

From: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette
To: [Misicka, Matthew](#)
Cc: [Haddad, Deborah](#); [Craigmile, Peter](#)
Subject: Biology 1131 and Biology 2367
Date: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 12:16:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear Matt,

On Tuesday, March 22, the Natural and Mathematical Sciences Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed new course proposals for Biology 1131 and Biology 2367. Please find below the Panel's feedback:

- Biology 1131: Unanimously approved.
(The Panel does recommend that given the transition from Desire to Learn to Canvas for Carmen, the faculty member or course coordinator double-check the technical support links that pertain to ODEE before teaching the course. Changes have also been and are still being made to the Arts and Sciences website so double-checking those links before teaching the course will be advisable as well.)

- Biology 2367: No vote was taken. The Panel would like the following points addressed first:
 - The Panel approves of the idea of this course as a biology course that involves a lot of writing.

 - The Panel has insufficient information to assess the GE Natural Science-Biological Science request.
 - It is not clear how exactly this course will fulfill the expected learning outcomes of this GE category. Request to flesh out the materials/the topics that will be taught to make this a GE Natural Science-Biological Science course. Please do this for at least one of the modules that you list as a possible topic for the course.
 - What level of scientific knowledge is this course aiming for? Even the prereqs to the course are quite divergent. A student who has taken Bio 1101 "Introductory Biology" (3 cr; GE Natural Science-Biological Science) would have different background from someone who has taken Bio 1102 "Human Biology" (3 cr; GE Natural Science-Biological Science), and in turn either one of these experiences would be different from the experience of taking both Bio 1113 "Biological Sciences: Energy Transfer and Development" (4 cr; GE Natural Science-Biological Science) *and* Bio 1114 "Biological Sciences: Form, Function, Diversity, and Ecology" (4 cr; GE Natural Science-Biological Science).
 - The GE assessment plan for GE Natural Science-Biological Science and the rubric do not give any information about what science is being taught. The information presented is very generic/broad. Be more specific. For example, the method of assessment for ELO 1 says that the position paper will "use an analytic rubric with specific line items addressing the accuracy of [the] scientific information presented." Replace such broad statements (here and elsewhere)

with concrete scientific language.

- One of the sample modules is called: “Global Climate Change.” This word choice does not seem the most appropriate for a biology course. It likely would be more correct to talk about the “Impact of Global Climate Change on Biological Systems,” for example.
- (Please know that the GE Writing and Communication-Level 2 request has not been considered yet. Indeed, that particular request will need to be evaluated by the Arts and Humanities Panel.)

If you should have any questions about the feedback above, please do not hesitate to contact Peter Craigmile, faculty Chair of the NMS Panel (cc'd here), or me.

Biology 1131 will now be advanced to the Registrar's Office. As for 2367, I will return it to the CLSE's queue in a minute.

Regards,
Bernadette



Bernadette Vankeerbergen, Ph.D.
Program Director, Curriculum and Assessment
College of Arts and Sciences
154D Denney Hall, 164 Annie & John Glenn Ave.
Columbus, OH 43210
Phone: 614-688-5679 / Fax: 614-292-6303
<http://ascas.osu.edu>