

**From:** [Steele, Rachel](mailto:Steele, Rachel)  
**To:** ["luikart.6@osu.edu"](mailto:luikart.6@osu.edu)  
**Cc:** [Panero, Wendy](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Hilty, Michael](#); [Cody, Emily](#)  
**Subject:** HCS 2200/2203  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 22, 2021 1:01:00 PM  
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Good afternoon,

On Wednesday, December 8th, the Natural and Mathematical Sciences Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a course proposal for HCS 2200 and 2203. Please find below the Panel's feedback for these courses.

- HCS 2200 approved with one contingency and 6 recommendations:
  - **Contingency – The Panel asks that the GE Proposal document be updated to include the changes that were made to the course syllabus in response to the Panel's prior feedback. The proposal should function as a stand-alone document that accurately reflects the content of the course. The needed updates include:**
    - **Changing the GE Proposal to reflect the movement of the poster assignments from HCS 2203 to 2200. (GE Proposal pg. 8 under "ELO 1.3")**
    - **A revision of the response to how ELO 1.3 will be met (GE Proposal pg. 6-8). This response should include specific examples of the new laboratory experiments and activities that the department outlined in their response to the Panel's prior feedback**
  - *Recommendation: The department's response to the Panel's feedback includes the statement that the Digital Plant Collection (formerly Plants of My Life/Plants on Campus) and Aloe Vera assignments have been moved to 2203 from 2200. However, references to these assignments are still present in the in-person syllabus for 2200 (syllabus pgs. 6, 7, 17) even though they have been removed from the online version of the syllabus. The Panel recommends that the in-person syllabus be changed to match the online syllabus and the department's response to Panel feedback.*
  - *Recommendation: The online syllabus contains the required statement about how this particular course will meet the Goals and ELOs of the Foundations: Natural Science GE category. However, this statement is missing from the in-person syllabus; in its place is a statement about how the course meets departmental learning objectives. The Panel recommends that the department modify the in-person syllabus to match the online syllabus.*
  - *Recommendation: The Panel recommends that the department modify the Course Change Request (Pg. 3 under "Course goals or learning objectives/outcomes). The goals and ELOs listed here should not be the GE Goals and ELOs, but rather the goals and ELOs of the course.*
  - *Recommendation: The Panel recommends that the department align points for the "Diversity in Plant Science" assignment. Currently, the Grading and Faculty Response table (online syllabus, pg. 6) says that the assignment is worth 5 points, while the description of the assignment (online syllabus pg. 8) says that it is worth 10 points.*
  - *Recommendation: The Panel recommends that the department consider the mechanics of assuring a variety of responses in the "Diversity in Plant Science"*

*assignment. They encourage the department to consider whether the goal of the assignment is to expose student to a wide variety/large number of plant scientists, or to expose students to plant scientists from traditionally underrepresented populations.*

- *Recommendation: The Panel recommends that the department reconsider the use of the abbreviation “vs.” in describing the different types of citations that could be used for the Plant Genetics Article Critique (syllabus pg. 9), as they feel this could be confusing to students, and recommend the use of something like “Example 1 and Example 2” as an alternative.*
- HCS 2203 approved with two contingencies and one comment:
  - **Contingency – The Panel asks that the GE Proposal document be updated to include the changes that were made to the course syllabus in response to the Panel’s prior feedback. The proposal should function as a stand-alone document that accurately reflects the content of the course. The needed updates include:**
    - **Changing the GE Proposal to reflect the movement of the poster assignments from HCS 2203 to 2200. (GE Proposal pg. 8 under “ELO 1.3”)**
    - **A revision of the response to how ELO 1.3 will be met (GE Proposal pg. 6-8). This response should include specific examples of the new laboratory experiments and activities that the department outlined in their response to the Panel’s prior feedback**
  - **Contingency – The Panel strongly believes that the workload in this course is appropriate for a 1 credit hour class, however, they ask that the department alter the syllabus language (pg. 3 under “How This Course Works – Credit hours and work expectations”) to coincide with the workload requirement for a 1 credit hour laboratory course that does NOT have 2 consecutive hours of laboratory work. Since this course can be offered in a fully distance format, and 2 *consecutive* hours of lab work per week cannot be guaranteed, the Panel refers the department to Faculty Rule 3335-8-24 (A)(3) and 3335-8-24 (A)(1) found here: [https://trustees.osu.edu/bylaws-and-rules/3335-8.](https://trustees.osu.edu/bylaws-and-rules/3335-8)**
  - **Comment – The Panel notes that both the GE proposal form (pg. 2 under “A. Foundations”, pg. 7 under “ELO 1.3” among others) and the syllabus (pg. 3 under “How This Course Works – Mode of Delivery”,) state that all course materials are free to the student. However, some of the labs require materials (for example, strawberries in 3 different stages of decay) that will need to be procured or purchased by the students. The Panel encourages the department to provide students with a list of what they will need for each module well in advance, so that students can make plans to acquire the needed items, as even “common household items” are not always available to students living in dormitories and other student housing.**

I will return HCS 2200 and 2203 to the department queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Panel’s requests.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the Panel, please feel free to contact Wendy Panero (faculty Chair of the NMS Panel; cc’d on this e-mail), or me.

Best,  
Rachel



**Rachel Steele, MA**

(Pronouns: she/her/hers / Honorific: Ms.)

Program Manager, Office of Curriculum and Assessment

**College of Arts and Sciences**

306 Dulles Hall 230 Annie and John Glenn Ave. Columbus, OH 43210

(614) 688-4540

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