through extraordinary higher learning.

Our plan includes an assessment of the current state of our institution's academic programs and services and a set of goals and objectives for the future. It also includes recommendations for specific actions that we can take to achieve critical academic objectives, such as developing new academic programs, revising existing programs, enhancing student services, improving faculty recruitment and retention, and investing in research and scholarship.

It is developed annually through a collaborative process that involves input from various stakeholders, including deans, chairs, faculty, staff, students, alumni, community members, and external partners. It is reviewed and revised regularly to ensure that it is relevant and aligned with changing needs and priorities.

Our academic master plan is dynamic, career-centered, and designed to serve the middle Georgia region and beyond. It aligns with our integrated planning approach and emphasizes student success and workforce development. As we continue to grow and expand, we remain committed to our mission and core values. Our plan builds on our history while forging our future.

We continue to expand aviation on the Eastman campus, health sciences on Dublin campus, and collaborating with Warner Robins and the Robins Air Force Base to explore new opportunities in innovation and entrepreneurship. We are also expanding opportunities for writing, media and film, and public relations in Macon, along with contributing to overall wellness and sport management with expanded programming in Cochran.

I invite you to explore our academic master plan and learn more about our design for the next few years. The future of academic affairs at MGA is bright, and I am proud to be a part of it. Go Knights!

Sincerely,

David Jenks, Ph.D.
Provost

Campus Plans and Identity

The Division of Academic Affairs continues to explore the alignment of academic programming and broader institutional strategies around student engagement and student identity through a conversation around campus distinction and destination campuses.

Currently, each campus has -a particular emphasis or program footprint, but through strategic repositioning and messaging, these footprints can be refined to enhance the campus identity. The creation of destination campuses will align and support many interdivisional goals and objectives.

A destination campus is one where students are willing to travel to and participate in hands-on learning while engaging as a community resident and pursuing an education strongly aligned with their passions, hobbies, and creative interests.

The footprint of destination campus reflects the following:

- Academic Programs that Resonate with Students
- High Interactions with Faculty
- Hands-on Learning within Area of Interest
- Collaborative to Spotlight Student Performance
- Passion Career Focused
- Strong Alignment with Industry 4.0 Careers
- High Probability of Successful Completion

Principally, each campus will focus on key aims:

- Each campus will have a Spotlight Program that allows for target marketing and the building of a brand identity.
- Each campus Spotlight Program be designed to increase enrollment on each campus.
- Each campus will immerse its experiences in its Spotlight Program, creating identity.

Dublin – Health Science Campus

The Dublin Campus emphasizes health and wellness, with plans to grow into a Health Sciences hub for the region. The campus expands our major in Nursing, with innovative programs in Physical Therapy, Respiratory Therapy, and other related areas. Students will progress through the Core Curriculum and earn a bachelor's degree in select fields or continue their education online and/or at other MGA campuses.

Proposed Destination Brand Identify: Healthcare

- Where our health science programs prepare our graduates to serve our communities in their quest for better health.
- **Slogan: Healing Begins with Caring!**

Warner Robins – Information Technology and Business Campus

The Warner Robins Campus will expand its footprint in information technology by incorporating baccalaureate-level degree offerings in areas such as business and software technology. Additionally, in cooperation with the School of Computing, we will expand the Center for Software Innovation to meet the needs of community and regional partners. Plans are also underway to expand our collaborative partnerships with Robins Air Force base for both employment and education. Dual Enrollment may also be an opportunity for face-to-face enrollment growth.

Proposed Destination Brand Identify: Innovation and Technology

- Where our business and technology programs prepare our graduates to succeed in the complex marketplace of ideas.
- **Slogan: Design, Innovate, and Lead!**

Eastman – Aviation Campus

The Eastman campus is home to aviation programs, which continue to thrive. While the state, the university system, corporations, and local partners have been incredibly supportive, the aviation program is preparing for expansion dependent on additional funding. The program remains career focused and supports middle Georgia in that 80% of MGA Aviation graduates live and work within 100 miles of Macon.

Proposed Destination Brand Identify: Aviation and Aerospace

- Where aviation programs prepare our graduates to lead from the cockpit, the design labs, and boardroom.
- **Slogan: Come Fly with us!**

Cochran – Traditional Residential Campus

The Cochran campus provides a traditional college experience nestled in the heart of Bleckley County, where learners prosper in a personal environment. Classes are intentionally smaller and provide one-on-one interactions with renowned faculty who take a personal interest in every student’s success. This scenic residential campus offers students a diverse campus life experience, rich with intramurals, student activities, campus clubs and organizations, varsity sports, and the amenities and offerings of a larger university in a smaller setting—all with affordable tuition.

