



SACRAMENTO
STATE

Form A

Course Change Proposal



Academic Group (College): NSM	Academic Organization (Department): Biological Sciences	Date: October 6, 2008
Type of Course Proposal: New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Change <input type="checkbox"/> Deletion <input type="checkbox"/>	Department Chair: Rose Leigh Vines	Submitted by: Thomas Peavy
Does this course fulfill a requirement for single-subject or multiple subject credential students? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	For Catalog Copy: Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> CCE: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Semester Effective: Fall <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spring <input type="checkbox"/> , 2009

This course replaces experimental course Subject Area (prefix) and Catalog Number (course number):	
This Catalog Number (course number) is being replaced:	

Change from:

Subject Area (prefix) & Catalog No. (course no.):	Title:	Units:
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Change to:

Subject Area (prefix) & Catalog No. (course no.): BIO 502	Title: Master's Project	Units: 2
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JUSTIFICATION:

The Department of Biological Sciences is planning to add a non-thesis Master of Arts degree program to produce students with an advanced understanding of biology and the ability to apply the scientific process to biological problems without the requirement of a thesis. One of our main goals is to serve individuals whose primary motive is for professional career advancement in a biology-related field that do not need a thesis degree program (e.g. teaching, patent law, science journalism, biotechnology, and state agency positions). The coursework requirements for both the MA and MS programs will be identical so as to provide rigorous advanced course preparation (total of 30 units). However, in lieu of research thesis units (BIO 500- Master's Thesis), the culminating requirement for students in the MA program will be a written project based on a research problem in biology under the supervision of a faculty advisor. Thus, we need to establish a new course offering for this culminating project requirement. We propose to use the catalog number BIO 502 and title the course Master's Project.

NEW COURSE DESCRIPTION: (Not to exceed 80 words, and language should conform to catalog copy. See <http://www.csus.edu/acaf/univmanual/crsppl.htm> - Guidelines for Catalog Course Description)

Completion of a written project based on a research problem in biology approved for the Master of Arts degree. Should be taken in final semester prior to the completion of all requirements for the degree. 2 units.

Note:	
Prerequisite: Advanced to candidacy and chair permission of his/her committee.	
Corequisite:	
CAN (California Articulation Number):	
Graded: Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Credit/No Credit <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Instructor Approval Required? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Course Classification (e.g., lecture, lab, seminar, discussion): C-78	Title for SIS+/CMS (not more than 30 characters) Master's Project
Cross Listed? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	If yes, do they meet together and fulfill the same requirement, and what is the other course.
How Many Times Can This Course be Taken for Credit? <input type="checkbox"/> once <input type="checkbox"/>	
Can the course be taken for Credit more than once during the same term? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

FOR NEW COURSE PROPOSALS OR SUBSTANTIVE CHANGES ONLY:

Description of the Expected Learning Outcomes: Describe outcomes using the following format: "Students will be able to: 1), 2), etc."
See the example at <http://www.csus.edu/acaf/example.htm>

Students will be able to:

1. critically evaluate literature.
2. apply the scientific method to address a biological problem.
3. present their research problem in the biological sciences in a written and oral format.

****Attach a list of the required/recommended course readings and activities [Note: it is understood that these are updated and modified as needed by the instructor(s).] This attachment should be forwarded only to your Dean's office, not Academic Affairs.**

Assessment Strategies: A description of the assessment strategies (e.g., portfolios, examinations, performances, pre-and post-tests, conferences with students, student papers) which will be used by the instructor to determine the extent to which students have achieved the learning outcomes noted above:

The student's MA committee will assess whether the student has satisfactorily met the written presentation criteria for the particular written project chosen (e.g. grant proposal or lab project report)

For whom is this course being developed?
 Majors in the Dept Majors of other Depts Minors in the Dept General Education Other
 Is this course required in a degree program (major, minor, graduate degree, certificate)? Yes No
 If yes, identify program(s): Master of Arts

Does the proposed change or addition cause a significant increase in the use of College or University resources (lab room, computer facilities, faculty, etc.)? Yes No
 If yes, attach a description of resources needed and verify that resources are available.

Indicate which department or programs will be affected by the proposed course (if any). _____

The Department Chair's signature below indicates that affected programs have been sent a copy of this proposal form.

Approvals: If proposed change, new course or deletion is approved, sign and date below. If not approved, forward without signing to the next reviewing authority, and attach an explanatory memorandum to the original copy.

Signatures:

	Date
Department Chair: <i>Ron Leff</i>	<i>10/16/08</i>
College Dean or Associate Dean: <i>Laurel Heffernan</i>	<i>10/20/08</i>
CPSP (for school personnel courses ONLY)	
Associate Vice President and Dean for Academic Programs	

Distribution: Academic Affairs (original), Department Chair and College Dean. Dean's office to send original after approval to Academic Affairs, at mail zip 6016. An electronic copy must also be sent.