

## DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ADMISSION AND REGISTRATION SECTION  
IN THE COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES 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 *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 November 5, 2015, 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



Once admitted into a major sequence from entry-level, students who cannot complete core upper division Computer Science courses (C S 429, 439 or 331) with a C- or better within two attempts, can be moved to the Natural Sciences Undeclared major. Symbols of CR, Q, and W count as attempts. A third and final attempt may be granted if the student documents non-academic issues within the same semester the course is taken and is given a non-academic Q drop.

**Rationale:** Students must show they can progress through the major in a timely manner. Having to retake required core upper division computer science courses show that the student will not be able to achieve this goal.

#### The Integrated Program in Computer Science

Application deadline for the Integrated 5-Year BS/MS Program is May 1<sup>st</sup> each spring semester.

**Rationale:** January 2<sup>nd</sup> was removed as it is no longer the deadline to apply to the 5-Year Integrated BS/MS Program.

C S 345 or 345H and 353 – are not a requirement for this degree

**Rationale:** C S 345 or 345H and 353 were left on as requirements by accident. They should have been removed in the 14 -16 catalog as faculty do not want to require them for this degree option.

Add C S 331 – Algorithms as a required course in order to apply for this Program.

**Rationale:** C S 331 is a required core C S course. All students should have this background before beginning eligible for the Program.

#### The Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science

The inclusion of new admissions language details the process whereby students seeking admission to the environmental science major are admitted as a single cohort, as was originally intended when the degree plans were created and approved by THECB. The language also specifies that students are permitted to confirm their selection of the 3 related environmental science degree plans after completing 24 hours in residence.

This allows for a minimum introductory period in which students are expected to complete coursework common to all 3 degree plans, again as originally intended.

#### The Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience, Option I

Remove NEU 335 as an admission requirement. Consequently, reduce the courses required for admission from 6 to

5 courses.

**Rationale:** We would like to admit students after 330 since students will not be able to be given priority access allowing them to enrolling upper-division lab electives if the department waits to admit them after receiving the NEU 335 grades. The change will allow us to admit students to the Neuroscience Cajal Scholars option while they are taking 335.

Remove M 408D, 408M, 427K, and 427L as optional courses to take during admission process to Option I.

**Rationale:** A discussion among the NEU faculty revealed that an understanding of multivariable calculus was only really required for the quantitative methods course, NEU 466M and 366N, which are now both electives. With this change, the mathematics, physics, chemistry, and biology requirements for the BSA (major in Neuroscience) and the BS in Neuroscience (Options I and III) will be identical.

#### The Major in Public Health

Remove PBH 317 in courses taken prior to apply for the major. Instead, conditionally admitted students will be enrolled in PBH 317 during the following semester. Upon completion of PBH 317 with a grade of at least B-, students will be fully admitted to the public health major.

**Rationale:** Completion of the five other courses with a grade point average of 2.75 is a better indicator of future success than also including PBH 317.

Update text to reflect move of the Public Health degree from the Department of Molecular Biosciences to the School of Human Ecology.

**Rationale:** The BS in Public Health is moving from the Department of Molecular Biosciences to the School of Human Ecology, effective Fall 2016, due to the interdisciplinary nature of the degree and its kinship with nutritional sciences.

Alter the last paragraph. Option I students apply to Option III during the sixth semester. Option III students must follow the admission schedule and policies of the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at Houston.

**Rationale:** The application process evolved in the first few years of the program. Updating this paragraph to

match current practices.

**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 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?  
If yes, then how? Yes  No   
  
CS: There should be fewer students admitted to the CS major with these changes in admissions requirements. The students who are not admitted will need to make other major choices.  
EVS: This degree is jointly managed and awarded by 3 colleges: College of Natural Sciences, College of Liberal Arts, and Jackson School of Geosciences
- 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?  
CS: A maximum of 25 students per year may be denied from the major, and would need to locate another major. These students will be distributed between the other majors in Natural Sciences and majors in other colleges.
- 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.**

How many students do you expect to be impacted? CS: A maximum of 25 students per year may be denied from the major, and would need to locate another major. These students will be distributed between the other majors in Natural Sciences and majors in other colleges.

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

Person communicated with:

Date of communication:

Response:

How many students do you expect to be impacted? EVS: Approximately 160-180 environmental science majors across the College of Natural Sciences, the College of Liberal Arts, and the Jackson School of Geosciences.

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

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: No.

##### **5. COLLEGE/SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS**

Department approval date: Entry-Level and Computer Science: March 4, 2015

Environmental Science: May 6, 2015

Neuroscience: May 20, 2015 and September 16, 2015

Public Health: August 12, 2015

College approval date: Entry-Level and Computer Science: May 20, 2015

Environmental Science: September 2, 2015

Neuroscience: September 23, 2015

Public Health: September 23, 2015

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

##### **PROPOSED NEW CATALOG TEXT:**

###### **Admission Policies of the College**

[no changes]

###### **Freshman Admission**

[no changes]

###### **Internal Transfer**

[no changes]

###### **External Transfer**

[no changes]

###### **The Entry-Level Major**

All new freshman and transfer students are admitted into the College of Natural Sciences in an entry-level major. After completing a specified set of entry-level mathematics and science courses required for the degree with a grade of at least C- in each course, students are admitted to the major and option they plan to pursue

unless the major or option has special admission-to-major requirements. The computer science entry-level major is restricted to students who are admitted to that major by the Office of Admissions.

