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# University Course Review Committee

**Minutes**

**Meeting # 265**

# November 22, 2013 Tobin Room, Knight Hall

# 1:00 PM

Present: Bruce Cameron, Dave Micus, Audrey Shalinsky, David Whitman, Mary Alice Bruce, Peter Moran, Brian Barber

## Part I – Course Modifications (Consent Agenda)

* ***College of Agriculture and Natural Resources***

**MOLB**

**2240 MEDICAL MICROBIOLOGY, 5 hrs.**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Designed primarily for nursing and pre-pharmacy majors. Introduces microbiology, including the diversity of prokaryotic and eukryotic microbes, their structural and physiological properties, and their applied medical significance. Covers the basic principles of the immune system and emphasizes the communicable diseases of man caused by microbial pathogens.

*Prerequisites:* LIFE 1010.

***Requested Change of Credit Hours and Course Description:*** 4 hrs.

Designed primarily for nursing and pre-pharmacy majors. Introduces microbiology, including the diversity of prokaryotic and eukryotic microbes, their structural and physiological properties, and their applied medical significance. Covers the basic principles of the immune system and emphasizes the communicable diseases of man caused by microbial pathogens. Normallly offered spring semester.

*Prerequisites:* LIFE 1010.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

* ***College of Arts and Sciences***

**AAST**

**4546 AGRICULTURE: ROOTED IN DIVERSITY, 3 hrs. [CD]**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Addresses multiple themes related to diversity in agriculture with the goal of making visible the experiences of minorities and women in agriculture. Involves significant independent research, class discussion, project development, and development of oral and written communication skills. Establishes linkages with supporting disciplines. Cross listed with ENGL/AGRI/AIST/CHST/FCSC/HIST/AMST 4546.

Prerequisites: junior class standing or consent of instructor and concurrent enrollment or major in any of the following: Ethnic studies, Agriculture, American Studies, Anthropology, English, History, Sociology, or Women's Studies.

***Requested Change of Cross-List:*** remove AAST cross-list (offered by AGRI).

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**CHEM**

**1000 INTRODUCTORY CHEMISTRY, 4 hrs.**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Deals with principles of chemistry and some applications to inorganic chemistry. For students in family and consumer sciences, nursing, education, general arts and sciences and most agriculture curricula. Students who have credit in CHEM 1020 or 1050 may not receive duplicate credit for this course. Laboratory: 3 hours per week.

*Prerequisites:* ACT math score of 23 or above.

***Requested Change of Prerequisites:*** Deals with principles of chemistry and some applications to inorganic chemistry. For students in family and consumer sciences, nursing, education, general arts and sciences and most agriculture curricula. Students who have credit in CHEM 1020 or 1050 may not receive duplicate credit for this course. Laboratory: 3 hours per week.

*Prerequisite*: Minimum grade of C in MATH 0925, or level 3 on the MPE, or ACT math score of 23 or above.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**COJO/AAST**

**4160/5160 AFRICAN AMERICAN RHETORIC, 3 hrs [CHD].**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites*:** African American discourse and its relationship to equality and participation. Using the struggle of African Americans as an instructive exemplar, it comes to terms with the philosophical concepts, political issues, moral complexities, and discursive characteristics of African American rhetoric. Dual listed with AAST 5160; cross listed with COJO 4160.

*Prerequisites:* AAST 1000 or any AAST 2000-level course, junior or senior standing, or nine credit hours in any level COJO course.

***Requested Change of Course Description:*** African American discourse and its relationship to equality and participation. Through examination of various media, music, speeches, and art this course uses the struggle of African Americans as an instructive exemplar, to come to terms with the philosophical concepts, political issues, moral complexities, and discursive characteristics of African American Rhetoric.

*Prerequisites:* AAST 1000 or any AAST 2000-level course, junior or senior standing, or nine credit hours in any level COJO course.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**HIST**

**3710 GENDER: HUMANITIES FOCUS, 3 hrs. [CH]**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Explores how men and women are imaged differently, studying the influence of representation on gender (including representations in literature, film, art, popular culture, and/or performance). Sharpens students' ability to analyze texts and images and investigate those texts' messages about gender, sexuality, ethnicity and class. Cross listed with ENGL/ART/WMST 3710.

