

## DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES IN THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS CHAPTER IN THE *UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG, 2016-2018***

Dean Randy L. Diehl, in the College of Liberal Arts has filed with the secretary of the Faculty Council the following changes to the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sciences content common to Jackson School of Geoscience, College of Liberal Arts, and College of Natural Sciences in the *Undergraduate Catalog, 2016-2018*. 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 January 6, 2016, and forwarded the proposal 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 January 26, 2016.



Hillary Hart, Secretary  
General Faculty and Faculty Council



- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Course in the core curriculum                                      | other colleges<br><input type="checkbox"/> Change in course sequencing for an existing program   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Courses that have to be added to the inventory |
| <input checked="" 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) |  |

#### 4. SCOPE OF PROPOSED CHANGE

- a. Does this proposal impact other colleges/schools? Yes  No   
If yes, then how?
- 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.

**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.**

Approximately 160-180 environmental science majors across the College of Natural Science, the College of Liberal arts, and the Jackson School of Geosciences

Person communicated with: Dr. Clark Wilson, Undergraduate Faculty Advisor, Geosciences

Date of communication: May 6, 2015

Response: Agreed

Person communicated with: Dr. Carlos Ramos, Undergraduate Faculty Advisor, Liberal Arts

Date of communication: May 6, 2015

Response: Agreed

Person communicated with: Dr. Norma Fowler, Undergraduate Faculty Advisor, Natural Sciences

Date of communication: May 6, 2015

Response: Agreed

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

**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? If yes, explain:

#### 5. COLLEGE/SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS

Department approval date: May 6, 2015

College approval date: May 21, 2015

Dean approval date: June 8, 2015

Environmental Science Faculty Committee

College of Liberal Arts Policy & Curriculum Committee

College of Liberal Arts Faculty

**PROPOSED NEW CATALOG TEXT:**

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

The Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science (~~BSEnviroSci~~), offered by the ~~College of Liberal Arts, the College of Natural Sciences, and the Jackson School of Geoscience~~, is designed for students interested in an interdisciplinary scientific perspective on environmental and sustainability issues, analysis, and management. The degree program provides the broad foundation in physical, life, and social sciences needed for a career or graduate study in environmental science and related fields such as climate change, ecology, and conservation. Students who complete the program successfully will be able to assess environmental issues critically from multiple perspectives; perform field, laboratory, and computer analyses; and conduct original research. The program is designed to prepare graduates for careers in local, state, and federal government laboratories and nonprofit agencies, environmental consulting firms, environmental education and outreach agencies, and universities and other research settings. The degree is offered by the Jackson School with a major in geological sciences, by the College of Liberal Arts with a major in geographical sciences, and by the College of Natural Sciences with a major in biological sciences. The degree programs share common prescribed work, but each major has its own specific requirements. Students may earn only one Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science degree from the University.

~~Students must apply for admission to the degree program after completing prerequisite coursework. To be competitive for admission, students should have a grade point average of at least 2.75. More information about admission requirements is given in The Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science.~~

The ~~Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science~~ ~~BSEnviroSci~~ curriculum consists of 126 semester hours of coursework. All students must complete the University's Core Curriculum. The specific degree requirements consist of prescribed work, major requirements, and electives. In some cases, a course that is required for the degree may also be counted toward the core curriculum. ~~In addition, for the major in geographical sciences, courses used to fulfill the University core curriculum requirements or the prescribed work below may also be counted toward the major requirements where applicable.~~

A course in one prescribed work area may not also be used to fulfill the requirements of another prescribed work area; the only exception to this rule is that a course that fulfills one requirement may also be used to fulfill a flag requirement, unless otherwise specified.

