**Proposal to reduce the number of credit hours of the Master of Arts in Teaching Spanish (M.A.T.) from current thirty-six (36) to thirty (30) credit hours, and to reduce the maximum number of graduate study-abroad elective credits from current twelve (12) to six (6)**

**Name of Person Submitting the Proposal**:

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**PROPOSAL**

The Spanish Graduate Studies Committee recommends reducing the number of credit hours of our Master of Arts in Teaching Spanish (M.A.T.) from thirty-six (36) to thirty (30) credit hours. In addition, the Spanish Graduate Studies Committee also recommends reducing the number of elective study-abroad graduate credit hours from current twelve (12) to six (6) credit hours maximum. Other than the aforementioned reductions, the program will not suffer any other modifications. Students will still be able to choose from among the two original options: M.A.T. WITH A THESIS OPTION or M.A.T. VIA COURSEWORK, as specified in the proposed curriculum (in table format below).

**RATIONALE**

The proposed reductions are based on several factors that, altogether, will make the M.A.T. program more competitive at a time when graduate enrollments are in decline.

The Spanish graduate programs across the nation have shown a steady decrease in enrollments over the last few years. Thus, for example, our M.A.T. enrollment has decreased from twenty-one (21) students in Spring 2012 to ten (10) students in Spring 2018. And it seems that this downward trend will continue in the short to medium terms. Aware of this situation, the Spanish Graduate Studies Committee is taking steps with the aim of changing this negative tendency by creating an accelerated combined 4+1 B.A./M.A.T. program. We believe that the proposed reduction in conjunction with the combined 4+1 B.A./M.A.T. program will contribute to increasing our graduate enrollment numbers and guarantee the survival of the M.A.T. for years to come. The Master of Arts in the Teaching of Spanish offered at IUPUI is a mature, well-established, and recognized program playing an important role in forming teaching professionals of the Spanish language for more than twenty years in the city of Indianapolis and across the state. Our program contributes to the workforce by forming well-prepared teaching professionals who will promote diversity, bilingualism and inclusion across schools in the state of Indiana. Our graduates find employment very quickly either as adjunct faculty in colleges, or as teachers of Spanish in elementary or secondary schools across the state. Moreover, the M.A.T. program is unique across the IU system, delivering a valuable academic experience to our graduate students and teaching professionals that has to be preserved.

A thirty-credit hour program will also align better with overall numbers for M.A. degrees in Spanish nationally. A recent survey carried out by the Spanish department on a sample of fifty-two Spanish M.A.’s in the nation showed that twenty-five (25) out of those fifty-two (52) Spanish M.A. programs are thirty-credit programs. The remaining twenty-seven M.A. programs surveyed range from twenty-seven (27) to forty-five (45) credits. In other words, thirty credit Spanish M.A. programs is the most common configuration (almost 50%) in the US. Moreover, a 30- credit M.A.T. will also align better with other M.A. programs in the School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI, a majority of which are thirty-credit programs.

Last but not least, a reduction from 36 to 30 credit hours will also contribute to make our newly proposed 4+1 program (5-year B.A. + M.A.T. in Spanish) more appealing to prospective students and will help us increase our enrollment numbers both at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Concurrently with the proposed reduction from 36 to 30 credit hours, we propose to reduce the total number of study-abroad credit hours that our M.A.T. students may take as elective coursework from current 12 credits to six credits maximum. The rationale behind this proposal is that most of the credit hours taken by students in the new 30 credit hour M.A.T. program come from courses in our program at IUPUI, while we still maintain the study abroad component in Salamanca (Spain) as an elective.

**PROPOSAL SPECIFICS**

We propose two changes to the program:

1. an overall reduction in the number of credits hours, from current thirty-six (36) to thirty (30)

(2) a reduction in the maximum number of study-abroad credit hours from current twelve (12) to six (6).

Other than these changes, the M.A.T. curriculum will remain as is as shown in the proposed curriculum below. Note that the two original degree options remain: M.A.T. WITH A THESIS OPTION and M.A.T. VIA COURSEWORK, as well as the required core courses (9 credit hours). The proposed reductions will only affect the number of courses that students will take as electives: fifteen (15) credit hours of elective courses in the M.A.T. WITH A THESIS option and twenty-one (21) credit hours of elective courses in the M.A.T. VIA COURSEWORK option (compared with the former 21 and 27 credit hours for the two options in the original curriculum.) The range of elective courses remains unchanged.