Proposed Destination Brand Identify: Sports Management and Sports Health Programs

- Where our sports management and healthcare programs prepare our graduates to improve human performance and quality of life.
- **Slogan: Play, Train, and Heal!**

Macon – Interactive Media and Technology Campus

The Macon campus is home to the largest number of students of all five campuses and provides a wide range of programs, residential options, and student recreation in a thriving middle Georgia community. The vibrant environment includes students of all ages and from all walks of life, engaging in a pursuit of higher learning and betterment. MGA’s career-focused programs are elevated in Macon, where students find one of the most comprehensive and affordable campuses in the state.

Proposed Destination Brand Identify: Interactive Media and Technology

- Where our interactive media and technology programs prepare our graduates to lead the new renaissance of modern creativity
- **Slogan: Re-imagine Yourself!**

Middle Georgia State University
Degrees Offered by Level and Location - Fall 2023

Undergraduate Programs

	Standalone Certificates (Embedded Noted)	Associate (60 hours)	Bachelor (120 hours)
Cochran		Associate of Arts with a Major in: Art Core Curriculum Modern Languages Associate of Science with a Major in: Core Curriculum Health Science Occupational Therapy Assistant Associate of Science in Nursing	Bachelor of Arts with a Major in: Applied Art and Design English (CR, PW, TC) History (TC) Interdisciplinary Studies Media and Communications Bachelor of Science with a Major in: Biology (TC) Business Administration (GB)* Elementary/Special Education (SECT)* Health Services Administration Information Technology (CS, NW)* Psychology Sport Management Rehabilitation Science
Macon	Film Production (embedded)	Associate of Arts with a Major in: Art Core Curriculum Modern Languages Music Associate of Science with a Major in: Core Curriculum Health Science	Bachelor of Arts with a Major in: Applied Art and Design Music English (CR, LIT, PL, PW, TC) History (DF, TC) Interdisciplinary Studies Media and Communications Bachelor of Science with a Major in: Biology (TC) Business Administration (GB,AC,MG,MK,FE, SCL)* Elementary/Special Education (SECT) * Health Services Administration Information Technology (CF, CS, NW, SE)* Mathematics (Gen, TC) Psychology Political Science Respiratory Therapy Entry Level Social Work Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Dublin		Associate of Arts with a Major in: Core Curriculum Associate of Science with a Major in: Core Curriculum Health Science Associate of Science in Nursing	Bachelor of Science in Nursing

	Standalone Certificates (Embedded Noted)	Associate (60 hours)	Bachelor (120 hours)
Eastman	Aircraft Structural Technology Aviation Maintenance Technology- Airframe and Powerplant Flight Technology: Airplane Flight Technology: Helicopter Unmanned Aerial Systems Operator	Associate of Applied Science with a Major in: Air Traffic Management Aircraft Structural Technology Aviation Maintenance Technology	Bachelor of Science with a Major in: Aviation Science and Management
Warner Robins		Associate of Science in Computer Science Associate of Arts with a Major in: Core Curriculum Associate of Science with a Major in: Core Curriculum Health Science	Bachelor of Science with a Major in: Business Administration (GB, MG)* Bachelor of Science in Nursing Bachelor of Science in Computer Science
Online	Airline Management Airport Management Aviation Safety European Union Studies Film Production Financial Technology Logistics Management Technical Operations Management	Associate of Arts with a Major in: Core Curriculum Modern Languages Associate of Science with a Major in: Core Curriculum Criminal Justice Financial Technology	Bachelor of Arts with a Major in: English (CW, PW) Interdisciplinary Studies Bachelor of Science with a Major in: Aviation Science and Management Business Administration (GB, SCL)* Criminal Justice Health Services Administration Information Technology (CF, CS, DA, FIT, NW, MGD, SE, HI, WAP)* Interdisciplinary Studies Mathematics (AS, TC) Media and Communications Political Science Psychology Respiratory Therapy Completion Program Bachelor of Science in Nursing - RN to BSN Bachelor of Applied Science with a Major in: Technical Management

***Abbreviations for academic program tracks:**

Information Technology Tracks: Cyber Forensics (CF), Cybersecurity (CS), Data Analytics (DA), Data Science (DS), Financial Technology (FIT), Health Informatics (HI), Homeland Security (HSC), Integrated Digital Media & Game Design (MGD), Networking Technologies & Administration (NW), Social Media (SM), Software Development (SDD), Software Engineering (SE), and Web Applications Development (WAP)

