

From: [Neff, Jennifer](#)
To: [Sawyer, Derek](#); [Cook, Ann](#); [Durand, Michael](#)
Cc: [Vaessin, Harald](#); [Lower, Brian](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Hilty, Michael](#)
Subject: Earth Sciences 5242
Date: Tuesday, February 18, 2025 2:16:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good afternoon,

On Monday, February 10th, the Themes 1 Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee and the Theme Advisory Group for Lived Environments reviewed a GEN Theme: Lived Environments with Global and Intercultural Learning High-Impact Practice request for Earth Sciences 5242.

The reviewing faculty approved the request with the following feedback:

- **Contingency:** The reviewing faculty request that the School of Earth Sciences provide an explanation how the 4-credit hour requirement will be met, particularly given that the course only meets for 2 hours a week during the regular semester. It is necessary to clarify how instructor-led activities and/or lectures during the trip will contribute to the overall credit hour allocation. The reviewing faculty ask for details of how the out-of-class learning experiences will supplement the in-class sessions and fulfill the remaining 2 credit hour requirement. The credit allocation guidelines for education abroad programs can be found on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#).
- **Contingency:** The reviewing faculty request that the syllabus more explicitly align the Theme specific ELOs (3.1, 3.2, 4.1, 4.2, & 4.3) to course assignment descriptions so that it is clear to students how assignments will help them recognize human-environment interactions. Additionally, the faculty request that the syllabus topics maintain a balanced focus on both human impact and environmental elements.
- **Contingency:** The reviewing faculty request that the course allow for more collaborative interactions (e.g., peer reviews) to foster a sense of community among students and promote deeper reflection.
- **Contingency:** The reviewing faculty request that a cover letter be provided that details all changes made as a result of their feedback.
- **Recommendation:** The reviewing faculty recommend that the week abroad be better integrated in the weeks before and after the trip, and that the in-class activities be structured to challenge students in a more advanced way. For example, the report is completed beforehand and does not fully incorporate the experiences or insights gained during the fieldwork. The faculty recommend having students complete the report after the trip, allowing them to reflect on their experiences and establish a meaningful connection.
- **Recommendation:** The Subcommittee recommends that the School of Earth Sciences ensure that the reference to the [Office of Institutional Equity](#) in the religious accommodations statement is a hyperlink to the office's email. Additionally, the

Subcommittee recommends that the policy link below also function as a hyperlink in the syllabus. Please feel free to copy and paste these two links into the statement directly from the Subcommittee's feedback. Otherwise, the full statement with the links can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#). [Syllabus p. 9]

- o **(Policy: [Religious Holidays, Holy Days and Observances](#))**

As a reminder, **contingencies** (in bold above) must be addressed and resubmitted via curriculum.osu.edu before the 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 5242 to the School's queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the above feedback.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the reviewing faculty, please feel free to contact Harald Vaessin (faculty Chair of the Themes 1 Subcommittee), Brian Lower (faculty Chair of the Theme Advisory Group: Lived Environments), or me.

Best,
Jennifer



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Pronouns: she/her/hers