

From: [Neff, Jennifer](#)
To: [Andrews, Adam](#); [Sabel, Jaime](#)
Cc: [Hadad, Christopher](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [DeGirolamo, Anne](#)
Subject: Biology 3001
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Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good afternoon,

On Thursday, October 30th, the Natural and Mathematical Sciences Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a new course request for Biology 3001.

I am pleased to report that the Subcommittee approved the request with the following recommendations:

- *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee suggests that the center provide a rubric or other additional information in the syllabus for students regarding how assignments will be graded, especially those that are a part of the “Course Engagement” category (syllabus pp. 7-8).
- *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends that the center provide information for students in the syllabus regarding whether there is an electronic version of the recommended textbook (syllabus, p. 1).
- *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee suggests removing or altering the “Credit Hours and Work Expectation” statement on p. 2 of the syllabus. This statement is part of the old Distance Learning Syllabus template, which was retired in early 2024, and the language surrounding course’s teaching and activities, such as “direct instruction” is not conducive to describing an in-person course.
- *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends re-titling the “Safe Environments” statement on p. 12 of the syllabus, as this is actually the statement on “Creating an Environment Free from Harassment, Discrimination, and Sexual Misconduct”, per the [Office of Undergraduate Education website](#).
- *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee notes that the 1990 Michael Crichton novel is listed as a required text, but it does not appear on the Course Schedule (syllabus, pp. 15-16). The Subcommittee suggests that the department clarify for students when/how the novel will be read and how the novel’s contents will be related to the weekly schedule of discussion.

As a reminder, *recommendations* (in italics above) should be implemented when the course is next taught.

Biology 3001 will now continue through the approval process to one of the Themes subcommittees for approval in the GEN: Theme category Origins and Evolution.

Should you have any questions about the feedback, please do not hesitate to reach out to Christopher Hadad (faculty Chair of the NMS Subcommittee) or me.

Best,
Jennifer



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Pronouns: she/her/hers