~~Students who wish to pursue computer science but who were not admitted to the entry level major by the Office of Admissions must have a minimum overall grade point average of 2.50 in residence at the University to transfer into the entry level major. If a student completes transfer courses approved as substitutes for the entry level courses, he or she may also count the grades of the approved substitutes toward the minimum overall grade point average of 2.50 for admission into the entry level major. A student who is not admitted may submit an appeal to the department for consideration.~~

### **Adding a Simultaneous Major or Changing Majors**

[no changes]

### **Admission-to-Major Requirements**

#### **The Major in Computer Science**

Several programs are available to undergraduates who wish to major in computer science. Each program involves an admission process in addition to the student's application for admission to the University. All students may apply to the University as entry-level computer science majors and later seek admission to one of the computer science programs as described in this section; those seeking admission to the Turing Scholars program may also apply to that program when they apply for admission to the University. ~~Students who were not admitted to the entry level major by the Office of Admissions must have a minimum overall grade point average of 2.50 in residence at the University to transfer into the entry level major. A student who is not admitted may submit an appeal to the department for consideration.~~

Admission requirements for the Bachelor of Arts with a major in computer science, the Bachelor of Science and Arts with a major in computer science, the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, option I, and the Integrated Program are given below. Those for the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, option II, Turing Scholars honors, and option III, computer science honors, are given in Academic Policies and Procedures.

#### **Bachelor of Arts; the Bachelor of Science and Arts; and the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, Option I and V**

To apply for admission to the Bachelor of Arts with a major in computer science, the Bachelor of Science and Arts with a major in computer science, or the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, option I and option V degree programs, the student must earn a grade of at least C- in each of three entry-level courses: Computer Science 311 or 311H, Computer Science 312 ~~or 312H~~, and 314 or 314H. A student may attempt two of the three entry-level courses no more than twice. The third course may be attempted only once. Symbols of CR, Q, and W count as course attempts.

It is recommended that he or she complete all of the entry-level courses in residence at the University. However, he or she may request that transfer courses taken prior to enrollment at the University of Texas at Austin be approved as substitutes for the entry-level courses. Upon enrollment at the University of Texas at Austin, all remaining entry-level courses must be taken in residence. The letter grades for approved transfer courses will be used in combination with entry-level courses taken in residence to calculate the grade point average required for admission to the major. He or she must earn a grade point average of at least 2.75 in the three entry-level courses taken in residence or out of residence, and a grade point average of at least 2.00 in all courses taken in residence.

~~A student who is not admitted to the major may submit an appeal to the department for consideration. If the appeal is approved, the student may enroll once in CS 429. If the student makes a grade of at least B-, he or she will be admitted to the major to which he or she applied. These requirements apply to entry level computer science students seeking admission to the Bachelor of Arts major in Computer Science, the Bachelor of Science and Arts major in Computer Science, and the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, option I and option V.~~

Students are evaluated after the end of each fall semester, spring semester, and summer session by the Department of Computer Science Admission Committee. Students should consult advisers in the College of Natural Sciences Department of Computer Science for information about admission to the major.

A student admitted to the major who cannot complete CS 429, 439, and 331 with grades of at least a C- within two attempts may be removed from the major and placed into the natural sciences undeclared major. Symbols of CR, Q, or W from the university count as course attempts. A third and final attempt may be granted if the student is given a non-academic drop or non-academic withdrawal during the semester in which the course is taken.

### **The Integrated Program in Computer Science**

The Integrated Program is a curriculum of undergraduate and graduate coursework that allows the student to earn the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and the Master of Science in Computer Science, the Master of Science in Information Studies, or the Master of Science in Computational Science, Engineering, and Mathematics degrees at the same time. The integrated Master of Science in Computer Science includes the same coursework as the traditional master's degree program, as well as the opportunity for research. The integrated Master of Science in Information Studies allows students to choose a pathway for completing a capstone and electronic portfolio comprised of a professional experience project, a master's report, or a thesis. The integrated Master of Science in Computational Science, Engineering, and Mathematics includes the same coursework as the traditional computational sciences, engineering and mathematics master's degree program and also offers opportunity for research.

Students in the Integrated Program are expected to become leaders in the profession. Highly motivated students with the personal qualities and intellectual capacity to establish successful careers in higher education and industry are encouraged to apply.

