

DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

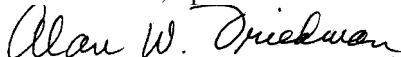
PROPOSED CHANGES TO EVIDENCE AND INQUIRY CERTIFICATE IN THE COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES CHAPTER IN THE *UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG 2018-2020*

Dean Linda A. Hicke in the College of Natural Sciences has filed with the Secretary of the Faculty Council the following proposal to change the Evidence and Inquiry certificate in the College of Natural Sciences chapter in the *Undergraduate Catalog, 2018-2020*. On November 17, 2016, the Evidence and Inquiry Steering Committee approved the proposal, and on September 20, 2017, the Course and Curriculum Committee and Associate Dean David Vanden Bout, on behalf of Dean Hicke, approved it. The Secretary has classified this proposal as legislation of exclusive interest to one college or school.

The Committee on Undergraduate Degree Program Review recommended approval of the proposal on December 14, 2017, and forwarded it 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 March 8, 2018.



Alan W. Friedman, Secretary of the General Faculty and Faculty Council
The University of Texas at Austin

Arthur J. Thaman and Wilhelmina Doré Thaman Professor of English and Comparative Literature

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO EVIDENCE AND INQUIRY CERTIFICATE IN THE COLLEGE OF
NATURAL SCIENCES CHAPTER IN THE UNDERGRADUATE CATALOG 2018-2020**

Type of Proposal: New Certificate Program
 Change an Existing Certificate Program
 Delete a Program

Note: If the certificate program proposed for addition or change includes a requirement of 21 to 24 semester credit hours, an additional form is required for THECB approval/notification.

Proposed classification: Exclusive General Major

1. IF THE ANSWER TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IS YES, THE COLLEGE MUST CONSULT LINDA DICKENS, DIRECTOR OF ACCREDITATION AND ASSESSMENT, TO DETERMINE IF SACSCOC APPROVAL IS REQUIRED.

- Is this a new transcript-recognized certificate program? Yes No
- Is this a request to delete an existing transcript-recognized certificate program? Yes No
- Does the certificate offer courses that will be taught off campus? Yes No
- Will courses in this program be delivered electronically? Yes No
- Will courses be developed specifically for the new certificate? Yes No

2. 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> NSC 109 (Topic 4) and NSC 323 (Topic 1) to replace two unnumbered topic offerings. |
| <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) | |

3. 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 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?

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

Person communicated with:

Date of communication:

Response:

4. **OFFICIAL CERTIFICATE NAME:** Evidence and Inquiry 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 (Note: If the number of required hours is 21 to 24, THECB form is required):** Twenty-two
10. **LIST FACULTY ON THE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM FACULTY COMMITTEE.**

Name of Faculty Member	College/Department	Title at UT Austin	Highest Degree and Awarding Institution
Huk, Alex. Director	CNS / Neuroscience	Assoc Professor	PhD, Stanford
Aldrich, Richard*	CNS / Neuroscience	Professor	PhD, Stanford
Buskirk, Ruth	CNS / Biology Ins Ofc	Sr. Lecturer	PhD, U of California, Davis
Carlson, Caryn*	COLA / Psychology	Professor	PhD, U of Georgia
Carter, Mia*	COLA / English	Assoc Professor	PhD, U of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
Colgin, Laura*	CNS / Neuroscience	Asst Professor	PhD, U of California, Irvine
Dailey, René*	Moody / Comm Studs	Assoc Professor	PhD, U of Calif, Santa Barbara
De Lozanne, Arturo*	CNS / Molecular Bio.	Assoc Professor	PhD, Stanford
Garza, Thomas*	COLA / Slavic & Eur.	Assoc Professor	EdD, Harvard
Gleason, Marci*	CNS / HDFS	Asst Professor	PhD, New York U
González-Martin, Rachel*	COLA / Mex Amer Studies	Asst Professor	PhD, Indiana U
Jellison, Judith*	Fine Arts / Music	Professor	PhD, Florida State U
Mauk, Mike*	CNS / Neuroscience	Professor	PhD, Stanford
Roberts, Brian*	COLA / Government	Professor	PhD, Washington U
Roberts-Miller, Patricia*	COLA / Rhetoric	Professor	PhD, U of California, Berkeley
Roux, Stanley*	CNS / Molecular Bio.	Professor	PhD, Yale
Sadun, Lorenzo*	CNS / Mathematics	Professor	PhD, U of California, Berkeley
Schnyer, Rosa*	School of Nursing	Clin Asst Prof	DAOM, Oregon College of Acupuncture & Oriental Med
Scott, Mike	CNS / Computer Sci	Sr Lecturer	MS, Rensselaer

11. ACADEMIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Use this table to identify the courses that qualify for this certificate program.