Attached:

ANNEX 1: The current M.A.T. curriculum (36 hours)

ANNEX 2: The proposed M.A.T. curriculum (30 hours)

ANNEX 3: Sample plan of studies for each M.A.T. option based on the proposed 30-hour curriculum

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| **ANNEX 1** | |
| **CURRENT CURRICULUM 36 credits**  **OPTION 1 (THESIS)** | **CURRENT CURRICULUM 36 credits**  **OPTION 2 (COURSEWORK)** |
| **OPTION 1**: MAT WITH THESIS  (to be completed during the academic year):   * 9 credit hours of core coursework * 21 credit hours of elective coursework * 6 credit hours of thesis work | **OPTION 2**: MAT VIA COURSEWORK  (to be completed during the academic year):   * 9 credit hours of core coursework * 27 credit hours of elective coursework |
|  |  |
| **Core Required Courses (9 cr. hours)** | **Core Required Courses (9 cr. hours)** |
| S 515 Acquisition of Spanish as a Second Language (3 cr.)  S 517 Methods of Teaching College Spanish (3 cr.)  S 519 Practicum in the Teaching of Spanish (3 cr.) | S 515 Acquisition of Spanish as a Second Language (3 cr.)  S 517 Methods of Teaching College Spanish (3 cr.)  S 519 Practicum in the Teaching of Spanish (3 cr.) |
|  |  |
| **Thesis (6 cr. hours)** |  |
| S 686 MAT Thesis (3.6 cr.) |  |
|  |  |
| **Elective Coursework (21 cr. hours)** | **Elective Coursework (27 cr. hours)** |
| S 508 Varieties of Spanish (3 cr.)  S 511 Spanish Syntactic Analysis (3 cr.)  S 513 Introduction to Hispanic Sociolinguistics (3 cr.)  S 518 Studies in Latino and Spanish American Culture (3 cr.)  S 527 Internship in Spanish (3-6 cr.)  S 528 Translation Practice and Evaluation (3 cr.)  S 627 Individual Readings in Spanish (3-6 cr.)  S 650 Topics in the Teaching of Spanish (3 cr.)  S 680 Topics in Contemporary Spanish American Lit. (3 cr.)  **Study abroad courses (12 cr. hours max.)**  S 521 Spanish Grammar and Linguistics for Teachers I (3 cr.)  S 523 Spanish Lit., Art and Culture for Teachers I (3 cr.)  S 524 Spanish Grammar and Linguistics for Teachers II (3 cr.)  S 525 Spanish Lit., Art and Culture for Teachers II (3 cr.)  **Other elective coursework (6 cr. hours max.)**  EDUC-L 500 Instructional Issues in Language Learning (3 cr.)  EDUC-L 524 Lang. Issues in Bilingual/Multilingual Education (3 cr.)  EDUC-P 507 Assessment in Schools (3 cr.)  EDUC-W 531 Technology for Teaching and Learning (3 cr.)  EDUC-W 540 Technology Infused Curriculum (3 cr.)  ENG-Z 575 Second Lang. Learning and Technology (3 cr.) | S 508 Varieties of Spanish (3 cr.)  S 511 Spanish Syntactic Analysis (3 cr.)  S 513 Introduction to Hispanic Sociolinguistics (3 cr.)  S 518 Studies in Latino and Spanish American Culture (3 cr.)  S 527 Internship in Spanish (3-6 cr.)  S 528 Translation Practice and Evaluation (3 cr.)  S 627 Individual Readings in Spanish (3-6 cr.)  S 650 Topics in the Teaching of Spanish (3 cr.)  S 680 Topics in Contemporary Spanish American Lit. (3 cr.)  **Study abroad courses (12 cr. hours max.)**  S 521 Spanish Grammar and Linguistics for Teachers I (3 cr.)  S 523 Spanish Lit., Art and Culture for Teachers I (3 cr.)  S 524 Spanish Grammar and Linguistics for Teachers II (3 cr.)  S 525 Spanish Lit., Art and Culture for Teachers II (3 cr.)  **Other elective coursework (6 cr. hours max.)**  EDUC-L 500 Instructional Issues in Language Learning (3 cr.)  EDUC-L 524 Lang. Issues in Bilingual/Multilingual Education (3 cr.)  EDUC-P 507 Assessment in Schools (3 cr.)  EDUC-W 531 Technology for Teaching and Learning (3 cr.)  EDUC-W 540 Technology Infused Curriculum (3 cr.)  ENG-Z 575 Second Lang. Learning and Technology (3 cr.) |

