

RATIONALE for proposed course number, title, and course description changes for EDG 6414 and EDG 6303

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The proposed changes for EDG 6414 and EDG 6303 are warranted for several key reasons:

- 1) The change in number to the 7000 level reflects the need to indicate that these are doctoral courses and have not been available to masters students.
- 2) The changes in title reflect an updating of the courses related to perspective. The notion of 'Core' and 'Alternative' suggests a dichotomy that is not reflective of research and practice in the field. Indeed, some of the older approaches to teaching, termed 'alternative' are currently considered 'best practice' and are encouraged. As doctoral students, our participants need to investigate instructional practices on different levels (classroom, district, state, national, and international), from different perspectives (policy, practitioner, researcher), as the course content encourages them to do. Current researchers would not support the notion of a 'core' set of practices juxtaposed to a set of 'alternative' ones.
- 3) The current course catalogue descriptions do not - and have not ever - reflected the content in the courses, as indicated in outdated as well as current syllabi.