

# Graduate Program Mission Statements

## College of Agriculture

### **M.S. in Agricultural Education**

The Masters in Agricultural Education seeks to meet the needs of today's agricultural educators. This fully online program offers the opportunity to obtain a master's degree in Agricultural Education while being employed full time.

## College of Behavioral and Social Sciences

### **M.A. in Anthropology**

It is the mission of the graduate program in Anthropology to provide our students opportunities for advanced study of theory, methodologies and professional applications in the four subfields of the discipline: physical, cultural, archaeology, and museum studies. The program recognizes its task to prepare students for future research, scholarship, and practice in professional careers, to make creative contributions to anthropology and related fields, and to imbue in its students a sense of social responsibility to cultures within regional and world communities.

### **M.A. in Psychology (Pupil Personnel Services Program)**

Our School Psychology program is based on a philosophy of preparation derived from a model which combines systems theory with a preventive approach to service delivery. This model combines levels of service delivery, from primary prevention to tertiary intervention, with numerous systemic levels ranging from specific individuals to the community at large. The Program is based on the belief that school psychological services should be proactive and prevention-oriented in order to reduce the potential for academic, emotional, and social problems of children and adolescents enrolled in California schools. As such, we emphasize and provide practice in a variety of skills which enable school psychologists to serve all children, to work proactively to prevent problems and provide coping skills to children, and to provide consultation to teachers. At the same time, our students receive very solid training in skills such as assessment and counseling to serve students whose development and education is of concern. Trainees work in schools several days a week during two and one-half years of School Psychology practica and internship. During that time, close on-site and university-based supervision and instruction provide practice in program development, behavioral and instructional consultation, instruction, assessment, counseling, collaboration with other professionals, and crisis intervention. School sites in the area provide experience with a variety of cultural groups.

It is the mission of the School Psychology Program to provide instruction and training experiences to graduate students who are seeking the California Credential in School Psychology, and to serve the educational, emotional, social and cognitive development needs of the children of California in preschool, elementary and secondary schools. In terms of its values in professional service delivery and preparation, the School Psychology Program also articulates a clear vision in its emphasis on preventive programs and intervention at all systemic levels in order to serve all children. This program philosophy is reflected in the nature of the training and the competencies which credential candidates are required to demonstrate.

### **M.A. in Psychology (Psychological Science Program)**

The mission of the Psychological Science program is to further the scientific and academic endeavors of the field of psychology. To this end, its objectives are to provide academic training and research experience in psychology consistent with entry into doctoral programs and college teaching in psychology. It clearly identifies its purpose as scientific and academic, rather than practitioner or professional-service oriented.

### **M.S. in Psychology**

The M.S. program was established in 1990. It is the mission of the M.S Program in Psychology to provide instruction to graduate students who are seeking advanced training and education in the professional fields related to Marriage and Family Therapy (MFT). Students who complete the program requirements are eligible to apply for registration as a Marriage and Family Therapy Intern with the California Board of Behavioral and Social Science Examiners.

### **M.A. in Political Science**

The mission of the Political Science M.A. Program is to provide students with advanced educational experiences that will lead to competency in the attitudes, subjects and skills of the discipline of Political Science and the capacity to attain career success that allows them to utilize the knowledge, skills and judgment acquired in our program.

### **M.P.A. in Public Administration**

The mission of the public administration program is to develop and enhance the knowledge and skills of current and future managers in government, nonprofit, and health care organizations.

### **M.A. in Social Science**

The mission of the Social Science Graduate Program is to deliver a high quality graduate program that prepares capable and productive professionals who approach problems utilizing an interdisciplinary view derived from the behavioral and social sciences. This unique program provides the opportunity to develop individualized interdisciplinary programs of study around a theme that draws on the perspectives of different social science disciplines that are not available in discipline-specific programs.

### **M.S.W. in Social Work**

The mission of the School of Social Work is to provide accessible, high quality education for generalist practice at the baccalaureate level and advanced generalist practice at the graduate level. We educate students to be ethical, knowledgeable, and versatile practitioners and leaders who value collaboration, social and economic justice, and lifelong Learning.