Business Tracks (B.S.): Accounting (AC), General Business (GB), Financial Economics (FE), Management (MG), Marketing (MK), Supply Chain & Logistics Management (SCL)

English Concentrations: Creative Writing (CW), Literature (LIT), Pre-Law (PL), Professional Writing (PW)

History Concentrations: Documentary Film (DF), Public History (PH)

Math Concentrations: Applied Statistics (AS), General Mathematics (GM)

Education Tracks: Secondary Education Certification Track (TC) program prepares candidates to teach either Math, History, Biology, or English, grades 6-12

Aviation Tracks: Flight or Management

Film Production is also taught at Trilith

Middle Georgia State University
Degrees Offered by Level and Location - Fall 2023

Graduate Programs

	Certificate	Masters	Doctoral
Online / Hybrid	Graduate Certificate in: Technical Writing and Digital Communication Teaching College Writing Creative Writing Strategic Business Communications Post-Master's Certificate in: Adult-Gerontology Acute care Nurse Practitioner	Master of Arts in: Teaching Education with Initial Teacher Certification (6-12/P-12) Technical and Professional Writing Public Relations Master of Science in Management (AV, OM, SP, SC)* Master of Business in Professional Leadership Master of Science in Information Technology (CF, CS, DS, HI, HSC, SDD, SM)* Master of Science in Nursing with a Major in Adult/Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Master of Science in Occupational Therapy Bridge Program	Doctor of Science in: Information Technology

**Abbreviations for academic program tracks:*

Business Tracks (M.S.): Aviation Management (AV), Organizational Management (OM), Sport Management (SP), Supply Chain Management (SC)

Information Technology Tracks: Cyber Forensics (CF), Cybersecurity (CS), Data Analytics (DA), Health Informatics (HI), Homeland Security (HSC), Social Media (SM), Software Development (SDD)

New Academic Programs and Expansions

AY 23–24 – Launch Date of Fall 2023

Associate of Science (AS) and Bachelor of Science (BS) in Computer Science

The **Associate of Science (AS) and Bachelor of Science (BS) in Computer Science** degrees are being put forth as on-campus options for students on the Warner Robins campus of Middle Georgia State University. Both the AS and BS in Computer Science (CS) degrees focus on computers, computing problems and solutions, and the design of computer systems and user interfaces from a scientific perspective. The programs will include instruction in the principles of computer science and computing theory, computer hardware design, computer development and programming, and applications to a variety of end-use situations (NCES, Classification of Instructional Programs, 2000 edition). The programs prepare students for high-demand careers in computer science, such as software engineering, computer design, computer programmer/coder, etc. For the bachelor’s program, there will be two concentration areas/tracks: Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) and CS-Education (for P12 certification to teach in Georgia). In addition, the AS program creates a clear transfer pathway for students enrolled in Middle Georgia State University’s Georgia Academy (a non-residential, dual-enrollment program for high-achieving 11th- and 12th-grade high school students taking classes on the MGA Warner Robins campus).

The courses will cover the fundamental topics required for the program and include topics in software engineering, object-oriented programming, software security, and computer architecture. The core courses show students at all levels of computing experience—including novices with no background in CS—how to approach problems from an algorithmic perspective, how to understand the nature and broad reach of computation, and how to apply that knowledge abstractly. The programs will be an ideal match for those who seek to learn how to design and implement complex software systems, both individually and as a team member. Students in the BS program have concentration options in either Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) or (CS)-Education. The HCI track in the BS program will produce graduates who are technically skilled and adept at designing and prototyping interactive solutions with the latest digital technologies. Students in this track will also have a strong CS emphasis of programming, algorithms, systems, and mathematical foundations. They will specialize by making core elements of HCI the primary focus of their upper-level classes and can explore a large range of HCI topics in greater depth through the other courses in the concentration.

Campus	Delivery Mode	Note:
Warner Robins	Face-to-Face	Georgia Academy; two tracks in human-computer interaction and education

Approval History and Milestones:

- Curriculum Development and CMS Entry – [09/01/22](#)
- Academic Affairs Committee Approval [09/23/22](#)
- MGA Faculty Senate Approval – [10/07/22](#)
- USG Board of Regents Approval – [01/18/23](#)

Current Status – Academic Launch and Marketing

Undergraduate Programming Expansion

Macon Campus

The **BA in Applied Arts** program at Middle Georgia State University is designed for students who wish to pursue careers in the creative arts industry. The program combines a strong foundation in liberal arts with a practical education in art and design. Students will develop their artistic skills and explore different media and techniques, while also learning about the business and marketing aspects of the creative arts industry.

