

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL FORM 2001-2002

NON-GENERAL EDUCATION PROCESS A

***DEADLINES:** Deadline dates for 2001/2002 submissions: Regular proposals: October 19, 2001 to be implemented in Fall 2002; Short-Term proposals: December 7, 2001 to be implemented in Fall, 2002; Regular proposals February 15, 2002 to be implemented in Spring, 2003; March 22, 2002 for short-term courses to be implemented in Spring 2003.

PROPOSAL TITLE: *Change in the Name of Systematics and Evolutionary Mechanisms*

SPONSOR(S): *Luke Holbrook, Dept. of Biological Sciences*

DEPARTMENT: *Biological Sciences*

COLLEGE: *LAS*

IF LAS CHECK ONE: History/Humanities Math/Sciences Social/Behavioral Sciences

Check one: Undergraduate Graduate

THE ATTACHED **NON-GEN-ED** PROPOSAL IS BEST DESCRIBED BY THE ITEM(S) CHECKED.

New non-gen-ed course

Short-term non-gen-ed course

Minor curricular changes (fewer than three) to:

existing non-gen-ed course

non-gen-ed degree requirements

major

minor, specialization, concentration, track, certificate program

DEPARTMENT
(Signature indicates approval)

[Signature] 10-19-01
Dept. Curriculum Chair / Date

[Signature] 10-19-01
Dept. Chairperson / Date

ACADEMIC DEAN

Approved Not Approved Comments:

Dean's Signature/Date *[Signature]* 10/19/01

COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Date of open hearing (if necessary) 12-3-01 Approved Not Approved _____
Comments:

Signature of College Chair/Date: [Signature] 1-17-02

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

Date Received/Processed _____
Comments:

Curriculum Chair Signature Laurette M. Reeves Date Announced At Senate 1/29/02

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT/PROVOST

Approved Not Approved _____ If no, reasons are as follows:

Student Credit Hours _____ Faculty Load Hours _____ Equalized Credit Hours _____

Official Copy & Approval Sheet Filed (Date): _____ Executive VP/Provost Signature/Date [Signature] 2/22/02

REGISTRAR

Date Approved Course Description Received _____ Hegis Taxonomy & Course Number Assigned _____

Registrar Signature/Date [Signature] 2/27/02

NOTIFICATION FORWARD

Senate Curriculum Committee Chairperson Academic Dean(s) [Signature] 3/10/02
 Department Chairpersons Registrar _____ Sponsor(s)

Minor Curricular Change

Change in the Name of Systematics and Evolutionary Mechanisms

1. Details

- a. Change requested: change in course title
From: Systematics and Evolutionary Mechanisms
To: Methods in Macroevolution
- b. Sponsors: Dr. Luke Holbrook, Department of Biological Sciences

2. Rationale

- a. Statement of Need: The name Systematics and Evolutionary Mechanisms is unclear and perhaps discouraging to students for a few reasons. Many students are not sufficiently familiar with the discipline of systematics to understand what types of science it entails. The name also sounds like a graduate course. Additionally, students may be confused as to the relationship between this course and a more general course, Evolution.
- b. Statement of curricular effect: The proposed name change will better reflect the intentions of this course: a) to teach students methods, and b) to focus on evolution above the species level, or macroevolution.

3. Results of Consultations

No additional consultations were deemed necessary.

Old Course Name: Systematics and Evolutionary Mechanisms

New Proposed Name: Methods in Macroevolution

In supporting the original proposal for this course, the Department of Biological Sciences recognized a need for an upper-level course that would expose students to the methods and primary literature of certain areas of evolutionary biology. In particular, this course teaches students about how biologists reconstruct and interpret macroevolutionary patterns, i.e., patterns of evolution above the species level.

The proposed name change better reflects the content of this course than the original name. The course focuses on the methods of identifying and analyzing patterns of evolution among species. The new proposed title more clearly identifies to students what will be covered in the course.

Old Catalog Description

(0401.407) 4 s.h.
Systematics and Evolutionary Mechanisms
(Prerequisites: 0401.100, 0401.101)

This laboratory course considers the field of systematics and its relationship to evolution. The course will cover a variety of topics, including species concepts, evolutionary mechanisms, phylogenetic analysis, and taxonomy. Laboratory exercises include demonstrations and actual applications of investigative techniques used to study systematics and evolution, including exercises in analyzing phylogeny. This course may not be offered annually.

New Catalog Description

(0401.407) 4 s.h.
Methods in Macroevolution
(Prerequisites: 0401.100, 0401.101)

This laboratory course investigates how we investigate and interpret patterns of macroevolution (evolution above the species level). The course will cover a variety of topics, including systematics, species concepts, evolutionary mechanisms, and phylogenetic analysis. Laboratory exercises include demonstrations and actual applications of investigative techniques used to study macroevolutionary patterns. This course may not be offered annually.