## **College of Business**

### **M.B.A. in Business Administration**

The goal of the MBA program is to prepare its participants for challenging managerial positions in ever-changing international working environments. To accomplish this, the program provides students with the knowledge and skills necessary for effective managerial decision-making, the flexibility to pursue a general or moderately specialized business curriculum, and a basis for continued personal and professional growth. The program is designed for those with undergraduate degrees in any major.

## **College of Communication and Education**

### **M.A. in Communication Sciences and Disorders**

The mission of the Communication Sciences and Disorders (Speech Pathology and Audiology) Program is to provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to enter the profession of speech-language pathology and instill a commitment to continued learning throughout their careers. The program is dedicated to academic and clinical excellence and seeks to stimulate a learning environment that facilitates intellectual curiosity, including a strong desire to integrate research principles in solving clinical problems and to use relevant research in clinical practice. Further, through mentoring and selected quality experiences, the program strives to facilitate graduates' commitment to contributing to the profession through their active involvement/participation in local, state, and or national organizations.

### **M.A. in Communication Studies**

The M.A. program in Communication Studies provides students an opportunity to pursue advanced study in understanding human communication and improving its practice in close relationships, communities, organizations, and the political sphere. This generalist approach to the discipline requires that all students study the historical and theoretical foundations of the discipline, current research, and qualitative and quantitative research approaches. The program is designed for students who are intellectually curious and engaged, who seek a broad-based advanced understanding of the field, and who desire opportunities for exploring specialized interests. As active participants in a community of scholarly discourse, students are expected to achieve and practice advanced mastery in written and oral communication, research, critical thinking, and collaborative scholarship.

### **M.A. in Education**

The mission of the graduate program is to confront educational challenges in the belief that its faculty, students, and educational partners will indeed make a difference in the lives of those who learn and teach. The program instills respect for educational research and applications, and a commitment to contribute to the heritage of scholarship in the field. The graduate program strives to improve the quality of education at all levels, to promote equality of opportunity for all learners, and to enhance the contribution that education can make to local communities and society in general.

### **M.A. in Kinesiology**

The mission of the graduate program in Kinesiology at Chico State is to provide students the opportunity to gain an in-depth understanding of the theoretical basis of human movement and to develop the skills, knowledge and research experience to become leaders in education and research. An outstanding graduate faculty and state of the art laboratories enhance graduate student learning in Kinesiology.

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### **M.A. in Recreation Administration**

The mission of the Graduate Program in the Department of Recreation and Parks Management at California State University, Chico, is to provide high quality education opportunities for students and practicing professionals in applied research and management practices to prepare them for (1) career advancement and/or (2) continuation for doctoral degrees in Recreation Administration of related disciplines.

## **College of Engineering, Computer Science, & Construction Management**

### **M.S. in Computer Science**

California State University, Chico's Master of Science in Computer Science degree program is designed for persons who seek greater competency for success in computer-related careers or for those who want an introduction to advanced degrees in the computing sciences and related disciplines. The program is designed to respond to society's ever-changing demands for trained computing professionals.

The program is also available to remote students via distance education.

### **M.S. in Electrical and Computer Engineering**

The MSECE Program mission is to provide the preparation to maintain currency and conduct research and development in the fields of electrical and/or computer engineering.

## **College of Humanities and Fine Arts**

### **M.A. in Art**

The Master of Arts in Art is an initial graduate degree in Art History, designed to prepare students for scholarly research. MA students focus on a broad knowledge of the history of art as well as a specific area.

### **M.F.A. in Art**

The Masters of Fine Arts (MFA) is a professional degree program that incorporates a comprehensive background in the fine arts as well as advanced development in patterns of studio specialization. The program provides a setting in which students may acquire and develop skills of intellectual and creative inquiry, values of human understanding, and meaning in cultural expression. The program fosters the freedom of expression of ideas, and other products of expression. The program offers students advanced course work in art history, critical theory and practiced criticism. The combined studio and academic experience provides students with the opportunity to contextualize information at a higher level and deepen their understanding of the relationship of the arts to society, while engaging in original research and developing a significant body of artwork.

