

AGENDA
Faculty Senate Meeting
October 23, 2007—UC 218—3:45

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes
- III. Reports from Committees
 - A. Executive Committee
 - B. Academic Affairs Committee (*see attachment*)
 - 1. Item I from the Department of Biology concerns changes in the requirements for the environmental science option in biology.
 - 2. Item II from the Department of Mass Communications concerns the addition of two classes: Mass Communications 455 and Mass Communications 320.
- IV. Old Business
- V. New Business
- VI. Announcements
- VII. Adjournment

I. Proposal from the Department of Biology:

A. **CHANGE**, on page 74 of the current catalog, the requirements for the environmental science option in Biology

FROM:**ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE OPTION IN BIOLOGY**

Coordinator: Dr. John G. Rae, III

The Environmental Science Option in Biology offers students the choice of specialization in environmental science at the undergraduate level.

The Environmental Science Option will require the completion of the following courses which include General Education courses, certain core science and mathematics courses, and requirements for the biology major.

Communications.....	12 hours
English 112, 200.....	6
Speech Communication 101.....	3
Computer Science 190 or 212 or 226.....	3
Social Sciences.....	12 hours
Political Science 101 or 103.....	3
Economics 203, 340.....	6
Geography 105.....	3
Humanities.....	12 hours
Literature (English 203 recommended).....	3
History.....	3
Art 101, Music 101, Theatre 101.....	3
Philosophy and Religious Studies 400.....	3
Mathematics.....	9 hours
Mathematics 132, 201 (or 201, 202).....	6
Psychology 302 or Math 312 (note prerequisites).....	3
Natural Sciences.....	72-77 hours
Biology	
<i>Introductory Biology</i>	
Biology 105, 106.....	8
<i>Organismal (Plant):</i> one course from	
Biology 206, 207, 208, 303, 310, 313.....	4
<i>Organismal (Animal):</i> one course from	
Biology 201, 202, 204, 209, 312, 315.....	4
<i>Ecology:</i> two courses from	
Biology 308 and 402 or 408 or 411.....	8
Other Biology Courses:	
Biology 210, 301 or 302, or 407, 401, 499.....	13
Chemistry	
Chemistry 101, 102, 201, and 202 or 203.....	16
Physics	

Physics 215, 216 (200, 201, 202).....	8-12
Environmental Science	
Environmental Science.....	4
Science Electives (select two courses, at least one must be from chemistry or physics: Biology 307, 311, 314; Chemistry 202, 203, 313; Physics 318.....	7-8
Free Electives.....	0-5
(Technical Writing recommended)	
 Total Hours Required for Graduation.....	 120

TO:

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE OPTION IN BIOLOGY

Coordinator: Dr. John G. Rae III

The Environmental Science Option in Biology offers students the choice of specialization in environmental science at the undergraduate level.

The Environmental Science Option will require the completion of the following courses, which include General Education Courses, certain core science and mathematics courses, and requirements for the biology major.

Communications.....	12 hours
English 112, 200.....	6
Speech Communication 101.....	3
Computer Science.....	3
Social Sciences.....	9 hours
Political Science 101 or 103.....	3
Choose two courses: Economics 203, 340, Geography 105, 215, Sociology 331.....	6
Humanities.....	12 hours
Literature (English 203 recommended).....	3
History.....	3
Art 101, Music 101, Theatre 101.....	3
Humanities elective (Philosophy and Religious Studies 400 recommended).....	3
Mathematics.....	6 hours
Mathematics 132 or 201, 134 or 312.....	6
Natural Sciences.....	61-65 hours
Biology	
<i>Introductory Biology</i>	
Biology 105, 106.....	8
<i>Organismal (Plant):</i> one course from	
Biology 206, 207, 208, 313.....	4
<i>Organismal (Animal):</i> one course from	
Biology 201, 202, 204, 209, 312, 315.....	4
<i>Ecology:</i> one course from	
Biology 308, 402, 408, 411.....	4
<i>Cell Biology:</i> one course from	
Biology 301, 302, 407.....	4

