

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL -- UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
CURRICULAR REPORT FROM THE GRADUATE COUNCIL TO THE
FACULTY SENATE

REPORT NO. 8, 2008-2009; 31 MARCH 2009

At meeting No. 435 held 30 March 2009, the Graduate Council considered and approved the following curricular matters which are now submitted to the Faculty Senate for information or confirmation as indicated.

Matters of Information

- 1) College of the Environment and Life Sciences
Department of Natural Resource Economics

EEC 595 Problems of Modernization in Developing Nations – change in course title, prerequisites, and catalog description to read:

EEC 595 Environment and Development Economics (3)

Application of economic principles and research methods to understand the economics of environmental and natural resource management and poverty alleviation. Pre: 528 or permission of instructor.

Curricular Matters Which Require Confirmation by the Faculty Senate

New Courses

- 2) College of the Environment and Life Sciences
Department of Biological Sciences

BIO 412/512 Evolution and Diversity of Fishes (4)

Origin, evolution and diversification of fishes, their phylogenetic relationships, and morphological, physiological, ecological and behavioral adaptations in marine and freshwater habitats. (Lec. 3, Lab. 3) Pre: BIO 101, 102, and 366, or permission of instructor.

- 3) College of the Environment and Life Sciences
Department of Fisheries, Animal and Veterinary Science

AVS 505 Advances in Animal Science (3)

Critical analysis of recent literature within the field of animal science. Students will gain experience in study design, grant proposal development and oral presentations. Pre: Graduate student in good standing or permission of instructors.

Proposed Changes in Degree Requirements

- 1) College of the Environment and Life Sciences
Department of Natural Resource Economics

EEC 527 MACROECONOMIC THEORY – eliminate as a requirement for the Ph.D. program.

- 2) College of the Environment and Life Sciences
Department of Cell and Molecular Biology (Clinical Lab Science Program)

The Department of Cell and Molecular Biology proposes to change portions of its requirements in the Clinical Laboratory Science Program as follows:

1) Specializations

a) Consolidate the specialties of Clinical Chemistry, Clinical Microbiology, and Hematology/Immunohematology into a new specialty, “**Medical Laboratory Sciences**”. Students who are enrolled in these program specialties are certified and/or licensed clinical laboratory scientists. Their training, per the accreditation standards, is as a generalist in all of these areas. They are required by regulatory agencies, in order to maintain their certification and/or licensure, to maintain competency in all areas of clinical laboratory science. Therefore, rather than having to declare the separate specialties, the new “Medical Laboratory Sciences” specialization would cover all of the content areas.

b) Create a new specialization in “**Public Health Laboratory Sciences**”. Many of the students who have graduated or are currently enrolled work in the public health laboratory industry. They have requested that there be a specific specialization in this area. Since we are using existing courses for this specialty, many developed over the years in response to the public health laboratory community (Bioterrorism and Emerging Infectious Disease, Public and Environmental Health, Epidemiology of Infectious Diseases, etc.) no new courses are required or proposed.

2) Program Requirements

a) Core courses: We currently require 15 credits of core courses: MTC 510, 512, 513, and 551, and EDC 505 or 529 or 582 or 583 or 584 (cytopathology students would continue to be allowed some additional core course options because that program requires a full_time, one-year clinical internship, followed by part_time completion of the core courses, giving them fewer options). We propose eliminating the EDC core requirement. This would allow students an additional three credits of electives, giving them more flexibility in program

development to meet their specific educational and professional goals. We would continue to offer the minor specialization in adult education, which requires four of the five EDC course listed above. With the additional elective credits, students opting for this could utilize their elective credits for this purpose.

b) Specializations: The number of credits for each specialty would continue at 9 credits (except the cytopathology specialization which remains at 24 credits for accreditation purposes); however students would be allowed a broader choice of courses within each specialty; nine credits selected from:

(1) Biotechnology: BIO 437, MIC 422 and 534, and MTC 501, 541, 571, and 594

(2) Medical Laboratory Sciences: BIO 437, MIC 534 and 538, MTC 501, 502, 520, 530, 541, 543, and 591

(3) Public Health Laboratory Sciences: MIC 534 and 538, MTC 501, 541, 591, and 594

This is needed because of the three_year, part_time structure of the program. All of our courses are offered only every third year. Therefore, if a student misses a required course due to professional or personal reasons, he or she would have to wait an additional three years before being offered again, or take an acceptable substitute.