### **M.A. in English**

The English Department at California State University, Chico, offers the Master of Arts degree in English with patterns in creative writing, language and literacy, and literature. The program is committed to advancing knowledge and creativity by nurturing a community of students, scholars, teachers, and creative writers. We believe that broad reading in historical and contemporary literary, critical, and theoretical texts provides a foundation for more specialized study and research. To this end, we offer students in all patterns an introduction to graduate research in a range of critical, rhetorical, and creative modes, giving them the intellectual background to pursue a specialty. Through internships and seminars in pedagogy, our Teaching Associateship Program provides teacher training and helps our students develop their teaching philosophies and hone their professional skills.

### **M.A. in History**

The mission of History Department's Graduate Program is to serve the needs of students who intend to pursue doctoral studies at other institutions, teachers who wish to deepen their content knowledge, and those who simply seek a more advanced and specialized study of the past. Going substantially beyond upper-division undergraduate coursework, the graduate program will provide students with in-depth knowledge about the origins and development of peoples in the past and perfect their ability to conduct advanced research and writing. Graduates of the MA program will be equipped to make significant and independent contributions to the field of history and will be prepared for successful professional careers as secondary teachers, college or university professors, journalists, civil servants, lawyers, and historians in government and private agencies.

### **M.A. in Teaching International Languages**

The MA in Teaching International Languages fosters the study of languages as an integral part of a world-class education in a global society. It is designed to promote the development of knowledgeable, reflective, inquiry-oriented professionals prepared to teach foreign languages and English to speakers of other languages. The primary goal is to enable students from all nations to fully participate in the multicultural, interdependent communities of the 21st century. This program is an interdisciplinary program for graduate students interested in the effective teaching and learning of international languages.

## **College of Natural Sciences**

### **M.S. in Biological Sciences**

The Master's Degree Program offered by the Department of Biological Sciences at CSU Chico helps students prepare for a professional career in science. Students gain research experience through a field- or laboratory-based thesis project and learn how to conduct themselves as professional scientists.

### **M.S. in Environmental Sciences**

The Master's Degree Program offered by the Department of Geological and Environmental Sciences at CSU Chico is designed to help students prepare for a professional career in science. Training in research expertise is emphasized through a field- or laboratory-based thesis project.

### **M.S. in Geological Sciences**

The Master's Degree Program offered by the Department of Geological and Environmental Sciences at CSU Chico is designed to help students prepare for a professional career in science. Training in research expertise is emphasized through a field- or laboratory-based thesis project.

### **M.S. in Nutritional Science**

The mission of the graduate program in nutritional science at California State University, Chico is to provide educational experiences for students to increase their expertise in the science of nutrition and nutrition education. Students gain confidence in conducting and analyzing research. The program will prepare students to become competent, evidence-based nutrition professionals and practitioners.

### **M.S. Nursing**

The mission of the School of Nursing is to offer baccalaureate and master's programs in nursing that prepare graduates as generalists in professional nursing, as nursing educators, and as leaders/managers for diverse healthcare settings. As such, the school provides high quality, student-centered learning environments that utilize technological innovation and promote critical thinking. The school supports faculty and student scholarly activities

and encourages lifelong learning. The school also fosters service to others through our extensive community and regional collaboration with external healthcare stakeholders.

## **Office of Graduate Studies**

### **M.A./M.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies**

The mission of the Interdisciplinary Studies MA/MS is to offer opportunities for graduate students to develop rigorous individualized programs of study that combine the coursework and perspectives of at least two distinct academic disciplines. The Interdisciplinary Studies MA/MS allows graduate students to undertake unique paths of intellectual endeavor not available from the array of disciplinary-based graduate programs on campus.