

From: [Neff, Jennifer](#)
To: [Griffith, W. Ashley](#); [Durand, Michael](#); [Cook, Ann](#)
Cc: [Hamilton, Ian](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Hilty, Michael](#)
Subject: Earth Sciences 5797.20
Date: Friday, January 19, 2024 2:29:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good afternoon,

On Wednesday, January 17th, the Natural and Mathematical Sciences Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a new course proposal for Earth Sciences 5797.20.

The Subcommittee unanimously approved the request with **four contingencies** and *three recommendations*:

- **Contingency:** The Subcommittee asks the school to address the following feedback regarding the course's prerequisites:
 - Unlike students on the Legacy GE (GEL), students on the New GE (GEN) are not required to take English 1110 in order to fulfill their Writing and Information Literacy requirements. Therefore, the Subcommittee asks that the school adjust this prerequisite to a broader "completion of GE Foundation Writing and Information Literacy GE category course" on the syllabus (p. 3) and curriculum.osu.edu submission form.
 - The Subcommittee requests that the school add "or graduate standing" to the prerequisites on the syllabus (p. 3) and curriculum.osu.edu submission form so that the requirements of undergraduate students compared to those of graduate students are clear.
 - The Subcommittee requests that the school clarify the significance of the 2.5 standing GPA requirement. Given that a student must be admitted to the program to participate in a study abroad, is this a program admission requirement? If not, is there other significance to a 2.5 GPA versus, say, a 2.0 GPA (which is the minimum GPA requirement for acceptance to a global education program, according to the [OIA Conditions for Participation](#)).
- **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the school modify the requirements for the Social Media Contribution assignments, as instructors cannot require students to use a platform if its terms of services have not been agreed upon by the university. The Subcommittee asks that an alternate option (e.g., a discussion board) be available to students who are not comfortable sharing their posts on social media. Along those lines, the Subcommittee asks the school to include some additional information on these assignments such as the platform they will be posted on and the grading criteria. [Syllabus p. 5]
- **Contingency:** The Subcommittee asks that the school state in the syllabus whether the pre-departure meetings will take place in-person or remotely. Additionally, the Subcommittee notes that the necessary technology skills/equipment listed for the course includes Carmen Zoom, a webcam, and a microphone and asks that this be adjusted *if* the pre-departure meetings are in-person. [Syllabus pp. 3, 16]
- **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the school add the required religious

accommodations statement into the syllabus. The Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee recently updated the list of required syllabus statements for all syllabi to include a statement on religious accommodations. This new, required statement is a result of a directive by the Executive Vice President and Provost and can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#).

- *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends that the school include a more detailed description of the assignments in the final syllabus, such as assignment due dates and information on how groups will be assigned.
- *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends that the school use the most recent version of the Student Life Disability Services Statement, which was updated to reflect the university's new COVID-19 policies in August 2023. The updated statement can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#).
- *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends that the school use the most recent version of the mental health statement if it wishes to keep the statement in the syllabus. The statement was updated to include the new Suicide and Crisis Lifeline number. The updated statement can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#). [Syllabus p. 9]

As a reminder, **contingencies** (in bold above) must be addressed and resubmitted via curriculum.osu.edu before a course can move forward in the approval process. *Recommendations* (in italics above) should be implemented when the course is next taught.

I will return Earth Sciences 5797.20 to the school queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Subcommittee's requests.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the Subcommittee, please feel free to contact Ian Hamilton (faculty Chair of the NMS Subcommittee; cc'd on this e-mail), or me.

Best,
Jennifer



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