Campus	Delivery Mode	Note:
Macon	Face-to-Face	Digital Media Track

Approval History and Milestones:

- Curriculum Development and CMS Entry – 03/31/23
- Academic Affairs Committee Approval - TBD
- MGA Faculty Senate Approval – TBD
- USG Board of Regents Approval – Not Required

The iMETA overlay in **MGA's Bachelor of Arts degree in Interdisciplinary Studies** provides students with a comprehensive education in technology while allowing them to specialize in their areas of interest. The program includes a proposed interdisciplinary Area F that focuses on technology and provides prerequisites for upper-level tracks. Upper-level Interactive Media, Technology, and Arts Core classes are also part of the iMETA overlay, allowing students to gain expertise in fields such as digital illustration, UX UI design, and podcasting and sound design. Optional tracks in film production, integrated media & game design, and music production provide students with specialized education and hands-on experience in their chosen fields. Overall, the iMETA overlay provides a well-rounded education in technology and the arts, preparing students for successful careers in a rapidly-evolving technological landscape.

Campus	Delivery Mode	Note:
Macon	Face-to-Face	iMETA Overlay

Approval History and Milestones:

- Curriculum Development and CMS Entry – 03/31/23
- Academic Affairs Committee Approval - TBD
- MGA Faculty Senate Approval – TBD
- USG Board of Regents Approval – Not Required

Graduate Programming Expansion

Warner Robins and Macon Campus

The School of Business and the School of Computing have partnered to provide two graduate programs to accommodate the needs of the student who wish to have a face-to-face experience on the Warner Robins and Macon campuses. The anticipated course offerings for AY 2023–2024 are outlined below for both the **Master of Science in Management (MSM)** and the **Master of Business in Professional Leadership (MBPL)**. This expansion will accommodate a previously unrealized opportunity to accommodate international students who wish to pursue graduate studies at MGA, along with the adult-learner market in both Macon and Warner Robins.

Master of Business in Professional Leadership

The MBPL is comprised of six required courses and four elective courses. Hence as shown below, MGA offers all required courses and most electives face-to-face in Macon and Warner Robins. The student can complete this degree in one year, taking 12 hours in the Fall and 12 hours in the Spring, followed by 6 hours in the Summer. MGMT 6300 is the capstone experience course. Courses designated as hybrid will have a significant portion of the experience (over 60%) on the Macon and Warner Robins campus.

Semester/Delivery Method	Fall 1-2023	Fall 2-2023	Spring 1-2024	Spring 2-2024	Summer-2024
Face-to-Face in Macon and Warner Robins	MGMT 5610+ ITEC 5100** (Issues in IT)	MGMT 5700* (Marketing) MGMT 5400 + (Global)	MGMT 5600+(OB) ITEC 5120 (PM)*	MGMT 6400+ (Capstone) ITEC 6240 (IT Ethics)*	MGMT 6300+
Hybrid	MGMT 5200+ (MIS)	Elective*	Elective*	Elective*	Elective*
Total Hours	12		12		6 Hours

**Elective*; + *Required*; **Can be substituted for MGMT 5200

Master of Science in Management

The MSM is comprised of seven required courses and three elective courses. Hence as shown below, MGA offers all required courses 12 months, enabling a full-time graduate student to complete the program in three semesters. As shown below, the student can take a full complement of graduate courses on the Macon and Warner Robins campus. Courses designated as hybrid will have a significant portion of the experience (over 60%) on the Macon and Warner Robins campus; however, a student would be able to do 100% of the courses in a face-to-face format.

Semester/Delivery Method	Fall 1-2023	Fall 2-2023	Spring 1-2024	Spring 2-2024	Summer-2024
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Face to Face in Macon and Warner Robins	ACCT 5100+ (Accounting) ITEC 5100** (Issues in IT)	MGMT 5700+ (Marketing)	MGMT 5600+ (OB) ITEC 5120 (PM)*	MGMT 5900+ (Strategy)	MGMT 5300+ (Decision) MGMT 6300*
Hybrid	MGMT 5200 (MIS)+		MGMT 5300+ (Decision)	MGMT 6100 (Elective)	MGMT 6200*
Total Hours	12		12		6 Hours

**Can be substituted for MGMT 5200

All pre-existing courses in existent programs

Campus	Delivery Mode	Note:
Macon and Warner Robins	Face –to-Face	Program Realignment