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| **ANNEX 2** | |
| **PROPOSED CURRICULUM 30 credits**  **OPTION 1 (THESIS)** | **PROPOSED CURRICULUM 30 credits**  **OPTION 2 (COURSEWORK)** |
| **OPTION 1**: MAT WITH THESIS:   * 9 credit hours of core coursework * 15 credit hours of elective coursework * 6 credit hours of thesis work | **OPTION 2**: MAT VIA COURSEWORK:   * 9 credit hours of core coursework * 21 credit hours of elective coursework |
|  |  |
| **Required Core Courses (9 credit hours)** | **Required Core Courses (9 credit hours)** |
| S 515 Acquisition of Spanish as a Second Language (3 cr.)  S 517 Methods of Teaching College Spanish (3 cr.)  S 519 Practicum in the Teaching of Spanish (3 cr.) | S 515 Acquisition of Spanish as a Second Language (3 cr.)  S 517 Methods of Teaching College Spanish (3 cr.)  S 519 Practicum in the Teaching of Spanish (3 cr.) |
|  |  |
| **Thesis (6 credit hours)** |  |
| S 686 MAT Thesis (3-6 cr.) |  |
|  |  |
| **Elective Coursework (15 credit hours)** | **Elective Coursework (21 credit hours)** |
| S 508 Varieties of Spanish (3 cr.)  S 511 Spanish Syntactic Analysis (3 cr.)  S 513 Introduction to Hispanic Sociolinguistics (3 cr.)  S 518 Studies in Latino and Spanish American Culture (3 cr.)  S 527 Internship in Spanish (3-6 cr.)  S 528 Translation Practice and Evaluation (3 cr.)  S 627 Individual Readings in Spanish (3-6 cr.)  S 650 Topics in the Teaching of Spanish (3 cr.)  S 680 Topics in Contemporary Spanish American Lit. (3 cr.)  **Study abroad courses (6 cr. hours max.)**  S 521 Spanish Grammar and Linguistics for Teachers I (3 cr.)  S 523 Spanish Lit., Art and Culture for Teachers I (3 cr.)  S 524 Spanish Grammar and Linguistics for Teachers II (3 cr.)  S 525 Spanish Lit., Art and Culture for Teachers II (3 cr.)  **Other elective coursework (6 cr. hours max.)**  EDUC-L500 Instructional Issues in Language Learning (3 cr.)  EDUC-L524 Lang. Issues in Bilingual/Multilingual Education (3 cr.)  EDUC-P507 Assessment in Schools (3 cr.)  EDUC-W531 Technology for Teaching and Learning (3 cr.)  EDUC-W540 Technology Infused Curriculum (3 cr.)  ENG-Z575 Second Language Learning and Technology (3 cr.) | S 508 Varieties of Spanish (3 cr.)  S 511 Spanish Syntactic Analysis (3 cr.)  S 513 Introduction to Hispanic Sociolinguistics (3 cr.)  S 518 Studies in Latino and Spanish American Culture (3 cr.)  S 527 Internship in Spanish (3-6 cr.)  S 528 Translation Practice and Evaluation (3 cr.)  S 627 Individual Readings in Spanish (3-6 cr.)  S 650 Topics in the Teaching of Spanish (3 cr.)  S 680 Topics in Contemporary Spanish American Lit. (3 cr.)  **Study abroad courses (6 cr. hours max.)**  S 521 Spanish Grammar and Linguistics for Teachers I (3 cr.)  S 523 Spanish Lit., Art and Culture for Teachers I (3 cr.)  S 524 Spanish Grammar and Linguistics for Teachers II (3 cr.)  S 525 Spanish Lit., Art and Culture for Teachers II (3 cr.)  **Other elective coursework (6 cr. hours max.)**  EDUC-L500 Instructional Issues in Language Learning (3 cr.)  EDUC-L524 Lang. Issues in Bilingual/Multilingual Education (3 cr.)  EDUC-P507 Assessment in Schools (3 cr.)  EDUC-W531 Technology for Teaching and Learning (3 cr.)  EDUC-W540 Technology Infused Curriculum (3 cr.)  ENG-Z575 Second Language Learning and Technology (3 cr.) |

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| **ANNEX 3** | | |
| **SAMPLE PLAN OF STUDIES (30 credits)**  **OPTION 1: THESIS** | | |
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| semester | course | credits |
| FALL 2020 | SPAN-S517 Methods of Teaching College Spanish  SPAN-S511 Spanish Syntactic Analysis | 3  3 |
| SPRING 2021 | SPAN-S515 Acquisition of Spanish as a Second Language  SPAN-S519 Practicum in the Teaching of Spanish | 3  3 |
| SUMMER 2021 | SPAN-S521 Spanish Grammar & Linguistics for Teachers I  SPAN-S523 Spanish Literature, Art & Culture for Teachers I | 3  3 |
| FALL 2021 | SPAN-S513 Introduction to Hispanic Sociolinguistics  SPAN-S680 Topics in Contemporary Spanish American Literature | 3  3 |
| SPRING 2022 | SPAN-S686 M.A.T. Thesis | 6 |
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| **TOTAL CREDITS:** |  | **30** |

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| **SAMPLE PLAN OF STUDIES (30 credits)**  **OPTION 2: COURSEWORK** | | |
|  |  |  |
| semester | course | credits |
| FALL 2020 | SPAN-S517 Methods of Teaching College Spanish  SPAN-S511 Spanish Syntactic Analysis | 3  3 |
| SPRING 2021 | SPAN-S515 Acquisition of Spanish as a Second Language  SPAN-S519 Practicum in the Teaching of Spanish | 3  3 |
| SUMMER 2021 | SPAN-S521 Spanish Grammar & Linguistics for Teachers I  SPAN-S523 Spanish Literature, Art & Culture for Teachers I | 3  3 |
| FALL 2021 | SPAN-S513 Introduction to Hispanic Sociolinguistics  SPAN-S680 Topics in Contemporary Spanish American Literature | 3  3 |
| SPRING 2022 | SPAN-S518 Studies in Latino and Spanish American Culture  SPAN-S650 Topics in the Teaching of Spanish | 3  3 |
|  |  |  |
| **TOTAL CREDITS:** |  | **30** |