



SACRAMENTO STATE

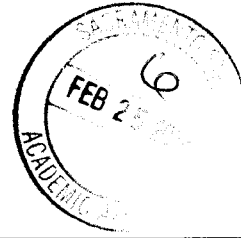
BIOB13-14.004

Faculty Senate Meeting - April 17, 2014

Attachment: FS 13/14-102

Program Proposal

Form B



Academic Group (College): NSM	Date of Submission to College Dean: January 27, 2014
Academic Organization (Department): Biological Sciences	Requested Effective: Fall <u> X </u> , Spring <u> </u> , 2014 <u> </u> .
Department Chair: Jennifer Lundmark	Contact if not Department Chair:
Title of the Program <i>(Please be specific; indicate minor, undergraduate or graduate degree, etc.):</i> Undergraduate program in Biological Sciences	
Type of Program Proposal:	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Modification in Existing Program: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Substantive Change <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Substantive Change <input type="checkbox"/> Deletion of Existing Program <input type="checkbox"/> New Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Initiation (Projection) of New Program on to Master Plan <input type="checkbox"/> New Degree Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Process <input type="checkbox"/> Fast Track Process <input type="checkbox"/> Pilot Process <input type="checkbox"/> New Minor, Concentration, Option, Specialization, Emphasis <input type="checkbox"/> New Certificate Program	
PLEASE NOTE: Form B is to be used only as a Cover Form. Additional information is requested for each of the above as noted in the corresponding procedure in the Policies and Procedures for Initiation, Modification, Review and Approval of Courses and Academic Programs found at http://www.csus.edu/umannual/acad.htm	

Briefly describe the program proposal (new or change) and provide a justification.

Biological Sciences is proposing the following changes to its pre-major requirements:

- Change the minimum acceptable grade in pre-major courses to "C" (presently it is "C-)
- Base the GPA for consideration on the pre-major courses only
- Raise the minimum GPA across the pre-major courses to 2.5

Rationale for each change:

1. Changing the minimum acceptable grade for pre-major courses from "C-" to "C" (this still must be in the first or second attempt at the course) will increase the likelihood that students will be successful in later courses that depend on the information gleaned from these introductory classes. In addition, it will solve the problem of students who earn a "C-" grade in Chem 1A, which presently allows them into the major, but still requires them to repeat Chem 1A (as they need a "C" or better to move to Chem 1B).
2. Calculating the GPA for consideration on "the most recent 30 graded semester units and on any of the courses listed above that were taken prior to the last 30 graded semester units" is confusing to everyone, and in reality, the grades that matter are those in the pre-major courses. Thus, we would like to simplify the process and make it more appropriate for interested students.
3. We are in the process of applying for impaction, as we cannot serve the number of students interested in our program. While gathering information for that application, we came upon several students with pre-major GPAs below 2.5 who were really struggling with our upper division course work. We would like to provide students with a slightly higher "bar" upon admission so that they have a more appropriate understanding of the rigor that faces them.

Approvals:

Department Chair:



Date:

2/19/14

College Dean:



Date:

2/21/14

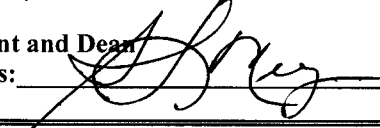
University Committee:



Date:

3/21/14

Associate Vice President and Dean
for Academic Affairs:



Date:

3/24/14

COMPARISON OF NEW AND OLD PROGRAMS

New Program	Old Program
<p>UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS</p> <p>Freshmen interested in the major are admitted as pre-Biological Science majors.</p> <p>To change to the Biological Sciences major, pre-major students are required to complete the following course and grade requirements and submit a Declaration of Major form to the Biological Science Department Office along with transcript copies.</p> <p>1) Completion of the following lower division "pre-major" courses with a "C" or better. Only first or second attempt will be considered.</p> <p align="center">BIO 1, BIO 2, CHEM 1A, STAT 1, ENG 1A (or equivalent)</p> <p>2) Overall GPA of 2.5 based on the pre-major courses listed above.</p> <p>3) Minimum of 30 units completed at the college level.</p> <p>Requirements - Bachelor of Arts Degree</p> <p>Units required for Major: 62-66 Minimum total units required for the BA: 120</p> <p><i>Courses in parentheses are prerequisites.</i></p>	<p>UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS</p> <p>Freshmen interested in the major are admitted as pre-Biological Science majors.</p> <p>To change to the Biological Sciences major, pre-major students are required to complete the following course and grade requirements and submit a Declaration of Major form to the Biological Science Department Office along with transcript copies.</p> <p>1) Completion of the following lower division "pre-major" courses with a "C-" or better. Only first or second attempt will be considered.</p> <p align="center">BIO 1, BIO 2, CHEM 1A, STAT 1, ENG 1A (or equivalent)</p> <p>2) Overall GPA of 2.3 based on the most recent 30 graded semester units and on any of the courses listed above that were taken prior to the last 30 graded semester units.</p> <p>3) Minimum of 30 units completed at the college level.</p> <p>Requirements - Bachelor of Arts Degree</p> <p>Units required for Major: 62-66 Minimum total units required for the BA: 120</p> <p><i>Courses in parentheses are prerequisites.</i></p>