Current Status – Academic Launch and Marketing

AY 23–24 – Launch Date of Spring 2024

Master of Education in Curriculum & Instruction with a Focus on Literacy

This proposed **Master of Education in Curriculum & Instruction with a Focus on Literacy** degree program offers graduate students the opportunity to deepen their knowledge, skill, and vision as teachers and educational leaders, specifically as developers, designers, and teachers of innovative literacy curricula compelled to engage in research with a focus on providing challenging and rewarding educational opportunities for all students. The program of study is based on a new vision of teaching in light of 21st-century opportunities, needs, and demands. It includes evaluating best practices in teaching; preparing the experienced teacher for full participation in the profession as leader, researcher, and master practitioner in literacy instruction; and promoting both teacher autonomy and collaboration through inquiry, reflection, and action. Graduate students will be encouraged to master deep and nuanced concepts and skills in literacy theory and pedagogy, to demonstrate their understandings through classroom application, to collaborate in meaningful ways with all stakeholders to enhance the learning and well-being of all of students, to enhance the teaching and learning environments of their schools, to enhance the professional lives of teachers, and to enhance partnerships with parents, families, and the communities that they serve. This proposed graduate program provides robust instruction in the development and evolution of modern literacy instruction, the problems current students face in literacy learning, the roadblocks many students encounter in becoming proficient readers and writers, the consequences of less effective literacy methods and mindsets (particularly in grades PK-3), and research-based methods for differentiating literacy instruction to meet the needs of all learners. Above all, this proposed program will equip graduates of the program with a deep and varied set of pedagogical skills and methods that will enable them to improve their teaching in the discipline of literacy, and as a result, enhance their students' learning.

Campus	Delivery Mode	Note:
Online	Online	SACSCOC Substantive Change

Approval History and Milestones:

- Curriculum Development and CMS Entry – [09/9/22](#)
- Academic Affairs Committee Approval – [09/23/22](#)
- MGA Faculty Senate Approval – [10/07/22](#)
- USG Board of Regents Approval – Submitted for Review 02/01/23
 - Pending April 2023 BOR Agenda
- SACSCOC Substantive Change Review – Submitted 03/14/23
- SACSCOC Approval – TBD

Current Status – Submitted to BOR for Approval; Submitted to SACSCOC for Approval

Doctorate in Public Safety

The **Doctorate in Public Safety** is designed to serve current professionals within the field who have interest in advancing into leadership roles within their respective area. The curriculum emphasizes the core concepts, theories, and practices of public safety management to provide a holistic approach to administrative education. Specifically, management and leadership theories, human resource practices, cultural competency, and program evaluation will be reviewed and applied within a public safety context.

Campus	Delivery Mode	Note:
Online	Online	SACSCOC Substantive Change

Approval History and Milestones:

- Curriculum Development and CMS Entry – [10/30/22](#)
- Academic Affairs Committee Approval – [11/11/22](#)
- MGA Faculty Senate Approval – [11/18/22](#)
 - USG Board of Regents Approval – Submitted
 - Target April 2023 BOR Agenda
- SACSCOC Substantive Change Review – Submitted 03/14/23
- SACSCOC Approval – TBD

Current Status – Submitted to BOR for Approval; Submitted to SACSCOC for Approval

Bachelor of Science in Health Science

The **Bachelor of Science in Health Science** degree prepares students for a variety of positions within healthcare or public health organizations. This degree can also serve as a stackable credential that meets prerequisite requirements for clinical programs, such as a chiropractor, dentist, nurse, physician assistant, or other healthcare professions. It also contains the prerequisite curricula required for clinical careers, such as nursing and physician assistant. Graduates with this degree can work in diverse allied health professions to include Behavioral Health Specialist, Community Health Educator, Healthcare Data Analyst, Health Educator, Health Informatics Professional, Health Informatics Technician, Health Promotion Specialist, Health Scientist, Infection Control Manager, Safety Specialist, Patient Educator, Public Health Administrator, Pharmaceutical Sales Representative, Prevention Specialist, and Medical Informatics.

The degree can lead to graduate level education in specialized fields such as Masters in Environmental Health, Masters of Health Administration, Masters in Health Informatics, Master of Health Science, Masters of Public Health, and Masters in Social Work

Campus	Delivery Mode	Note:
Macon	Face –to-Face	Program Realignment

Approval History and Milestones:

- Curriculum Development and CMS Entry – In Development, School-Level

AY 24–25 – Launch Date of Fall 2024

Undergraduate Program Expansion:

Middle Georgia State University plans to fully expand the course offerings and all concentrations for the **B.S. in Business Administration-B.S program** to the Warner Robins campus, providing students with the opportunity to take the curriculum face-to-face. This expansion will provide students in the Warner Robins area with greater access to a comprehensive business education, enabling them to pursue their career goals and contribute to the local economy. The program will include all concentrations, including Accounting, Finance, Management, and Marketing, among others. Middle Georgia State University is committed to providing students with a quality education that prepares them for success in their future careers, while also meeting their needs for a flexible and convenient learning experience.

