

## DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**PROPOSED DELETION OF THE BACHELOR OF ARTS MAJORS IN BIOCHEMISTRY,  
BIOLOGY, AND HUMAN ECOLOGY IN THE COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES CHAPTER IN  
THE UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG, 2016-2018**

Dean Linda Hicke, in the College of Natural Sciences has filed with the secretary of the Faculty Council the following proposal to delete the Bachelor of Arts majors in biochemistry, biology, and human ecology from the *Undergraduate Catalog, 2016-2018*. On March 26, April 6, and March 12, the Departments of Biochemistry, Biology and the School of Human Ecology approved the proposal, respectively. On September 28, 2015, Associate Dean David Vanden Bout approved it on behalf of the college and the dean. The secretary has classified this proposal as legislation of *general* interest to more than one college or school.

The Committee on Undergraduate Degree Program Review recommended approval of the changes on October 22, 2015, and forwarded them to the Office of the General Faculty. The Faculty Council has the authority to approve this legislation on behalf of the General Faculty. The authority to grant final approval on this legislation resides with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

If no objection is filed with the Office of the General Faculty by the date specified below, the legislation will be held to have been approved by the Faculty Council. If an objection is filed within the prescribed period, the legislation will be presented to the Faculty Council at its next meeting. The objection, with reasons, must be signed by a member of the Faculty Council.

To be counted, a protest must be received in the Office of the General Faculty by November 11, 2015.



Hillary Hart, Secretary  
General Faculty and Faculty Council



**Rationale:** The Biology Instructional Office and the Departments of Integrative Biology, Marine Science, Molecular Biosciences, and Neuroscience, propose deletion of the Biology (BIO) major on the Bachelor of Arts, Plan I (BA) degree due to decreasing enrollments.

For students claiming the 2014-16 catalog, the degree will be available until August 2022. The courses in this major are offered by the College of Natural Sciences and will continue to be offered. The deletion of the biology major in the BA degree will have minimal impact on students and course offerings due to the alternative of the BSA with a major in biology.

3) Deletion of the human ecology major:

The School of Human Ecology proposes deletion of the human ecology (HE) major on the Bachelor of Arts, Plan I, (BA) degree due to underperformance in degrees awarded. Very few students earn this degree, and number of majors are steadily dropping. In addition, there are enrollment indications that the small number of students interested in a generalized course of study are now choosing the BSA HE major.

Academic Year	BA HE enrollment	BA HE degrees awarded	BSA HE enrollment (beginning Fall 2014)	BSA HE degrees awarded (beginning Fall 2014)
2010 through 2011	47	6	N/A	N/A
2011 through 2012	30	9	N/A	N/A
2012 through 2013	15	8	N/A	N/A
2013 through 2014	13	3	N/A	N/A
2014 through 2015	1	0	11	1

For students claiming the 2014-16 catalog, the degree will be available until August 2022. All of the courses in the BA human ecology major are offered by the College of Natural Sciences save for up to four hours that may be completed in the Jackson School of Geosciences. The courses in human development and family sciences, nutrition, and textiles and apparel taken for the BA major are also required for the BS degrees in the same fields of study, ensuring that course availability will not be an issue. There may be a very small net decrease in enrollments in a few of the required courses. Decreased enrollments of one or two seats per semester will not impact course offerings. In summary, the deletion of the human ecology major in the BA degree will have little to no impact on students and course offerings.

**3. THIS PROPOSAL INVOLVES (Please check all that apply)**

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Courses in other colleges                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Courses in proposer's college that are frequently taken by students in other colleges                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Flags  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Course in the core curriculum                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Change in course sequencing for an existing program   | <input type="checkbox"/> Courses that have to be added to the inventory                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change in admission requirements (external or internal) | <input type="checkbox"/> Requirements not explicit in the catalog language (e.g., lists of acceptable courses maintained by department office) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deletion of Biochemistry, Biology, and Human Ecology majors |

**4. SCOPE OF PROPOSED CHANGE**

- a. Does this proposal impact other colleges/schools? Yes  No   
If yes, then how? BA HE majors must complete between two to four hours from a variety of science fields of study, including Geological Sciences.
- b. Do you anticipate a net change in the number of students in your college? Yes  No   
If yes, how many more (or fewer) students do you expect?
- c. Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of students from outside of your college taking classes in your college? Yes  No   
If yes, please indicate the number of students and/or class seats involved.

- d. Do you anticipate a net increase (or decrease) in the number of students from your college taking courses in other colleges? Yes  No   
If yes, please indicate the number of students and/or class seats involved. There may be a decrease of one seat per academic year in GEO 401.

**If 4 a, b, c, or d was answered with yes, please answer the following questions. If the proposal has potential budgetary impacts for another college/school, such as requiring new sections or a non-negligible increase in the number of seats offered, at least one contact must be at the college-level.**

How many students do you expect to be impacted?