In the process of fulfilling the core curriculum and other degree requirements, all students are expected to complete the following ~~[four areas]~~ Skills and Experience flags:

1. Writing: ~~[two]~~ three flagged courses beyond Rhetoric and Writing 306 or its equivalent
2. Quantitative reasoning: one flagged course
3. Global cultures: one flagged course
4. Cultural diversity in the United States: one flagged course
5. Ethic and leadership: one flagged course
6. Independent inquiry: one flagged course

~~[Courses with sufficient content in these areas will be identified in the Course Schedule by the appropriate flags. A course may carry more than one flag. The School of Undergraduate Studies monitors flagged courses to ensure that they meet the guidelines set by the General Faculty.]~~

~~The student must fulfill the University's General Requirements for graduation and the requirements of the College of Liberal Arts given earlier in this section. Graduation requirements include a grade point average of at least 2.00 in all courses taken at the University (including credit by examination, correspondence, and extension) for which a grade or symbol other than Q, W, X, or CR is recorded. In addition, a grade of at least C- is required in each mathematics and science course specifically required by the degree.~~

~~More information about grades and the grade point average is given in the General Information Catalog.~~

All students must complete the University's core curriculum. The specific degree requirements consist of prescribed work and major requirements. In some cases, a course that is required for the degree may also be counted toward the core curriculum. A course in one prescribed work area may not also be used to fulfill the requirements of another prescribed work area; the only exception to this rule is that a course that fulfills any other requirement may also be used to fulfill a flag requirement if the course carries that flag, unless otherwise specified.]

### **Prescribed Work Common to All Environmental Science Majors**

1. Mathematics: Mathematics 408C, or 408N and 408S, or 408K and 408L.
2. Chemistry: Chemistry 301 or 301H; 302 or 302H; and 204.
3. Physics: Physics 317K and 117M, or another four-hour calculus-based physics sequence.
4. Biological Sciences: Biology 311C and 311D, or 315H.
5. Ecology: ~~Biology 373 and Biology 373L, or Marine Science 320 and either 120L or 152T (Topic: *Marine Ecology*); Marine Science 320 may not be used to satisfy both requirement 5 and requirement 10.~~
  - a. Biology 373 or Marine Science 320. Marine Science 320 may not be used to satisfy both requirement 5a and requirement 10c.
  - b. Biology 373L or Marine Science 120L. Environmental science majors in the College of Natural Sciences must choose Biology 373L.
6. Geological Sciences: Geological Sciences 401 or 303, 346C, and an approved geological sciences course in sustainability.
7. Geography: Geography 335N.
8. Field experience and research methods: Environmental Science 311 and 121. One course from each of the following lists:
  - a. ~~Introductory field seminar: Environmental Science 311.~~
  - b. ~~Senior field/research experience: Environmental Science 371 or Biology 377 (with prior approval of the faculty advisor).~~
9. ~~Research Methods: Environmental Science 331. Senior field/research experience: one of the following pairs:~~
  - a. Environmental Science 271 and 371 or Environmental Science 171 and 471.
  - b. Environmental Science 172C and 472D or Environmental Science 272C and 372D.
  - c. Environmental Science 271 or Marine Science 348, and one of the following: Chemistry 320M, Geography 360G, 368C, 462K, Geosciences 327G, Mathematics 408D or 408M.  
Note: Geography 360G, 462K, and Geosciences 327G may not be used to satisfy both requirement 9c and 10b. Biology 277 may substitute for Environmental Science 271 with prior approval of the faculty advisor.
10. Environmental and sustainability themes: one course in each of the following thematic areas:
  - a. Environmental and sustainability policy, ethics, and history: Geography 334, 336C, 339K, 340D, 342C, 344K, 356C, ~~356T~~, Journalism 346F, Marine Science 367K, and Philosophy 325C; ~~Sociology 321K~~. Biology 337, Geography 356, 356T, or Sociology 321K may be counted with prior approval of the faculty advisor.
  - b. Geographic information systems: Geography 360G, 462K, Geological Sciences 327G.
    - c. Climates and oceans: Biology 456L, Geography 333K, ~~356T (approved topics)~~, Geological Sciences 347D, 347G, ~~371C (approved topics)~~, 377P, Marine Science 320, 440, 352, 354Q, 354T, 356; Marine Science 320 may not be used to satisfy both requirement 5 and requirement 10; Marine Science 356 may not be used to satisfy both requirement 10c and requirement 14 in Option I; Marine Science 356 may not be used to satisfy both requirement 10c and requirement 18 in Option II. Geography 356T, Geological Sciences 371C, and Marine Science 352 may count with prior approval of the faculty advisor.
    - d. Environmental economics, sustainability, and business: Economics 304K, 330T. Advanced Placement credit for Economics 304L may be used to satisfy this requirement.
11. Environmental Science 141 and 151.