Campus	Delivery Mode	Note:
Warner Robins	Face –to-Face	Scheduling Realignment

Clinical Nurse Leader (CNL) Program – (BSN to MSN)

This online program that will award BSN prepared students a **Master of Science in Nursing CNL** degree. The program of study will build on existing foundational courses currently offered in our graduate program: Three Ps, Research, Leadership and Quality/Safety. The CNL program focuses on

evidence-based practice, coordinating patient care, improving safety, and decreasing costs. Graduates of the CNL program will assume accountability for patient-care outcomes as a provider and manager of care to individuals and groups of patients anywhere healthcare is delivered. The CNL curriculum includes the American Association of Colleges of Nurses’ Clinical Nurse Leader Competencies and the Commission on Nurses Certification’s education requirements to sit for the CNL certification examination.

Campus	Delivery Mode	Note:
Online	Online	Requires Faculty Examination Requires ACEN Substantive Change

- AACN Faculty Exam Waiver – Submitted: 02/13/23
- Curriculum Development and CMS Entry – In Development

AY 25–26 – Launch Date of Fall 2025

Post-BSN – DNP program

The new **Post-Bachelor's Degree to Doctor of Nursing Practice (BSN-DNP)** program will award BSN prepared students the Master of Nursing concentration in Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner (AGACNP) degree, as well as a terminal degree for practicing nurses. With the increasing scope of clinical scholarship in nursing and with the growth of scientific knowledge in the discipline, doctoral-level education is required for independent practice. The degree focuses on scientific underpinnings for evidence-based practice, organizational and systems leadership for quality improvement, clinical scholarship, analytical methods, and information systems patient care technology for improving patient and population health outcomes. The nurse practice scholar has a strong understanding of research design and interpretation in order to develop, appraise, and implement a scientifically prepared project to improve processes in the current complex healthcare market. The Post-BSN to DNP curriculum includes the American Association of Colleges of Nurses’ Core Competencies for Professional Nursing Education and the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties Competencies.

Campus	Delivery Mode	Note:
Online	Online	Requires ACEN Substantive Change

- Curriculum Development and CMS Entry – Anticipated Fall 2024

AY 26–27 – Launch Date of Fall 2026

Bachelor's degree in Aerospace Safety with a focus on Data Analytics

This degree program emphasizes the principles and practices of aerospace safety management and data analytics. This program provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the aerospace

industry, as well as the knowledge and skills needed to ensure the safety of aircraft, passengers, and crew through data-driven decision making.

The aerospace industry is anticipated to expand in the coming years, with an increasing demand for professionals skilled in aerospace safety and data analytics. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of occupational health and safety specialists, including those in the aerospace industry, is projected to grow by 6% from 2020 to 2030, which is faster than the average for all occupations. This growth is fueled by an increasing awareness of occupational hazards and the need for organizations to comply with safety regulations using data analytics.

Graduates of a Bachelor's degree in Aerospace Safety with a focus on Data Analytics can expect to find employment in various roles in the aerospace industry, such as safety managers, safety analysts, safety consultants, or safety inspectors. They may work for airlines, airports, aviation regulatory agencies, or aerospace safety consulting firms, among other organizations. As the demand for aerospace safety professionals skilled in data analytics continues to grow, job opportunities for graduates in this field are expected to be plentiful.

Campus	Delivery Mode	Note:
Cochran	Face to Face	

- Curriculum Development and CMS Entry – TBD

Current Status: Stakeholder and Accreditation Analysis

AY 27–28 – Launch Date of Fall 2027

Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA)

Beginning in Fall 2027, an **Associate of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant** will be offered as an in-person, full-time program on the Dublin campus. Students enrolled in this program will be able to complete their core and prerequisite courses for admission to the PTA Program on site due to building upgrades and renovations in Dublin. The PTA Program will required accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) as well as approval from the University System of Georgia and SACSCOC. Enrollment in the first year is regulated by CAPTE to 15 students and will grow over the next 3 years to 25.