Impacted schools must be contacted and their response(s) included:

Person communicated with:

Date of communication:

Response:

- e. Does this proposal involve changes to the core curriculum or other basic education requirements (42-hour core, signature courses, flags)? **No.** If yes, explain:

**If yes, undergraduate studies must be informed of the proposed changes and their response included:**

Person communicated with:

Date of communication:

Response:

- f. Will this proposal change the number of hours required for degree completion? **No.** If yes, explain:

## 5. COLLEGE/SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS

Department approval date: Biochemistry: March 26, 2015  
Biology: April 6, 2015  
Human Ecology: March 12, 2015

College approval date: Biochemistry: March 25, 2015  
Biology: May 27, 2015  
Human Ecology: March 25, 2015

Dean approval date: September 28, 2015, David Vanden Bout, Associate Dean

## PROPOSED NEW CATALOG TEXT:

**[Biochemistry]**

~~[In addition to the requirements below, biochemistry majors must take either Mathematics 408C and 408D or Mathematics 408N, 408S, and Statistics and Data Sciences 328M; and eight semester hours of physics: either Physics 301, 101L, 316, and 116L; 303K, 103M, 303L, and 103N; or 317K, 117M, 317L, and 117N.]~~

**[Major]**

- ~~1. Chemistry 301 or 301H~~
- ~~2. Chemistry 204 or 317Chemistry 302 or 302H~~
- ~~3. Chemistry 320M~~
- ~~4. Chemistry 353 or 353M~~
- ~~5. Chemistry 455~~
- ~~6. Biochemistry 339F~~
- ~~7. Biochemistry 369L~~
- ~~8. Two of the following courses:~~
  - Biochemistry 339J
  - Biochemistry 339M
  - Biochemistry 339N
  - Biochemistry 370]

**[Minor]**

[Either Biology 311C, 311D, and 325 or 315H and 325H; six additional semester hours in biology, three of which are chosen from Biology 328, 339, 345, 361T, Neuroscience 365R or Biology 371M, and 365S; and three additional hours chosen from the preceding list or from Biology 320, 325T, 226L and either 326M or 326R, 327D, 330, 331L, 335, 336, 339M, 344, 346, 347, 349, 360K, 361, 377 and Neuroscience 365W.

[Students must earn a grade of at least C in each mathematics and science course required for the degree, and a grade point average in these courses of at least 2.00.]

**[Biology]**

[In addition to the requirements below, biology majors must complete Mathematics 408C or 408N, Chemistry 301 or 301H, 302 or 302H, and 204; and one of the following: (1) Chemistry 220C, 320M, and 320N; (2) eight hours of coursework in physics, including laboratory work; or (3) six hours of coursework in computer science, including at least three hours of upper division work.]

**[Major]**

[The following coursework is required:

1. Either Biology 311C, 311D, and 325 or Biology 315H and 325H. Biology 206L or 208L.  
Six semester hours in core biology courses, consisting of three hours in each of the following areas.
  - a. Cellular, developmental, and molecular biology: Biology 320, 344, 349.
  - b. Ecology and evolution: Biology 357, 370, 373.
2. Eighteen additional semester hours of coursework, consisting of three hours in each of the following six areas. No course may be counted toward more than one of the six areas in requirement 4. No course may be counted toward both requirement 3 and requirement 4. The courses counted toward requirement 4 must include at least three laboratory courses.
  - a. Cellular, developmental, and molecular biology: Biology 320, 320L, 323L, 325L, 325T, 226L, 326R, 328D, 330, 230L, 331L, 332, 333, 335, 336, 339, 339M, 344, 347, 349, 349L, 350M, 360K, 160L, 366, 366R, 368L, Biochemistry 369, Neuroscience 366L, 366S.
  - b. Physiology and neurobiology: Biology 322, 122L, 328, 329, 129L, 336, 339, 345, 345E, 359K, 359R, 360K, 160L, 361, 361L, 361T, 365N, 365S, 165U, 371L, 371M, Neuroscience 365D, 365L, 365R, 365T, 365W, and 366C.
  - c. Ecology and evolution: Biology 328M, 321L, 340L, 448L, 351, 352, 453L, 354L, 455L, 456L, 357, 359J, 364, 369L, 370, 471G, 373, 373L, 375, Marine Science 352C, 354Q.
  - d. Animal biology: Biology 321L, 438L, 340L, 346, 446L, 448L, 453L, 354L, 455L, 359J, 359K, 359R, 361T, 365S, 369L, 371L, 478L, Marine Science 354, 354C.
  - e. Plant biology: Biology 322, 122L, 324 and 124L, 327 and 127L, 328, 328D, 350M, 351, 352, 374 and 174L, Marine Science 352D.
  - f. Microbiology: Biology 226L, 326R, 329, 129L, 330, 230L, 333, 339, 364, Marine Science 354E.]

[Students must earn a grade of at least C in each mathematics and science course required for the degree, and a grade point average in these courses of at least 2.00.]

**[Human Ecology]****[Major]**

[Human ecology majors must complete thirty semester hours of coursework in the School of Human Ecology, including at least fifteen hours of upper division coursework and at least six hours chosen from each of the following areas:

- ~~1. Human Development and Family Sciences 304, 312, 313, 113L, 315L, 322, and 337;~~
- ~~2. Nutrition 306, 307, 107L, 312 or 312H, 112L, 315, 316, 218, 118L, 326 and 126L, 321, 331, 332, and 338W or 338H;~~
- ~~3. Textiles and Apparel 205, 105L, 316Q, 219C and 119L, 325L, and 325M]~~

~~[Additionally, students must complete the following coursework with a grade of at least C in each course:~~

- ~~1. Mathematics 408N or the equivalent;~~
- ~~2. Statistics and Data Sciences 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, or 325H;~~
- ~~3. Please complete one of these sequences:
  - ~~1. Chemistry 301 or 301H, 302 or 302H, and Biology 311C, or~~
  - ~~2. Chemistry 301 or 301H and Biology 311C and 311D;~~~~
- ~~4. two to four additional hours in astronomy, biology, chemistry, computer science, geological sciences, mathematics, and/or physics. Courses designed for non-science majors may not be counted toward this requirement. This coursework also meets the core curriculum mathematics and science and technology requirements.]~~

~~[Students must earn a grade of at least C in each mathematics and science course required for the degree, and a University grade point average in these courses of at least 2.00.~~

~~To develop a meaningful and coherent degree program, the student should select courses with the assistance of faculty and academic advisers.]~~