Course Abbreviation and Number	Course Title	SCH
NSC 109, Topic 4	<i>Topic 4: Polymathic Field Invention</i>	1
NSC 323, Topic 1	<i>Topic 1: Polymathic Capstone Thesis Preparation Seminar # NSC 109, Topic 4</i>	3

12. OTHER CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS: N/A

13. GIVE A DETAILED RATIONALE FOR CHANGE(S): The faculty administering the certificate created NSC 109 (Capstone Field Invention) to address issues that students were having in developing a focus for their interests. The purpose of the course is to help students focus and combine some of their top intellectual interests, identify and consult with faculty with relevant expertise regarding useful courses, and write a cogent description and defense of their Capstone field of study. The course has proven extremely useful in helping students refine their field and improve their writing, in preparation for taking the four courses that will ultimately define their field of study.

The faculty created NSC 323 (Capstone Thesis Preparation Seminar) after realizing that the 1-hour NSC Capstone preparation seminar of previous years allowed insufficient time for the preliminary research and writing necessary for a substantial honors-level thesis. NSC 323 requires a student to develop a bibliography of scholarly readings and notes to support the thesis, a well-formulated research question of appropriate scope that lends itself to an evidence-based answer, written thesis proposal, identification of a faculty mentor to supervise and support the thesis, and a draft outline of the thesis.

Note: The NSC 109 and NSC 323 numbered topics added to the course inventory have been offered for 4 years as unnumbered topic courses. Thus, these new courses do not increase the instructional budget.

14. COLLEGE/SCHOOL APPROVAL PROCESS:

Department approval date: November 17, 2016

College approval date: September 20, 2017

Dean approval date: September 20, 2017

Evidence and Inquiry steering committee

Course and Curriculum Committee

David Vanden Bout, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education

PROPOSED NEW CATALOG TEXT:

MINOR AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

{no changes up to this point}

Evidence and Inquiry Certificate

The Evidence and Inquiry Certificate, pursued by students in the Polymathic Scholars Program and open by application to others, allows students to design an area of study shaped by questions that require evidence and methodologies outside their major. Students work with faculty [~~and academic consultants~~] to identify interests, map them onto academic disciplines at the University, and determine questions related to those interests that might be answerable by research that combines expertise from at least two disciplines. Students describe their area of study, identify primary questions, name two University of Texas at Austin faculty members with research experience relevant to their field, and justify the courses they would take in a written proposal that must be [~~approved~~] reviewed by a three members [member] of the program's faculty steering committee panel. Students [~~have the opportunity to present~~] complete an original research [~~project~~] thesis in their final year a

~~[capstone seminar]~~. Those who plan to pursue the certificate ~~[should]~~ must apply ~~[to the program for admission]~~ no later than the end of their third long semester. More information about the Evidence and Inquiry Certificate is available on the College of Natural Sciences website.

The certificate program requires ~~[48]~~ twenty-two semester hours of coursework, including at least ~~nine~~ eleven hours completed in residence. Students must meet the following requirements:

1. Undergraduate Studies 303 (Topic: Originality in the Arts and Sciences) or another critical thinking or research methods substitute course for students who apply for admission after completing a signature course
~~Critical thinking or research methods course from an approved list available from the adviser. The approved list may include Undergraduate Studies 303, (One of the following subjects: *Originality in the Arts and Sciences*; *Research Methods*; or *Critical Thinking for the 21st Century*). Other subjects or courses may be eligible for substitution by petition.~~
2. Natural Sciences 109 (Topic 4: Polymathic Field Invention)
~~Four additional courses, including at least six semester hours of upper-division coursework, from the student's approved evidence and inquiry area of study~~
3. Four additional courses, including at least six semester hours of upper-division coursework, from the student's approved evidence and inquiry area of study
~~Senior Capstone Seminar: Natural Sciences 371~~
4. Senior Capstone Sequence: Natural Sciences 323 (Topic 1: Polymathic Capstone Thesis Preparation Seminar) and Natural Sciences 371

In the College of Natural Sciences, the Evidence and Inquiry Certificate may be used to complement any major. Some certificate courses will also fulfill degree requirements established by the student's major department and are given later in this section; however, some of the ~~[48]~~ twenty-two hours required for the certificate may be in addition to the number of hours required for the degree.