

From: Vankeerbergen, Bernadette
To: [Lower, Steven](#)
Cc: [Nolen, Dawn](#); [Bitters, Todd](#); [Fink, Steven](#); [Daly, Marymegan](#); [Haddad, Deborah](#); [Lyons, William](#)
Bcc: [Vaessin, Harald](#)
Subject: New Freshman Seminar "Thinking about a science Ph.D.? Start planning now before you're piled high and deep"
Date: Thursday, May 26, 2016 11:32:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear Professor Lower,

The ASC Curriculum Committee has reviewed your proposal for a new freshman seminar, " Thinking about a science Ph.D.? Start planning now before you're piled high and deep."

I am happy to report that the proposal was approved with one reminder and two recommendations:

- Reminder: Final version of the syllabus should specify that the meetings will be 55 minutes each week.
- Recommendations:
 - Under course description it is mentioned that the course "[i]ntroduce[s] students to research faculty". Please know that this appears to happen only on a very limited scale.
 - Given that this is just a S/U graded course, the grading scale appears rather challenging. Grading A-E seems a reasonable option here for the expected work.

Should you have any questions about the feedback, please feel free to contact Meg Daly, faculty Chair of the ASC Curriculum Committee (cc'd here), or me.

I am also cc'ing Todd Bitters and Dawn Nolen, who both administer the Freshman Seminar program. One of them will be in touch with you for the practical arrangements related to teaching the course.

Congratulations on your new freshman seminar.

Best wishes,
Bernadette



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