

From: [Neff, Jennifer](#)
To: [Klinger, Ellen](#); [Raczowski, Joe](#)
Cc: [Nagar, Ila](#); [Ottesen, Jennifer](#); [Tuxbury-Gleissner, Philip](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#)
Subject: RE: Entomology 2400 & 2400E
Date: Tuesday, December 23, 2025 12:07:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good afternoon,

On Thursday, December 11th, the Themes Subcommittee 1 of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed proposals for Entomology 2400 & 2400E to be included in the GEN Theme: Health and Wellbeing.

The Subcommittee did not vote on the proposals as they would like the following points addressed:

- The Subcommittee requests that the department provide a cover letter that details the changes made to the course submission materials in response to the feedback below.
- The Subcommittee remains unconvinced that the courses sufficiently address the Health and Wellbeing Theme goals and ELOs. Although the topics cited in the cover letter (e.g., GMO insects) could be used as lenses through which students examine Health and Wellbeing if more explicitly articulated, they are not inherently aligned with the Theme. The Subcommittee requests that the Theme be woven throughout the topics, materials, and assignments of the courses, noting that the inclusion of health-related topics alone does not automatically establish alignment with the Health and Wellbeing Theme.
- The Subcommittee finds that the content of the courses remains largely foundational in scope and requests that the courses be developed at a more advanced level overall, with greater sustained thematic focus.
- The Subcommittee notes that the courses, as currently structured, may be better suited to a different GEN Theme category. Given its emphasis on how scientific developments shape people's lives, including societal responses to scientific and medical advances and tensions between political and personal truths, the Subcommittee encourages the department to consider reworking the courses for the Traditions, Cultures, and Transformations Theme. Since the courses would still require substantial revisions, the Subcommittee requests that the department consult Subcommittee Chair Ila Nagar.5 and Subcommittee member Jennifer Ottesen.1 (both copied on this email) to discuss possible paths forward.

In the meantime, I will return Entomology 2400 & 2400E to the department queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Subcommittee's requests.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Best,
Jennifer



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Jennifer Neff

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From: Neff, Jennifer

Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 12:51 PM

To: Klinger, Ellen <klinger.80@osu.edu>; Raczkowski, Joe <raczkowski.2@osu.edu>

Cc: Tuxbury-Gleissner, Philip <tuxbury-gleissner.1@osu.edu>; Vankeerbergen, Bernadette <vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu>; Steele, Rachel <steele.682@osu.edu>

Subject: Entomology 2400 & 2400E

Good afternoon,

On Thursday, September 25th, the Themes Subcommittee 1 of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed proposals for Entomology 2400 & 2400E to be included in the GEN Theme: Health and Wellbeing.

The Subcommittee did not vote on the proposals as they would like the following points addressed in both proposals:

- The Subcommittee requests that the department provide a cover letter that details the changes made to the course submission materials in response to the feedback below.
- The Subcommittee requests that the course clarify its unique focus within the life sciences by emphasizing insect-related biology (such as insect models in medical research) in order to align with faculty expertise and avoid overlapping content with other life sciences units. The Subcommittee asks that the disciplinary approach be clearly framed, which will also help clarify the course's connection to the Theme.
- The Subcommittee requests that the perspective of the course be revised to move beyond foundation content in order to meet the ELOs of the Theme in an advanced, scholarly way. The current course learning outcomes focus primarily on scientific content (e.g., evolution basics, medical ethics) and do not explicitly address Health and Wellbeing. The Subcommittee requests that the focus and outcomes of the course be explicitly tied to the Theme, clarifying what students are expected to gain from the

course in relation to both health and wellbeing.

- The Subcommittee requests that the syllabus clarify how cultural perspectives are taught and integrated throughout the course. While the final exam asks students to consider multiple perspectives, it is unclear where and how these skills are scaffolded within the course content.
- The syllabus refers to “health and wellness” in the paragraph explaining how the course fulfills the GEN category. The Subcommittee requests that this be updated to “wellbeing,” as the name of the GEN category was changed several years ago.
- The Subcommittee requests that the course consistently assess students’ understanding of the Theme across all assignments and activities while also providing structured opportunities for reflection as learners.
- The Subcommittee asks that the department revise the statement in the syllabus (p. 1) describing how this course fits into the new General Education Curriculum. Since this is a 3-credit hour course, it does not, by itself, fulfill the GEN Theme: Health and Wellbeing, which requires 4-6 credit hours. To avoid confusion among students, the Subcommittee suggests phrasing such as “This course is approved in the GEN Theme: Health and Wellbeing category.” Furthermore, the syllabus states, “This course fulfills the GE Themes: Health and Wellbeing for Natural Science/Biological Science.” However, there is no such GE category, and it appears that elements from multiple categories have been conflated. The subcommittee requests that the mention of “Natural Science/Biological Science” be removed.
- The Subcommittee recommends that the department update the email address link in the Religious Accommodations statement on page 15 of the syllabus. This should now link students to the [Civil Rights Compliance Office](#) email.

I will return Entomology 2400 & 2400E to the department queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Subcommittee’s requests.

Should you have any questions about the feedback, please do not hesitate to contact Philip Tuxbury-Gleissner (faculty Chair of the Themes Subcommittee 1; cc’d on this e-mail) or me.

Best,
Jennifer



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