*Prerequisite:* WMST 1080 or ENGL 1010.

***Requested Change of Cross-List:*** Remove HIST cross-list (offered by WMST).

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**MUSC**

**1417 LARAMIE CIVIC CHORUS I, 1 hr (Max 12).**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:***Welcomes students, faculty, and community members. Repertoire includes musical works from a multiplicity of style periods and genres in both Western and non-Western traditions and includes regular collaboration with the UW Symphony Orchestra for major choral works. No audition necessary. *Prerequisites:* none.

***Requested Change of Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Welcomes students, faculty, and community members. Repertoire includes musical works from a multiplicity of style periods and genres in both Western and non-Western traditions and includes regular collaboration with the UW Symphony Orchestra for major choral works. *Prerequisites:* Audition required.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**MUSC**

**3417** **LARAMIE CIVIC CHORUS II, 1 hr (Max 12).**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Welcomes students, faculty, and community members. Repertoire includes musical works from a multiplicity of style periods and genres in both Western and non-Western traditions and includes regular collaboration with the UW Symphony Orchestra for major choral works. Students may be asked to take on leadership roles. No audition necessary.

*Prerequisites:* Junior standing or above.

***Requested Change of Course Description and Prerequisites***: Welcomes students, faculty, and community members. Repertoire includes musical works from a multiplicity of style periods and genres in both Western and non-Western traditions and includes regular collaboration with the UW Symphony Orchestra for major choral works. Students may be asked to take on leadership roles.

*Prerequisites:* Junior standing or above. Audition required.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**MUSC**

**5817** **LARAMIE CIVIC CHORUS III, 0.5 hrs (Max 12).**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Welcomes students, faculty, and community members. Repertoire includes musical works from a multiplicity of style periods and genres in both Western and non-Western traditions and includes regular collaboration with the UW Symphony Orchestra for major choral works. Students may be asked to take on leadership roles. No audition necessary.

*Prerequisites:* Graduate standing.

***Requested Change of Course Description and Prerequisites***: Welcomes students, faculty, and community members. Repertoire includes musical works from a multiplicity of style periods and genres in both Western and non-Western traditions and includes regular collaboration with the UW Symphony Orchestra for major choral works. Students may be asked to take on leadership roles.

*Prerequisites:* Graduate standing. Audition required.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**THEA**

**2145 COSTUME CONSTRUCTION, 3 hrs. Lecture.**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Hands-on, teaches the basic skills and terminology that are used in costume construction. Learn hand and machine sewing focusing on techniques used to stitch historical and modern costumes as well as basic knowledge of fabric.

*Prerequisites:* none.

***Requested change of Activity Type:*** Studio.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**THEA**

**2150 DRAFTING FOR DESIGN, 3 hrs. Lecture.**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Introduces Design and Technical students to the basics of hand drafting and numerous drafting techniques and conventions. After completing this course, students are well prepared for scenic and lighting design courses.

*Prerequisite:* THEA 1200.

***Requested change of Activity Type:*** Studio.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**THEA**

**2220 STAGECRAFT, 3 hrs. Lecture.**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Studies basic skills and techniques used in building scenery for the academic and professional stage. Includes rigging, carpentry, scenic painting, elementary scenic design and basic stage lighting. Requires lab each semester in the Scene Shop between 1-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

***Requested change of Activity Type:*** Studio.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**THEA**

**3810 SCENE DESIGN, 3 hrs. Lecture.**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Applies graphic design to scenic design commencing in drop point perspective, designer's elevations and scenic design rendering. Requires practical work on theatre productions.

*Prerequisites:* THEA 2150.

***Requested change of Activity Type:*** Studio.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**THEA**

**4850 STAGE COSTUMING II, 3 hrs. Lecture.**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Explores costume design, emphasizing various rendering techniques. Emphasis is placed on the portfolio.

*Prerequisite:* THEA 3820.