<i>Genetics</i> : Biology 401	4
<i>Senior Seminar</i> : Biology 499.....	1
<i>One course from</i>	
Biology 210, Environmental Science 201	4
<i>Biology Elective</i> : one course from	
Biology 201, 202, 204, 206, 207, 208, 209,	
308, 312, 313, 314, 315, 402, 408, 411	4
Chemistry	
Chemistry 101, 102, 201, and 202 or 203.....	16
Physics	
Physics 215, 216 (or 200, 201, 202).....	8-12
 Total Hours Required for Graduation.....	 120

Recommended Minor: Chemistry. Consider one additional course from Chemistry 202, 203, 313 to complete the minor in Chemistry.

Other suggested courses: Chemistry 203, 313, Economics 340, English 318, Geography 105, 215, Math 312, Philosophy and Religious Studies 400, Psychology 302, Sociology 331.

Rationale: The environmental science option in biology is currently too rigid as to specific course requirements and too demanding in terms of hours required in certain areas and levels. Several courses are offered only on alternate years, making it difficult for students to complete the program. The changes give the student more flexibility in course selection. The rigor of the proposed course requirements are now in line with our general biology degree. No additional faculty or equipment will be necessary to institute this change.

B. MODIFY, on pages 181-182 in the current catalog, the requirements for the minor and two collaterals in environmental studies

FROM:

4. PRS 400 Science, Technology, and Human Values.....3

TO:

4. PRS 400 Science, Technology, and Human Values
or SOCI 331 Environment, Power and Opportunity.....3

Rationale: Adding SOCI 331 as an alternate choice gives students more flexibility in course selection since PRS 400 is offered only on alternate years. No additional faculty or equipment will be necessary to institute this change.

II. Proposal from the Department of Mass Communication:

A. ADD, on page 111, of the current catalog:

320 Broadcast Presentation Skills (3) (Prerequisite: Speech 101 or permission of the department) Introduces students to the techniques involved in effective vocal delivery and on-camera presentation. Students practice the skills required to work as reporters, announcers, anchors, program hosts, spokespersons and other positions that require the individual to be on radio or television. A course for any student interested

in broadcasting, mass communication, business, sports management, or sports communication.

B. ADD, on page 111 of the current catalog:

455 Media Ethics (3) (Prerequisite: 201. At least junior status or permission of the department) An examination of ethical responsibilities associated with the field of mass communication. Various philosophical theories of ethical practices will be used to address issues involving race, gender, hatred, invasion of privacy, defamation, and intimidation.

Rationale: In the rapidly evolving field of Mass Communication there is a trend to publish information as rapidly as possible. To speed the process, many of the traditional editorial safeguards have been removed. Convergence journalism is a particular concern, because a single journalist may be posting stories via a number of mediums without editorial supervision. Our students need a strong grounding in ethical decision making before they enter the workforce. We recently met with members of our Professional Advisory Committee. We discussed our concerns and the proposed course with them. They agreed with our concerns and the need for the new course.

According to a recent article in *Journalism & Mass Communication Educator* adding this stand-alone ethics course would follow growing trend in journalism and mass communication programs. The article also reported the results of a research project in this area, suggesting that “a carefully designed media ethics course can affect students’ value systems and ideological outlooks.”¹

D. ADD, on page 110 of the current catalog, under the **Broadcast Journalism** track, and under the **Public Relations** track, the following course:

320 Broadcast Presentation Skills

C. ADD, on page 110 of the current catalog, under the **Print Journalism** track, under the **Broadcast Journalism** track, under the **Convergence Journalism** track, and under the **Public Relations** track, the following course:

455 Media Ethics

¹ Patrick Lee Plaisance. “An Assessment of Media Ethics Education: Course Content and the Values and Ethical Ideologies of Media Ethics Students.” *Journalism & Mass Communication Educator* 63, no. 4, Winter 2007, 391.