

**From:** [Steele, Rachel](#)  
**To:** [Griffith, Elizabeth M.](#); [Saltzman, Matthew](#)  
**Cc:** [Ottesen, Jennifer](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Hilty, Michael](#)  
**Subject:** Earth Science 5757  
**Date:** Thursday, February 23, 2023 2:52:50 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
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Good afternoon,

On Wednesday, Feb. 8th, the Natural and Mathematical Sciences Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a course proposal for Earth Sciences 5757.

The Panel did not vote on the proposal as they would like the following points addressed:

- a. The Panel asks that the department obtain concurrence from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering and the Department of Statistics.
- b. The Panel asks that the department provide further information about the course structure provided in the "Course Overview and Goals" section of the syllabus (pg. 1), clearly describing for students the expectations for time spent in class and outside of class. They recommend that this include not only the description of how students will spend time in class (they assume that this is what is currently provided), but also what expectations are for out-of-class work, especially given that students may need to utilize the on-campus computer lab for homework/assignments.
- c. The Panel recommends that the department carefully consider the grading scheme of the course, assessing whether there is a sufficient correlation between the course's expected learning outcomes and students' final grades; grades of S/U might also be a possibility for the current structure. The Panel notes that, according to pg. 3 of the syllabus, the weekly assignments involving the Jupyter notebooks will be graded as pass/fail. Since these notebooks are 80% of the course grade and students can receive up to a 10% bonus simply for attending class (syllabus pg. 4 under "Course Grading"), it appears that students could earn a grade of A- by doing the minimum to pass the Jupyter notebook assignments each week and attending every class meeting, even if they do not attempt the final project.
- d. The Panel recommends that the department consider whether linear algebra (Math 2568) should be a pre-requisite for this course given the mention of the use of "basic linear algebra" on pg. 2 of the syllabus.
- e. The Panel asks that the department use the disability services statement (syllabus pg. 4) that is required by the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee for all Arts and Sciences courses. This statement can be found in an easy-to-copy/paste format here: <https://ascas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements>.
- f. The Panel recommends that the department use the college's preferred language for their diversity statement (syllabus pg. 4-5). This statement can be found in an easy-to-copy/paste format here: <https://ascas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements>.
- g. The Panel recommends that the departments use the most up-to-date version of the Mental Health statement (syllabus pg. 5 under "Mental Health"), as the phone number and name of the suicide prevention hotline have changed. An up-to-date statement can be found here: <https://ascas.osu.edu/curriculum/syllabus-elements>.

I will return Earth Science 5757 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 Jen Ottesen (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.)

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