

---

## Revision to the Atmospheric Sciences Bachelor of Science

---

From Steele, Rachel <steele.682@osu.edu>

Date Fri 12/19/2025 4:48 PM

To Coleman, Mat <coleman.373@osu.edu>; Godfrey, Ryan <godfrey.117@osu.edu>; Houser, Jana <houser.262@osu.edu>; Branham, Joslyn <branham.118@osu.edu>

Cc Dwyer, Rachel <dwyer.46@osu.edu>; Vankeerbergen, Bernadette <vankeerbergen.1@osu.edu>; Steele, Rachel <steele.682@osu.edu>; Neff, Jennifer <neff.363@osu.edu>

Good afternoon,

On Wednesday, Dec. 3rd, the Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a proposal to revise the Atmospheric Sciences Bachelor of Science

I am happy to report that proposal was unanimously approved with eleven contingencies, one recommendation, and two comments:

- a. Comment: The Subcommittee thanks the department for their thoughtful and well-developed major revision proposal.
- b. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee notes that section VII (p. 8) of the proposal states that, "Overall semester enrollment rates in the major at Ohio State have seen some variability, but have remained relatively constant from 2014-2023, averaging around 70 students (Figure 2)." However, they find that the enrollment numbers provided in Figure 2 do not average 70 students and request that calculation to be fixed in the proposal.
- c. **Contingency:** Similarly, the Subcommittee notes that section VII (p. 8) of the proposal states that, "Ohio State typically graduates ~15 students per year (13 over the timeframe of the Knox 2023 study)" and requests that the department provide the number of students graduating from the program since the Knox 2023 study in Figure 3.
- d. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the department include a transition plan in the proposal detailing how the department will make certain that students can finish the existing version of the major, and whether current students will be allowed to transition to the new version.
- e. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the department identify which courses cover the three Embedded Literacy categories (Data Analysis, Advanced Writing, and Technology) in both the proposal and proposed advising sheet. The Subcommittee notes that the Advanced Writing Embedded Literacy is mentioned on p.11 of the proposal in reference to the recent removal of 3597.03 from the major; however, the replacement courses listed for Advanced Writing (ATMOSSC 5202, 5203, 5301, and 5302) include more courses than the courses recently identified by the Dept of Geography as fulfilling the Advanced Writing Embedded Literacy. See [Oct 2025 memo to Council on Academic Affairs](#), which only identifies GEOG 5941 (to become ATMOSSC 5202 in AU26) and GEOG 5942 (to become ATMOSSC 5203 in AU26). According to the information shared at CAA recently ATMOSSC 5301 and 5302 do not fulfill the Advanced Writing Embedded Literacy. The Subcommittee requests that the department outline the Embedded Literacy courses in the proposal (with current and proposed course numbers) and also asks that the Embedded Literacy courses be identified on the proposed advising sheet.
- f. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee offers the reminder that departments cannot *require* specific courses within the General Education categories. The Subcommittee requests that the description of GEOG 1900 as "the required GE Natural Science Foundation course" on p. 11 of the proposal be revised as it can only be *recommended* to students as their GE Natural Science Foundation course.

- Additionally, they request that the “Course Options” column in the General Education (New) Requirement chart on p. 23 of the proposal be revised to reflect that all categories are student choice. The department can require specific courses as prerequisites or corequisites to the major as a whole or to courses in the major, but cannot require that students count those courses towards the GE.
- g. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the following information be removed from the advising sheet, under Major Requirement Notations on p. 23 of the proposal, as it is neither a university nor a college rule: “At least 20 hours of the major must be in courses offered by the department of the major. Note: Some interdisciplinary majors are excluded from the 20-hour rule.” This is not a rule in Arts and Sciences.
  - h. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the proposed advising sheet (p. 22) include notation of all offerings of the listed prerequisite courses such as honors versions (GEOG 1900H, PHYSICS 1250H, and PHYSICS 1251H) and decimalized modality (STATS 2450.01 and 2450.02).
  - i. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee asks the department to remove the annotated Comments at the top of p. 7 of the PDF.
  - j. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee would like to better understand the justification for the substantial increase in credit hours required to complete the program. They request that the current major curriculum map be included in the proposal. Additionally, they would like to see the information provided in Appendix A (Topic Specifications of the AMS for undergraduate degree programs in Atmospheric Sciences and Meteorology) on pp. 28-29 of the proposal with the current program courses listed for comparison.
  - k. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee notes that there is a “?” next to courses 5502 (listed for the “Chemical composition, distribution and evolution” skill) and 5401 (listed for the “Statistical analysis from observations” skill) on p. 29 in Appendix A and requests for those to be removed.
  - l. **Contingency:** The Subcommittee requests that the full name of the General Education categories be used throughout the example 4-year plan on pp. 25-26 of the proposal (e.g. GEN Foundation: Writing and Information Literacy).
  - m. *Recommendation:* The Subcommittee recommends replacing “degree audit report” on the current and proposed advising sheets (p. 13 and p. 24) with “degree auditing system” to encompass legacy, current, and future degree planning tools available to students.
  - n. *Comment:* The Subcommittee offers the friendly observation that several courses listed as elective options on p. 23 of the proposal are variable credit hours, including multiple courses listed as 1-9 credit hours, and graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory. As it appears now, the advising sheet suggests that students are permitted to earn all 9 credit hours of their elective coursework from a single (or multiple) repeated variable credit hour course(s) and permitted to earn all 9 credit hours of their elective coursework graded as Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory. The Subcommittee suggests that the department consider if that is indeed their intention of the elective category, or if the advising sheet should be revised to indicate credit hour limits per course towards the elective category as well as any intended limits to coursework graded S/U towards the elective hours.

As a reminder, **contingencies** (in bold above) must be addressed before the proposal can continue through the review process to OAA. *Recommendations* (in italics above) may be implemented when the proposal is fully approved. When you have completed your revisions, please return the proposal to Bernadette Vankeerbergen.1 via email.

Should you have any questions about the feedback above, do not hesitate to contact Rachel Dwyer (cc'd here), faculty Chair of the Social and Behavioral Sciences Subcommittee, or me.

My best,  
Rachel

**Rachel Steele, MA**

(Pronouns: she/her/hers / Honorific: Ms.)

Program Manager, Office of Curriculum and Assessment

**College of Arts and Sciences**

306 Dulles Hall 230 Annie and John Glenn Ave. Columbus, OH 43210

(614) 292-7226

Member, University Conduct Board

Graduate Student, History of Art

**-BLACK LIVES MATTER-**

**STOP AAPI HATE**

DACA/undocumented ally



I acknowledge that the land that The Ohio State University occupies is the ancestral and contemporary territory of the Shawnee, Potawatomi, Delaware, Miami, Peoria, Seneca, Wyandotte, Ojibwe and Cherokee peoples. Specifically, the university resides on land ceded in the 1795 Treaty of Greenville and the forced removal of tribes through the Indian Removal Act of 1830. I honor the resiliency of these tribal nations and recognize the historical contexts that has and continues to affect the Indigenous peoples of this land.