

**TOPIC: COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY PROPOSAL TO OFFER
A MASTER'S DEGREE IN TEACHING AND LEARNING
BY CSU-GLOBAL**

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I. SUMMARY

Colorado State University (CSU) has submitted a proposal for a Master's Degree in Teaching and Learning to be offered by CSU-Global. The Master of Science in Teaching and Learning provides relevant and practical skills for students who desire to become leaders in the modern, distance learning environment. The program is designed for academic administrators, instructional designers, as well as K-12, corporate, or university educators. This program is unique from other education programs offered both within the CSU system and nationally in that it focuses specifically on teaching and learning and affords learners with an opportunity to select a specialization in online teaching and learning or organizational studies.

II. BACKGROUND

The following is summarized from the CSU proposal for the Master of Science in Teaching and Learning to be offered by CSU-Global.

ROLE AND MISSION SUPPORT:

The Master's in Teaching and Learning offered through CSU-Global supports the role and mission of CSU. The statutory mission of CSU is to be a "comprehensive graduate research university with selective admission standards offering a comprehensive array of baccalaureate, masters, and doctoral degree programs. Consistent with the tradition of land grant universities, Colorado State University has exclusive authority to offer graduate and undergraduate programs in agriculture, forestry, natural resources, and veterinary medicine. Colorado State University has the responsibility to provide on a statewide basis, utilizing when possible and appropriate the faculty and facilities of other educational institutions, those graduate level programs."C.R.S. 23-31-101.

ADMISSION AND GRADUATION STANDARDS:

Students admitted to the master's program in teaching and learning will meet the same admissions requirements that apply to students at CSU-Fort Collins. The admission of graduate students at CSU-Fort Collins is

monitored by the Vice Provost for Graduate Affairs (VPGA), who works with individual departments to determine the academic match between a prospective student and the degree program. Students who do not meet the minimum criteria for Regular Admission are considered under Provisional Admission guidelines as defined by Faculty Council. Additionally, the VPGA is a member of the CSU-Global Academic Council.¹

To remain in Academic Good Standing, a student's cumulative GPA must remain at 3.00 or better. If the graduate GPA falls below 3.00, a graduate student will be placed on probation. Students have one semester to show progress toward good standing. Probationary students with 12 or more semester credits of graduate work will be dismissed whenever progress toward good standing is not demonstrated.²

DESCRIPTION OF CURRICULUM:

The proposed program requires 36 credit hours of work: 18 hours in the program and 18 hours in the graduate specialization. By separating the program into a six (course) plus six format, student may earn 18 graduate hours in their professional discipline while grounding their practice in sound pedagogical strategies.³

The capstone course is the final course of the program and will be taken following satisfactory completion of the first five courses of the degree and the six courses of the chosen specialization.⁴

PROGRAM FACULTY:

Faculty who teach in this program will have a graduate degree (terminal degree or master's degree with an exceptional record of professional and academic teaching history). Faculty must have at least 18 graduate credit hours or documented equivalent professional experience in the discipline in which they will teach. Faculty must have online teaching experience and are required to complete nationally recognized online teaching certification programs.⁵

III. STAFF ANALYSIS

¹ Proposal for a Master's Degree in Teaching and Learning, page 3.

² Proposal for a Master's Degree in Teaching and Learning, page 4.

³ Proposal for a Master's Degree in Teaching and Learning, page 5.

⁴ Proposal for a Master's Degree in Teaching and Learning, page 5.

⁵ Proposal for a Master's Degree in Teaching and Learning, page 7.

The Department staff has reviewed this proposed program and letters of assurances from academic administrators to ensure that the degree program meets the State's performance measures outlined in C.R.S. 23-5-129.6. The program meets all performance measures set forth by the state.

IV. STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Commission approve the Master's Degree in Teaching and Learning submitted by Colorado State University to be offered by CSU-Global.

V. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

C.R.S. 23-5-129.6

VI. ACCOMPANYING MATERIALS

The program proposal materials are attached.