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FACULTY SENATE
CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
Course Approval Form

Department Life Sciences and Philosophy/Religion
Title "Evolution and Creation"
Sponsor(s) Dr. Landecker & Mr. MacIntire No. of Credits 3

Approved by the department Graduate ()
Not recommended by the department Undergraduate (x)

Information copies forwarded: Academic Dean; Chairman; Curriculum Committee

Signature: Department Chairman Roger Rainist, Life Sciences
Signature: John Whitcraft
Philosophy/Religion

ACADEMIC DEAN

Consultation on proposal has been held and I fully endorse the proposal.

Comments:

Alan Ponce
Signature: Academic Dean

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Proposal received 7/11
Open Hearing held 4/14

Returned to the department for the following reason(s):

Approved by the Curriculum Committee 7/14
Presented to Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate as information

Notifications forwarded: Academic Dean; Department Chairman

Signature: James D. White
Chairman, Curriculum Committee

4/15

ACADEMIC DEAN

I have reviewed the final documents as approved and concur with same.
Budget, faculty and library resources are adequate for immediate implementation.

I have reviewed the final documents as approved and concur with same.
Budget, faculty and/or library allocations for the current academic year
are inadequate for immediate implementation or implementation in the next
fiscal year. The earliest that the proposal might be implemented would be

HEGIS Taxonomy Number: _____

Signature: Academic Dean

Copies forwarded: Chairman, Curriculum Committee; Department Chairman;
Provost; Registrar

REGISTRAR

Approved course description received

Signature: Registrar

PROVOST

Official copy and approval sheet filed

Signature: Provost (or designee)

- Note:
- 1) Course proposal format is attached
 - 2) A copy of this approval form should accompany each proposal
 - 3) A copy of a proposed catalogue description of the course must accompany the proposal as a separate page.



74-1/45

State of New Jersey

GLASSBORO STATE COLLEGE
GLASSBORO, NEW JERSEY 08028

DEAN OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

March 25, 1975

TO: Joseph Tishler, Chairperson, Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee
FROM: Alan B. Donovan *ABD*
SUBJECT: Course Proposal "Evolution and Creation"

Attached are 60 copies of the course proposal "Evolution and Creation" which is tentatively scheduled to be offered in the Fall Semester, 1975. The proposal has received the endorsement of the Departments of Life Science and Philosophy/Religion and I would like to offer my strong endorsement of it, particularly after my extensive discussion about it with Professors Landecker and MacIntire.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any further questions.

ABD/pad

cc: Dr. Raimist
Mr. Whitcraft
Dr. Landecker
Mr. MacIntire

COURSE PROPOSAL

Proposed by : Elizabeth Landecker, Life Science Department
Gordon P. MacIntire, Philosophy & Religion
Department

Title: Evolution and Creation: Biological, Philosophical,
and Religious Viewpoints

Essence of Proposal: The proposed course would be an interdisciplinary course, involving team teaching by a member of the Life Science Department and the Philosophy and Religion Department. The subject matter would be the biological, philosophical, and religious aspects of evolution and creation.

Uniqueness: There is presently no course which introduces the theory of evolution and its philosophical and religious implications on a general, interdisciplinary level.

Likewise, there is presently no course which explores concepts of creation and their philosophical and religious roots and implications.

Objectives: Scientific evidence will be explored to demonstrate how the biologist derives the theory of evolution. The student should obtain a reasonably firm academic background in the scientific aspects of evolution.

Religious concepts of creation will be examined to determine their purpose and meaning.

The biologist's theory of evolution and concepts of creation will be explored from philosophical and religious viewpoints.

It is hoped that a course of this type would assist the student in developing a breadth of knowledge of the areas covered as well as an understanding of his fellowman's scientific, philosophical and religious expressions. It is further hoped that this course would assist the student in coming to his own conclusions about evolution and creation as they play a part in his own life.

Scope: The first half of the course will deal with the biological aspects of evolutionary theory, while the second half will deal with philosophical and religious aspects of evolution and creation. Please see the attached course outline for greater detail.

Teaching Methods: The primary mode of teaching will be lecture-discussion. Audio-visual aids and demonstrations will be used when appropriate. Evaluation will be by examinations and a consideration of overall performance.

Place in the Curriculum: No prerequisites would be required. This course could be taken as an elective by any student in the college. The course should be offered at the 300 level, and will carry 3 s.h. credit. It will be assigned an interdisciplinary HEGIS number.

Rationale: Many people are unable to reconcile the scientific concept of evolution with their religious viewpoints. This inability to synthesize in one's own mind the relationship between scientific theory and religious doctrine sometimes troubles even a serious biology student or a serious religion student. The biology student often does not understand the philosophical aspects of science and/or religion, while the religion student often does not understand the mechanistic, biological evolutionary theory. Such a student is unable to produce a consistent, comfortable view of the relationship between biological theory and religious doctrine. It is hoped that the proposed course could address itself to some of these problems.

Alternately, many individuals have a firm viewpoint about evolutionary theory or religious doctrine, but would like to know more about other concepts.

Consultation: This proposal meets with the approval of the Philosophy and Religion Department and Life Science Department. It is supported by members of both departments as it would provide a broadening educational experience for the students. Dean Donovan also strongly supports the course because of its interdisciplinary nature.

EVOLUTION AND CREATION: BIOLOGICAL, PHILOSOPHICAL AND RELIGIOUS
VIEWPOINTS

COURSE OUTLINE

BIOLOGY SECTION

I. Darwin: Introduction of the concept of evolution

II. Mechanics of Evolution

A. Genetics

1. Gene structure and action
2. Simple Mendelian genetics
3. Mutation - raw material for evolution
4. Gene pools and combinations in populations

B. Natural Selection

1. Natural selection as pressures on reproductive capacity
(= Darwin's "struggle for existence.")
2. Creative and conservative roles of natural selection
3. Adaptation - the result of natural selection

C. Species and Speciation

1. Genetic equilibrium in populations
2. Genetic drift
3. Natural selection in populations
4. Isolating mechanisms
5. Concept of a "species"

D. The Concept of Phylogeny (Evolution)

III. Evidence for the Existence of Evolution
(Alt: Search for Phylogenetic Records)

- A. Evidence from Embryology
- B. Evidence from Comparative Anatomy
- C. Evidence from Biochemistry
- D. Evidence from the Geologic Record

PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION SECTION

I. Methods of Science

- A. Research Steps
- B. Nature and Limitations
- C. Language of Science
- D. Presuppositions of Science
- E. Philosophy of Science

II. Evolution

- A. Concepts of Evolution
- B. Presuppositions underlying Evolution
- C. Assessing the evidence for Evolution

III. Creation

- A. Presuppositions
- B. Language of Religion
- C. Views of Creation
- D. Assessing the evidence for Creation

SUPPLEMENTAL RESEARCH

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