Undergraduates typically follow option I, II, or III for their first three years, then enter the Integrated Program in their fourth year. Admission is granted only for the fall semester; ~~January 2~~ May 1st is the application deadline for those who wish to begin the program the following fall. By the end of the spring semester in which they apply, students must have completed at least sixty semester hours of coursework, including Computer Science 429 or 429H, 439 or 439H, and 331 or 331H ~~345 or 345H, 429 or 429H, and 353.~~

Admission is based on the applicant's grade point average, letters of recommendation, statement of purpose, and SAT Reasoning Test or ACT scores, as well as other relevant examples of academic ability and leadership. An applicant with a University grade point average of less than 3.50 is unlikely to be admitted. Admission may be restricted by the availability of instructional resources. Application materials and information about deadlines are published by the Department of Computer Science, available at <http://www.cs.utexas.edu/>.

Before beginning the fifth year, students in the Integrated Program must be admitted to the Graduate School and the graduate program in the Department of Computer Science, the School of Information, or the Institute of Computational Science, Engineering, and Mathematics. Application forms must be completed by January 2 of the student's fourth year. Before the application deadline, students must have completed the prescribed work common to all Bachelor of Science in Computer Science options. They must earn an acceptable score on the Graduate Record Examinations General Test (GRE) and must have their test scores reported to the University. Students usually take the GRE in the fall semester of their fourth year.

### **The Coordinated program in Dietetics**

[No changes]

### **The Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science**

~~Students must be admitted to the Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science degree program; they may apply for admission after completing the following requirements:~~

The student must earn a grade of at least *C* in Biology 311C, Chemistry 301, Mathematics 408C or 408N; and a grade of at least *B* in Geological Sciences 401 or 303. To be competitive for admission, the student must have a grade point average of at least 2.75 in these four courses.

Applications are evaluated after the end of each fall and spring semester. Students whose applications are denied may reapply through the supplemental admission process the following semester. Admission decisions are based on the student's grade point average in the basic sequence courses, his or her University grade point average, and other factors; these factors include, but are not limited to, the difficulty of the student's course load, course repetitions, and proven mathematical ability. Students should consult advisers in the College of Natural Sciences Transitional Advising Center (TRAC) for information about the application process and application deadlines.

More information about the degree program is given in Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science.

### **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 major 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 the General Information Catalog.

### **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.

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 (geological sciences, geographical sciences, or biological 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.

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 (geological sciences, geographical sciences, or biological 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 Catalog.

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.

### **The Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience, Option I**

Prior to applying for admission to the Bachelor of Science in Neuroscience, option I, degree program, the student must earn a grades of at least *B-* in Neuroscience 330 ~~or 365R, and 335.~~ Neuroscience 330 ~~or 365R, and 335~~ must be taken in residence. The student must also complete any of the four following courses, with grades of at least *C-*: Biology 311C, 311D, 315H, 325H; Chemistry 301, 301H, 302, 302H, and 204; Mathematics 408C, ~~408D, 408N, 408S, 408M, 427K, and 427L;~~ and Physics 301, 316, 303K, 303L, 317K, and 317L. To be competitive for admission, the student should have a combined grade point average of at least 3.00 in the ~~six~~ five courses required for admission. ~~Entry level majors are encouraged to take Neuroscience 330 in the fall of their first year, and Neuroscience 335 in the spring of their first year.~~

To apply, the student should consult advisers in the Center for First-Year Advising for information about the application process and deadlines. Applications are evaluated after the end of each fall and spring semester by the Department of Neuroscience. Students whose applications are denied may reapply twice through the supplemental admission process. Admission decisions are based on a number of factors including, but not limited to, the student's grade point average, course load difficulty, and written statement about their commitment to a future in the field of neuroscience.

### **The Major in Public Health**

To apply for admission to the public health degree program, the student must have earned a grade of at least *C-* in Biology 311C and 311D or 315H; Chemistry 301 or 301H and 302 or 302H; and Mathematics 408C or 408N; ~~and a grade of at least *B-* in Public Health 317.~~ To be competitive for admission, the student must have a grade point average of at least 2.75 in these ~~six~~ five courses. Students who satisfy these requirements are conditionally admitted to the major, and are registered in Public Health 317 in the following semester. Students must earn a grade of at least *B-* to be fully admitted to the major.

Applications are evaluated after the end of each fall and spring semester. Students whose applications are denied may reapply through the supplemental admission process the following semester. Admission decisions are based on the student's grade point average in the basic sequence courses, his or her University grade point average, and other factors; these factors include, but are not limited to, the difficulty of the student's course load, course repetitions, and proven mathematical ability. Students should consult advisers in the College of Natural Sciences Center for First-Year Advising for information about the application process and application deadlines.

Students who plan to follow option II, public health honors, must be admitted to the Dean's Scholars Honors Program.

To apply for admission to option III, the student must already be admitted to option I. The option I student may apply for admission to option III upon completion of the ~~fourth~~ sixth semester with a grade point average of at least 3.40. The ~~eligible option I student may apply to option III~~ student follows and the Master of Public Health program following the admission schedule and policies of the School of Public Health at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at Houston. ~~The application is typically completed during the fifth semester of the Bachelor of Science in Public Health, Option I. Admission to option III requires approval by the Department of Molecular Biosciences at the University of Texas at Austin and the School of Public Health at the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at Houston at the Austin Regional campus.~~

**The Major in Textiles and Apparel**

[no changes]