***Requested change of Activity Type:*** Studio.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

* ***College of Business***

**MGT**

**3210 MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION, 3 hrs.**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites*:** An introduction to the theory and practice of management with emphasis on individual and small group behavior, design and structure of organizations, relationship between the organization and its environment and statistical and quantitative skills used in examination of management processes. Also covers interpersonal communications, ethics and international management. Prerequisite: junior standing.

***Requested Change of Prerequisites:*** An introduction to the theory and practice of management with emphasis on individual and small group behavior, design and structure of organizations, relationship between the organization and its environment and statistical and quantitative skills used in examination of management processes. Also covers interpersonal communications, ethics and international management. Prerequisite: sophomore standing.

**Action Taken: Removed from consent agenda and tabled pending clarification on renumbering the course**.

**MKT**

**3210 INTRODUCTION TO MARKETING, 3 hrs.**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** An investigation of the marketing discipline with emphasis on vocabulary; principles; functional interrelationships; marketing strategies, practices and problems in national and international environments.

*Prerequisite:* junior standing.

***Requested Change of Prerequisites:*** An investigation of the marketing discipline with emphasis on vocabulary; principles; functional interrelationships; marketing strategies, practices and problems in national and international environments.

*Prerequisite:* sophomore standing.

**Action Taken: Removed from consent agenda and tabled pending clarification on renumbering the course**.

* ***College of Education***

**ADED/ITEC**

**5090 MASTERS CAPSTONE, 4 hrs.**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Capstone is designed to provide a forum in which to apply theories, principles, and skills to the kinds of situations adult educators may encounter in practice. It provides a vehicle to document the successful completion of general and degree specific competencies and to examine and critique current scholarship in adult education. Students complete the requirements of the Plan B process.

*Prerequisite:* must have completed or be concurrently completing course work for ALT master’s degree.

***Requested Change of Hours, Course Description, and Prerequisites:*** 3 hrs. Provides exposure to situations students will likely encounter professionally. It establishes a forum where students apply and refine theories, principles, and skills learned during their programs. Students examine and critique current scholarship and document general and degree specific competencies.

*Prerequisite:* Check with advisor and complete required sequence of courses for Educational Administration (Adult and Postsecondary Education) or Instructional Technology masters degree programs prior to enrollment.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**ITEC**

**5320 VISUAL LITERACY, 3 hrs.**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Visual literacy refers to a group of vision-competencies a human being can develop by seeing, and at the same time, integrating with other sensory experiences. Concerned with techniques for developing these competencies and methods by which such development can be encouraged in others.

*Prerequisites:* graduate standing.

***Requested Change of Course Title and Course Description:***

**MESSAGE DESIGN, 3hrs.**

Introduces theoretical framework and skills necessary to evaluate and create visual representations of information. Topics of application include visual literacy, learning theories, instructional design, instructional technology, and information presentation.

*Prerequisites:* graduate standing.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

* ***College of Engineering***

**ATSC**

**4400/5400 PHYSICAL BASIS OF CLIMATE, 3 hrs.**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Global atmospheric and oceanic circulations, radiation balance, water balance and hydrologic cycle, energy balance, energy and moisture transport, evaporation and evapotranspiration, energetic processes, and theories of climate change. Dual listed with ATSC 4400.

*Prerequisite*: MATH 2200, PHYS 1310, and CHEM 1020.

***Requested Change of Course Description, Course Title, Prerequisites, Course Number, and Removal of Dual List:***

**ATSC 5040**

**CLIMATE SCIENCE AND CLIMATE CHANGE, 3 hrs.**

Global climate system components, and their interactions. Radiative, dynamic, thermodynamic, chemical, and feedback processes affecting the climate system. Natural and anthropogenic drivers of climate change. Past and present climate variability and sensitivity, and its simulation. Structure of climate models, their components, parameterizations, and attributes. Current climate modeling results and predictions of future climate.

*Prerequisites:* ATSC 5001, ATSC 5002, ATSC 5100, or consent of instructor.