Campus	Delivery Mode	Note:
Dublin	Face –to-Face	Dublin Facilities Project and CAPTE Approval

Approval History and Milestones:

- Curriculum Development and CMS Entry – [10/24/22](#)
- Academic Affairs Committee Approval – [11/11/22](#)
- MGA Faculty Senate Approval – [11/18/22](#)

Current Status: Pending USG Submission/Facilities Project Funding

AY 28–30 – Launch Date of Fall 2029

Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program

Building on the PTA Program established in 2027, a **Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) Program** is planned for 2029 as an in-person, full-time program on the Dublin campus. Graduates from MGA’s PTA Program and other PTAs in the nation, as well as students holding bachelor degrees such as rehabilitation science (also offered at MGA), exercise science, and exercise physiology will be able to enroll in this doctoral program where state-of-the-art facilities on the Dublin campus will offer them an affordable way to further their careers with a graduate degree in physical therapy. This program will also require accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE), as well as approval from the University System of Georgia and SACSCOC. Enrollment in the first year is regulated by CAPTE to 15 and will increase over the next 3 years to 25-30.

Campus	Delivery Mode	Note:
Dublin	Face –to-Face	Dublin Facilities Project and CAPTE Approval

Approval History and Milestones:

- Curriculum Development and CMS Entry – TBD

Current Status: Pending PTA Program Launch

**Division of Academic Affairs - Academic Master Planning and Academic Enhancement Efforts
Supporting Residential Growth in Cochran (C) and Macon (M)**

<u>6 Months - Fall 2023</u>	<u>18 Months - Fall 2024</u>	<u>30 Months Fall 2025</u>
<p>Academic Programing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanded Sports Management Tracks (initial Sports Psychology) Extending Supply Chain Management Concentration (C) <p>General/Core/Graduate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced Freshman Year Experience (C/M) Enhanced Area B (C/M) Expanded offerings of F2F Graduate Courses (M) <p>Academic/Student Supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing Academic Support Class for Residential Students (C/M) Launch of SOBUS Enactus Student Organization (C) Focused Career, Advising, Professional Events (C/M) Expanded co-curricular programming Writing Center expansion (C/M) 	<p>Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assignment of Cochran Campus Lead (C) <p>Academic Programing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanded Sports Management Tracks in (Sports Medicine/Health, Sports Communication and Broadcasting) based on 6-month demand New Program Proposal – BA in Arts and Entertainment Technology (M) New Program Proposal BS Health Sciences (M) Co-curricular Equestrian integration (sport management/psychology) Extend AS/BS Computer Science (C) based on WR Fall 2023 Rollout <p>Academic/Student Supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer Bridge Program in Housing (C) Expanded co-curricular programming (C/M) SOHNS Living Learning Community (C) 	<p>Academic Programing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued buildout of 18-month programming Explore Aviation and Aerospace Program Expansion (C) Explore Emergency Management Program (M) <p>Academic/Student Supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanded co-curricular programming (C/M)

Student Success

Complete College Georgia and Momentum Plan for 2023–24

Promote efficiency and effectiveness of the advising process through

- Executing a pre-enrollment survey to help provide a purposeful pathway for the students
- Engaging in proactive advising
- Increasing visibility of advisors across the campuses and online
- Executing targeted outreach campaigns for high-risk students, including those on probation, on early alert listing, in learning support, and specific student populations (e.g., athletes)
- Implementing a centralized model of management for advising
- Strengthening collaboration with other student support offices to include the Student Success Centers, the Center for Career and Leadership Development, Student Life, Financial Aid, and Residence Life
- Providing regular training for advisors in proactive advising, learning support guidelines, and others

Improve success outcomes for high-risk students in Learning Support, on probation, and those identified through the early alert initiative by

- Expanding the peer mentoring initiative for students in Learning Support
- Including mindset activities in the co-requisite and gateway learning support courses for both English and math
- Increasing communication with and oversight of students in learning support by the Institutional Learning Support Coordinator
 - Providing academic support for residential students on academic probation
 - Building academic success plans for students on the early alert report
 - Offering workshops on financial literacy, time management, and other topics relevant to student success.

Expand academic support by

- Building short session Area B courses with embedded student success content
- Providing multiple opportunities for students to seek academic assistance through in-person, online, and embedded tutoring, as well as supplemental instruction.

Promote a growth mindset by

- Offering mindset training for faculty and staff
- Reviewing mindset plans for each academic school
- Including mindset in the course design through faculty training provided by the CETL.

Academic Affairs Support

Institutional Research and Data Strategy

The Office of Institutional Research and Data Strategy (OIRDS) at Middle Georgia State University (MGA) provides decision support through the maintenance and enhancement of actionable intelligence across the institution. OIRDS is responsible for gathering, analyzing, and disseminating data and information that support decision-making and planning across the university. The main function of this office is to provide accurate and timely information to university leadership, faculty, and staff that can be used to improve institutional effectiveness, student success, and overall outcomes.