~~Marine Science 320 may not be used to satisfy both requirement 5 and requirement 10c.~~

### **Admission to the Environmental Science Program**

All freshmen and external transfer students majoring in environmental science (EVS) are first admitted to the University as entry-level EVS majors in the Jackson School of Geosciences, the College of Liberal Arts, or the College of Natural Sciences. After completing a minimum of 24 hours in residence, students may select the EVS degree plan that best suits their long-term interests and, if necessary, transfer to the appropriate college/school in accordance with the regulations and procedures set forth in that college or school's General Information.

#### **Freshman Admission**

Freshmen applicants seeking admission to the EVS major through the Jackson School of Geosciences, the College of Liberal Arts, or the College of Natural Sciences must meet the calculus readiness requirement by the official admissions application deadline. More information about the calculus readiness requirement is available through the University Admissions Office or online at Be A Longhorn.

Freshmen applicants to the EVS major from all three colleges/schools are reviewed and admitted as a single cohort. Applicants should use the ApplyTexas online application and select the "Environmental Science, Entry-Level" major option listed in the Jackson School of Geosciences, the College of Liberal Arts, or the College of Natural Sciences as a first-choice major. Applicants should apply to the EVS program in the college that best suits their anticipated area of focus (geographical sciences, biological sciences, or geological sciences, respectively).

#### **External Transfer Admission**

Students who wish to transfer to the University from another college or University must apply to the Office of Admissions as described in General Information. External transfer applicants seeking admission to the Environmental Science (EVS) Degree Program through the Jackson School of Geosciences, the College of Liberal Arts, or the College of Natural Sciences must demonstrate calculus readiness by the official admissions application deadline. Details regarding transfer calculus readiness are available through the University Admissions Office or online at Be A Longhorn.

External transfer applicants to the EVS major from all three colleges/schools are reviewed and admitted as a single cohort. Applicants should use the ApplyTexas online application and select the "Environmental Science, Entry-Level" major option listed in the Jackson School of Geosciences, the College of Liberal Arts, or the College of Natural Sciences as a first-choice major. Applicants should apply to the EVS program in the college that best suits their anticipated area of focus (geographical sciences, biological sciences, or geological sciences, respectively).

#### **Internal Transfer Admission**

Internal transfer, entry-level applications submitted to the EVS major through the Jackson School of Geosciences, the College of Liberal Arts, and the College of Natural Sciences are reviewed and admitted as a single cohort. All internal transfer applicants should use the online EVS Program Transfer Application and must meet the requirements for internal transfer given in the General Information.

To be competitive for admission, internal transfer applicants should have a grade point average of at least 3.0 in Biology 311C, Chemistry 301, Mathematics 408C or 408N or 408K, and Geological Sciences 401 or 303.

Additional Information for all internal transfer applicants:

- Application Deadline: March 1st for entry the following academic year.
- Only currently enrolled students in good academic standing with their college of residence may apply.

- Students may apply during the semester they are completing the minimum requirements to be eligible for consideration.
- Entry-level admission to all Environmental Science majors is offered as space is available to the students who are best qualified. Decisions are based on the student's grade point average in the introductory science and math courses listed above, University grade point average, and other factors including, but not limited to, difficulty of course load, course repetitions, proven mathematical ability, and interest in the field of Environmental Science.

Students should consult with an Academic Advisor for additional information on the application process and deadlines.

### **Major Requirements**

#### **BS EVS: Environmental Science**

4. *Cultural expression, human experience, and thought:* Three semester hours of approved coursework. The course must be in a field of study taught in the College of Liberal Arts. A course counted toward any requirement of the core curriculum may not also be counted toward this requirement. A course counted toward the Foreign language/culture requirement, above, may not also be counted toward this requirement.