

## DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE FORENSIC SCIENCE CERTIFICATE 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 changes to the Forensic Science Certificate in the *Undergraduate Catalog, 2016-2018*. On September 23, 2015, the college faculty approved the proposal. On September 28, 2015, Associate Dean David Vandenberg 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 November 18, 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 UT System.

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 December 11, 2015.



Hillary Hart, Secretary  
General Faculty and Faculty Council

Posted on the Faculty Council website <<http://www.utexas.edu/faculty/council/>> on November 19, 2015.

**PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE FORENSIC SCIENCE CERTIFICATE IN THE COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES CHAPTER IN THE *UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG, 2016-2018***

1. **Type of Proposal**     New Certificate Program (requiring THECB notification only)  
 Change an Existing Certificate Program  
 Delete a Program

**Proposed classification**     Exclusive     General     Major

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

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> Other:   |

3. **SCOPE OF PROPOSED CHANGE**

- a. Does this proposal impact other colleges/schools?    Yes  No   
 If yes, then how? Many of the courses contained in this certificate are offered in the Department of Anthropology. This proposal does not subtract any courses from the existing certificate, and adds only one at the recommendation of the Department of Anthropology. It is primarily a rearrangement of certificate requirements to accommodate the structures of the interactive degree audit. We believe these changes do not impact the academic intentions of the certificate requirements. At the suggestion of Dr. Deborah Bolnick, ANT 349C, Human Variation, was added.
- 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   
 It is unknown whether ANT 349C will experience an increase or decrease in students from COLA or other colleges who are pursuing this certificate

**If 3 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: We anticipate no impact.

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

Date of communication: April 6, 2015

Response: These updates look reasonable to me. You might also consider adding ANT 349C (Human Variation) as an option under requirement #3.

4. **Official Certificate Name:** Forensic Science Certificate
5. **Proposed Implementation Date:** N/A
6. **CIP Code** (administrative unit awarding the certificate): N/A
7. **Statement of Objective:**  
N/A

8. **Number of Students Expected to Receive the Certificate Each Semester:** N/A

9. **Number of Hours Required for Completion:**<sup>1</sup> Eighteen hours.

10.	Course Abbreviation and Number	Course Title	SCH <sup>2</sup>
Lis t Fa	ANT 349C	Human Variation # # ANT 301	3

culty on the Certificate Program Faculty Committee. N/A

11. **Academic Course Requirements:** N/A

12. **Other Certificate Requirements:** N/A

13. **Give a Detailed Rationale for Change(s):**

Require six upper-division hours for the certificate.

**Rationale:** While unlikely, it would be possible for a student to complete the certificate without taking any advanced coursework as written in the 2014-16 catalog. It should not be difficult for students to complete six upper-division hours, and should allow for a richer experience in one or two of the subareas defined within the certificate.

Require that the coursework for the certificate be completed with minimum grades of at least C-.

**Rationale:** The minimum grade standard for the certificate was inadvertently omitted in the initial proposal for the 2014-16 catalog.

Remove ANT 324L (approved topics) from the certificate.

**Rationale:** The only approved topic relevant to the certificate was forensic anthropology. The Department of Anthropology is no longer scheduling this course and do not have plans to make it a numbered topic. Currently, there is no faculty member who specializes in forensic anthropology.

Restructure the certificate as follows:

- Make ANT 301 a requirement, not an option. ANT 301 is a required prerequisite to ANT 366.
- Move ANT 366, Anatomy and Biology of the Human Skeleton, to requirement #2.
- Allow requirement #2 courses beyond six hours to count toward requirement #3 if chosen by the student.
- Add ANT 349C to requirement #3 at suggestion of Deborah Bolnick, Department of Anthropology.

**Rationale:** During the 2014-15 academic year, the College of Natural Sciences realized that the forensic science certificate structure is not compatible with the capabilities of the interactive degree audit (IDA). IDA cannot code a range of hours in multiple requirements and then check for eighteen hours.

14. **College/School Approval Process:**

Committee Approval Date: April 8, 2015  
 College Approval Date: September 23, 2015  
 Dean Approver: David Vanden Bout  
 Title: Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education  
 Date: September 28, 2015

**PROPOSED NEW CATALOG TEXT:**

#### **Forensic Science Certificate**

The Forensic Science Certificate provides an interdisciplinary perspective for students interested in careers in forensic science.

Students seeking employment in forensic science laboratories upon graduation are encouraged to select biology and chemistry courses. Some of these courses may require introductory biology and chemistry courses as prerequisites.

No admission to the certificate is required. Students must contact the dean's office in the College of Natural Sciences to apply for the certificate during the semester in which they are completing the requirements. The certificate consists of eighteen hours, including six upper-division hours, with grades of at least C-:

1. [~~Three to six hours of forensic science, chosen from Anthropology 301, 324L (approved topics), and 366.~~] Three hours of physical anthropology: Anthropology 301
2. Six [~~to twelve~~] hours chosen from any of the following courses relevant to forensic science:
  - a. Criminalistics: Sociology 302, 325K, and 325L
  - b. Behavioral Science: Psychology 301, 308, 319K, and 352
  - c. Pharmacology: Neuroscience 365D
  - d. Forensic Science: Anthropology 366
3. Nine hours chosen from any of the following areas: [~~To achieve the minimum of eighteen hours required for the certificate, up to eight hours may be selected from any of the following courses:~~]
  - a. Anatomy and Physiology: Biology 309D or 365S, 446L, 361T, 165U, and 371L
  - b. Chemistry: Chemistry 220C, 320M, 320N, 455, and Biochemistry 369
  - c. Genetics and Microbiology: Anthropology 349C, Biology 325, 325L, 325T, 226L, and 326R
  - d. Statistics and Computation: One course chosen from the following: Biology 321G, Statistics and Data Sciences 302, 304, 306, 328M, or Mathematics 316
  - e. Additional coursework in criminalistics, behavioral science, pharmacology, and forensic science. A course may not count toward both requirement 2 and requirement 3.

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<sup>1</sup> See footnote 1b above: 18-24 hours are required.

<sup>2</sup> Semester Credit Hours.