Some of the specific functions of the Office of Institutional Research and Data Strategy include:

1. Collecting and analyzing data related to student enrollment, retention, graduation rates, and academic performance;
2. Conducting surveys and focus groups to gather feedback from students, faculty, and staff about their experiences at MGA;
3. Developing and maintaining databases and reporting systems that provide easy access to institutional data;
4. Providing support for accreditation, assessment, and program review activities;
5. Collaborating with other university offices and departments to support data-driven decision-making;
6. Conducting research studies that inform university policies and practices.

Overall, OIRDS plays a critical role in supporting MGA's mission to provide high-quality educational programs and services to its students.

Priorities for AY 2023–24 include the following:

- Governance Maturation: Data Acquisition, Extraction, Reporting, & Quality
 - Integrate data acquisition and extraction to create more robust data tools
 - Validate and enhance reporting tools and quality control of those assets
- Access & Usage
 - Expand access to robust data tools
 - Focus on improving usage of data tools (data literacy, functionality)
- Analytics
 - Expand use of data tools for analytical purposes, beyond reporting descriptive statistics

Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment

The function of institutional assessment at Middle Georgia State University is to promote continuous improvement in the quality of the University's academic, administrative, and student support programs and services. Institutional assessment involves the ongoing evaluation of the effectiveness of these programs and services, using a variety of methods and data sources.

Institutional assessment at Middle Georgia State University involves the following functions:

- Developing and implementing assessment plans: The OIRDS works with academic and administrative units to develop and implement assessment plans that identify program learning outcomes, establish performance measures, and collect and analyze data to evaluate effectiveness.
- Facilitating the use of assessment results: The OIRDS helps academic and administrative units use assessment results to identify areas for improvement, make data-driven decisions, and improve program quality and student learning outcomes.
- Supporting accreditation processes: The OIRDS supports the University's accreditation processes by coordinating the preparation of self-study reports, site visits, and ongoing monitoring of compliance with accreditation standards.
- Providing institutional data: The OIRDS collects, analyzes, and disseminates institutional data to support planning, decision-making, and accreditation processes.
- Facilitating professional development: The OIRDS provides training and professional development opportunities for faculty and staff on assessment best practices, data analysis, and interpretation.

Accreditation

Middle Georgia State University has made significant progress in recent years, as evidenced by its recent elevation to a SACSCOC Level V institution. This achievement is the result of years of consistent planning and effort to move the university forward. As we continue to live into our Level V designation, we remain committed to enhancing research, program offerings, and advancement efforts to further elevate the quality of education we offer.

In addition to this achievement, we are proud to have had recent successful accreditation visits from both the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). These accreditations serve as a testament to the quality of our programs and the dedication of our faculty and staff.

For AY 23-24, our specialized accreditation priorities focus on two schools, the School of Business and the School of Aviation. MGA is excited to pursue accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) for the School of Business. Achieving AACSB accreditation is a recognized indicator of academic quality and excellence in the business education industry, one that will not only enhance the student experience but it can help attract top-quality students and faculty to the program.

The School of Aviation will be submitting its self-study documents for reaccreditation during the 23-24 academic year. The reaccreditation will not only validate the quality of the aviation program at MGA but also help attract more students to the university, as AABI accreditation is a recognized indicator of excellence in aviation education.

As both schools prepare to their accreditation documentation, the Office of Institutional Research and Data Strategy (OIRDS) will focus on supporting the school leadership and faculty governance in the following areas:

- Faculty Credentialing
- Program Assessment and Evaluation
- Academic Policy Alignment
- Academic and Strategic Planning
- Stakeholder Engagement

Faculty Development:

Under the leadership of the Assistant Provost for Faculty Development (APFD), the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) is steadily expanding its capacity for supporting faculty career development, especially with a focus on effective teaching and learning. For example, the CETL added our first Instructional Designer position in the spring 2023 semester. We will add a second position in the fall 2023 semester—with a view to expanding the team and thus its capacity more in the future. The APFD and CETL will continue to offer programming on course delivery and design, high impact education practices, teaching technologies, and a great deal more. Additionally, the CETL will remain responsive to areas of interest and/or concern for faculty by continuing to listen to faculty across all departments, ranks, and statuses.

CETL Objectives for AY 2023–2024

1. Broaden structures for faculty recognition
2. Emphasize effective, quality-focused practices in teaching and learning
3. Establish a faculty–faculty mentoring program
4. Support and elevate faculty research and sponsored programs

With primary presence in the Teacher Education Building (room 208) on the Macon campus, along with regular presence on the Cochran campus and virtual availability via email, phone, or Teams, the CETL team aims to maintain its rapid assistance for D2L-related queries and its robust support of teaching, learning, and career development through effective, evidence-based programming and faculty development opportunities.