**Action Taken:** Approved with a friendly amendment to remove “consent of instructor” language from prerequisites.

## Part II – Courses to Discontinue (Consent Agenda)

* ***College of Arts and Sciences***

**AAST/HIST**

**3120 AFRICA SINCE 1800, 3 hrs.**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites*:** Survey of African history from the onset of the 19th century to the present day. Designed to provide an introduction to the main historical themes of the African past and an understanding of some of the main issues confronting Africa today. Cross listed with HIST 3120.

*Prerequisite:* AAST 1000 or any AAST 2000-level course, or AAST/HIST 2360.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**AAST**

**3400 THE ORIGINS OF AFRICAN AMERICA, 3 hrs.**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Deals with the introduction of slavery into sugar plantations off the coast of West Africa in the 15th Century, CE; the Atlantic slave trade; the development of plantation societies in the "New World;" the Haitian Revolution; and the end of the legal slave trade to Anglophone America.

*Prerequisites:* AAST 1000 or 3 hours of history; and WA.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**AAST**

**3450 THE EMERGENCE OF AFRICAN AMERICA, 3 hrs.**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Looks, comparatively, at the slavery experience in sugar, cotton, rice, tobacco, and coffee cultures; the evolution of African American culture and society; the end of slavery; and the post-emancipation experience.

*Prerequisites:* AAST 1000 or 3 hours of history; and WA.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**AAST/COJO**

**4231 MINORITY MEDIA OWNERSHIP, 3 hrs. [CSD]**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Examines ethnic-owned media organizations in the United States. The course addresses African American, Latino, Asian, Native American as well as Arab American owned media. We examine the markets and audiences that ethnic owned media serve and the implications of regulatory, economical, and technological changes in the media industry. Cross listed with COJO 4231.

*Prerequisite:* AAST 1000 or any AAST 2000 level course, junior/senior standing, or nine credits in any level COJO course.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**MATH**

**1305 BITSTREAMS & DIGITAL DREAMS, 3 hrs. [I]**

***Current Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Introduction to information theory, coding theory and cryptology. Principles and practice of quantifying, compressing, encrypting, decrypting and protecting digital information from transmission errors or unauthorized human access. Emphasis on historical and current applications rather than on mathematical foundations.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

## Part III – Courses for Addition (Regular Agenda)

* ***College of Arts and Sciences***

**BOT**

**4360 MUSHROOMS OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS, 3 hrs.**

***Proposed Course Description and Prerequisites*:** A broad introduction to the biology of mushrooms, with emphasis on identification, ecology, and safety for consumption. Lab emphasizes learning major mushroom families and genera and their features, use of keys and manuals, and mushroom collection with a Wyoming and Rocky Mountain focus.

*Prerequisites*: LIFE 2023 or equivalent.

***Justification*:** This newly proposed course is part of a planned renovation of the mycology program in the Department of Botany. It is supported substantively by the Life Sciences--Ecology Areas of Academic Distinction outlined in both University Plans 3 & 4 and by the Major Academic Issues: ENR-related programs and the Biodiversity Institute, Diversity in STEM disciplines, outlined in University Plan 4. In addition, this is a laboratory course with a strong outdoors field component, and contributes greatly to the success of the vision of the Biodiversity Institute.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**HIST**

**4305/5305 GLOBAL HISTORY:, 3 hrs.**

***Proposed Course Description and Prerequisites*:** Thematically focused examinations of interactions or parallel phenomena in multiple world regions. Courses may be comparative (comparing two empires, or multiple revolutions), or may examine the growth of a particular trend globally (e. g. abolition of slavery), or the interaction of many states (e. g. the Cold War).

*Prerequisites*: Six credits of coursework in History, Global and Area Studies, or Political Science (4305); Graduate student status (5305).

***Justification*:** Global History will be an umbrella course name under which history instructors will teach courses that address a wide variety of thematic content, but focus on interactions between and among different global regions. For example, under this title history faculty could teach a course on the Cold War, examining the ways that this conflict shaped lives, politics, and international relations throughout Europe and Asia, or a course examining the development of slavery and its abolition in the US, Latin America, and Africa. Our history department course offerings almost always are focused on only one geographic area (Europe, Latin America, etc) or more specifically, one country (US, China, Soviet Union). However, as a field, History values the study of cultural, political, and economic interactions globally. This course will provide numerous faculty the opportunity to develop courses that emphasize global and multi-regional interactions in history.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**MATH**

**4970 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN TEACHING, 1 hr.**

***Proposed Course Description and Prerequisites*:** Undergraduate student will assist in classroom and discussion section teaching under the guidance of an instructor in Mathematics. Does not count towards Mathematics degree requirements. Offered Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory only.

*Prerequisites*: Consent of instructor.

***Justification*:** Undergraduate students who are discussion leaders for Math 1000, 2350, and 2355 are being given one credit of Math 4800 Sem: Prof Development in Teaching. This is not what Math 4800 was intended for, and students are able to count this towards a degree in Mathematics, also not appropriate.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

* ***College of Education***

**EDCI**

**4761 LINGUISTICS, SOCIOLINGUISTICS, AND SOCIAL LITERACIES FOR TEACHERS, 3 hrs.**

***Proposed Course Description and Prerequisites*:** Introduces key concepts in linguistics, sociolinguistics, and social literacies that are necessary for understanding and working with children from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds. As such, the course was designed to redirect students' attention from a sole focus on schooled language and literacy to an understanding of the diverse language and literacy knowledges and skills that children bring to school from their own sociocultural contexts.

*Prerequisites*: EDST 2480.

***Justification*:** This course will serve as an undergraduate elective offering for Elementary and Secondary Education students. It will also serve as an elective option for the new literacy minor proposed for Elementary Education majors.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**EDEL**

**2140 TEACHING LITERACY IN THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, 3 hrs.**

***Proposed Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Provides an acquaintance with basic assumptions underlying curriculum and processes in literacy and to give opportunity for selecting and using instructional materials.

*Prerequisites:* ENGL 1010, sophomore standing, admitted into Elementary Education Program

***Justification:*** This course is part of the proposed Literacy Minor for Elementary Education majors. The course is intended to develop content knowledge of a broad range of literacy practices across the elementary years.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**EDEL**

**3710 DISCIPLINARY/GENRE-BASED LITERACY, 3 hrs.**

***Proposed Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Introduction to instruction in genre-specific and disciplinary appropriate literacy practices, with a focus on characteristics of a variety of genres and disciplines and how those characteristics inform appropriate comprehenison instruction.

*Prerequisites:* EDEL 2140

***Justification:*** This course is proposed as part of the Literacy minor for elementary education majors.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**EDEL**

**3720 LITERACY DIFFICULTIES: ASSESSMENT AND INSTRUCTION, 3 hrs.**

***Proposed Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Focuses on the causes of student difficulties with reading and writing and assessment and instruction for students with such difficulties.

*Prerequisites:* EDEL 2140

***Justification:*** This course is proposed as part of the Literacy minor for elementary education majors.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**EDST**

**1230 THE CITIZEN FACTORY: SCHOOLING AND DEMOCRACY IN THE US,**

**3 hrs. [I, L]**

***Proposed Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Introduction to active learning, inquiry of pressing issues, and individual and collaborative processing of ideas through the curriculum, skills which will be reinforced throughout the baccalaureate experience. Open to all, the course appeals to any student with an interest in the public schools or schooling for democracy.

*Prerequisites:* None.

***Justification:*** This course is intended to serve as a pilot for the new first-year seminars proposed in USP 2015. However, as it will be piloted a year before USP 2015 is scheduled to begin, the course must fulfill both the learning outcomes for the new FYS and the current I and L courses to attract students.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**EMAT**

**5500 COLLOQUIUM IN MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, 1-3 hrs (max 12).**

***Proposed Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Provides for a broad perspective on mathematics education through selected reading materials. Students present and discuss ideas and summaries of the assigned reading and, wherever possible, the student collects and uses original information from practical situations. Students participate with selected materials (journal articles, research, manuscripts, conference presentations) for class discussion.

*Prerequisites:* Graduate student status.

***Justification:*** This is a Mathematics Education PhD course that is offered to fill student needs in various aspects such as publishing, researching, presenting at conferences, and other critical topics. This will be offered as a regular part of required courses for Mathematics Ed PhD students.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**EMAT**

**5600 QUANTITATIVE REASONING & MODELING IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE EDUCATION, 3 hrs.**

***Proposed Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Advanced study of theories, issues, research and practices for teaching and learning mathematics and science focused on quantitative reasoning and mathematical modeling (QRaMM). Analysis of fundamental constructs relevant to QRaMM in education. Activities engage the scholarship of critical analysis, and interdisciplinary applications aimed at student knowledge and expertise in QRaMM.

*Prerequisites:* Graduate student status.

***Justification:*** This is a Mathematics Education and Science Education PhD elective course that focuses on quantitative reasoning and modeling in math and science education. This will be offered as a regular part of required courses for Mathematics Ed and Science Ed PhD students.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**EMAT**

**5700 PRINCIPLES & METHODS FOR INTEGRATED TEACHING & LEARNING MATHEMATICS & SCIENCE, 3 hrs.**

***Proposed Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Advanced study of theory, research, and practice for teaching and learning mathematics and science using integrated approaches in curriculum, pedagogy, learning, and assessment. The course will be production oriented, with activities and developments aimed at stimulating and supporting manuscripts to be published in STEM-appropriate venues.

*Prerequisites:* Graduate student status.

***Justification:*** This is a Mathematics Education PhD core course that focuses on integrated teaching and learning in science and mathematics education. This will be offered as a regular part of elective courses for Science Ed and Mathematics Ed PhD students.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**ESCI**

**5600 HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION, 3 hrs.**

***Proposed Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Focuses on key individuals, theories and events of the past century which have contributed to the formation of current views, ideas, theories, and practices in mathematics and science education.

*Prerequisites:* Graduate student status.

***Justification:*** Elective course in the education core requirements for Ph.D. students in the Science and Mathematics Education degree options in Curriculum and Instruction. This course provides students with exposure to historical, social and philosophical perspectives and events that have had significant influence on current educational practices.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**ESCI**

**5630 SCIENCE TEACHER ED & K12 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, 3 hrs.**

***Proposed Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Addresses philosophies, research, theories and current issues related to pre-service science teacher education and in-service science teacher professional development. This course fulfills core requirements in the Science Education PhD program option.

*Prerequisites:* Graduate student status.

***Justification:*** Core course for Ph.D. students in new Science Education PhD option in Curriculum and Instruction. This course will provide foundational information on philosophies, theories and research in science teacher education and K-12 professional development.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

* ***Other***

**ENR**

**1400 BIODIVERSITY: SCIENCE & SOCIETY, 3 hrs [I,L].**

***Proposed Course Description and Prerequisites:*** Biodiversity lays the foundation for nature’s ability to properly function. In turn humans depend on a healthy-functioning natural system. Adequate biodiversity provides us with many things including new genetic material for agriculture, medical discoveries, recreational opportunities and good mental health. This course will examine key themes in our understanding of biodiversity. Students enrolled in this course will have a better understanding of issues, challenges and potential solutions to our current biodiversity crisis. Course meetings will largely consist of group discussions of assigned readings. Discussions will focus on critically evaluating and analyzing information, hypotheses and knowledge that arise from the readings. Writing assignments will emphasize succinct but thorough interpretation of information, policy, conservation and societal impacts of biodiversity.

*Prerequisites:* None.

***Justification:*** The course will provide an entreé to biodiversity studies for first-year students at the University of Wyoming. Thanks to Dr. Brian Barber's hire in the Biodiversity Insitute, we now have the teaching capacity and interest to deliver this course, which we believe will fill an unmet curricular need at UW and in the state. A survey of the scientific and social dimensions of biodiversity could serve students interested in the various natural and physical science fields, environment and natural resources, medicine, and even cultural studies. We believe this course, which is not tethered to any major or minor, could eventually modified and delivered as a freshman seminar. A review of the Wyoming Transfer Catalog indicates that ENR 1400 is not being used in the statewide system. Further review suggests that there are currently no similar introductory biodiversity courses being taught in the community college system under a different number.

**Action Taken:** Approved.

**Part IV – Tabled Courses**

**None at this time.**