

CHANGE IN CURRICULUM

COLLEGE OF GEOSCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND GEOPHYSICS

BS IN GEOLOGY AND MS IN OCEANOGRAPHY 3+2

Texas A&M University
Request for a Change in Curriculum
Undergraduate ♦ Graduate ♦ Professional

1. Program request type: Undergraduate Graduate First Professional (ex., DVM, JD, MD, etc.)
2. Request change for: Degree Program Minor Certificate
3. Request submitted by (Department or Program Name): Oceanography
4. Program Designation and Name
(e.g., B.A. in History, Minor in History, Certificate in European Union): Geology - 5-Year Bachelor of Science/Master of Science in Oceanography
5. Brief description of change:
Adjust the catalog program requirements to match the degree evaluation and clarify options for students

Includes change to GR program (attached). sw

6. Rationale for change:
There were errors associated with the entering of the program requirements into the new electronic catalog. These need to be corrected.

Use the checkboxes below to make sure that all information is included.

- a. Proposed curriculum attached. Yes No
- b. Current catalog curriculum with handwritten edits attached. Yes No
- c. Current Howdy degree evaluation with handwritten edits attached. Yes No
- Please make sure the attached proposed curriculum, catalog and Howdy degree evaluation match.*
8. a. Will degree program hours change (increase/decrease) due to the proposed curriculum changes? Yes No
- b. If yes, degree program hours will change from: _____ to: _____
- c. If yes, is the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board form attached? Yes No
- <http://www.theccb.state.tx.us/index.cfm?objectid=A0F9F7FA-9A92-4F11-2756AD3BBFF01D60>
9. If proposed changes affect other unit(s), are letters of support attached? Yes No

IMPORTANT NOTE: Curriculum changes submitted through the approval process and **fully approved** by February (December-UCC/GC, January-Faculty Senate, February-President) will be effective in the next academic year. Changes requiring approval beyond the University should complete the internal approval process early in the fall semester whenever possible in order to ensure timely implementation.

Approval recommended by:

Department Head or Program Chair (Type Name & Sign) Date

Chair, College Review Committee Date

Dean of College Date

Chair, GC or UCC Date





23 November 2015

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Chris Houser, Associate Dean, Undergraduate and Faculty Affairs, College of Geosciences

To: Dr. Eric Riggs, Assistant Dean, Graduate Affairs and Diversity, College of Geosciences

From: Dr. Debbie Thomas, Department Head, Oceanography
Dr. Ping Yang, Department Head, Atmospheric Sciences P.Y.
Dr. Michael Pope, Department Head, Geology and Geophysics McP
Dr. Christian Brannstrom, Director Environmental Programs, College of Geosciences Clonitz

Replacing graduate program (MS in Oceanography) with Master of Ocean Science and Technology (all 3+2 programs)

RE: Revisions to the BS-METR-GOC, BS-GEOL-GOC, BA-GEOL-GOC and BS-ENGS-GOC programs.

We are requesting revisions to the 3+2 programs combining the non-thesis MS in Oceanography with the undergraduate METR, GEOL and ENGS degrees. They have been modified to swap out the non-thesis MS in Oceanography with the newly approved non-thesis Master of Ocean Science and Technology. This is simply a swap in the designation of the non thesis Master's degree.

The degree plans remain as modified in the by the corrections recently submitted for approval.

If you have any questions, please contact the assistant department head, Dr. Shari Yvon-Lewis (979-458-1816; syvon-lewis@tamu.edu).

Geology - 5-Year Bachelor of Science/Master of Science in Oceanography

The Fast Track Program offers motivated and exceptional students the opportunity to achieve aspirations in an efficient program at Texas A&M, completing the Bachelor of Science (B.S.) degree in the Department of Geology and Geophysics Geology Program and the Oceanography non-thesis M.S. degree in 5 years. There will be only two courses used for dual credit in this program. There is a total of 150 hours of coursework. The concurrent degree program will enable these motivated students to coordinate the required B.S. coursework (114 undergraduate credit hours) and non-thesis M.S. coursework (36 credit hours including the 6 dual credit graduate courses) to complete the required credit hours for each degree without diminishing scope or quality of work and within 5 years.

Application and Eligibility

- Applications to the Fast Track program will be submitted by July 1 after the completion of the student's junior year. Applications submitted after that time will be evaluated on a case by case basis.
- Applicants must have a minimum undergraduate GPR of 3.0. Applicants must also earn a C or better in all Chemistry, Calculus and Physics courses. Once admitted to the program, students must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPR.
- A faculty advisor will be assigned to each student. Students may seek additional mentors, but a formal committee is not required.
- Students admitted into the Fast Track program must finish the entire 150 credit hours to obtain both the Bachelor's and Master's degrees. These students will be conferred with two degrees once they complete the 5th year of the concurrent program.
- Students admitted to the program will change from U4 to G7 status when they are admitted having completed at least 96 hours (end of spring semester, year 3).
- Students not accepted or not allowed to continue with the Fast Track Program will complete the 120 hour Bachelor's degree under the standard 4 year curriculum. These students may still apply to the traditional graduate program.

Students will graduate at the completion of the 5th year in the Fast Track Program coursework (150 credit hours) with both Bachelor's and Master's degrees. Students will complete the coursework in May of the 5th year.

Program Requirements

First Year

Fall		Semester Credit Hours
GEOL 104	Physical Geology	4
CHEM 101 & CHEM 111	Fundamentals of Chemistry I and Fundamentals of Chemistry Laboratory I	4
MATH 151	Engineering Mathematics I	4
ENGL 104	Composition and Rhetoric	3
SEGS First Year Seminar		1
Term Semester Credit Hours		15

Spring

GEOL 106	Historical Geology	4
CHEM 102 & CHEM 112	Fundamentals of Chemistry II and Fundamentals of Chemistry Laboratory II	4
MATH 152	Engineering Mathematics II	4
Communication	<i>elective</i>	3
Term Semester Credit Hours		15

Second Year

Fall

GEOL 203	Mineralogy ¹	4
GEOL 311	Principles of Geological Writing ^{1,2}	1
GEOP 341	Global Geophysics ¹	3
PHYS 218	Mechanics ¹	4
MATH 251	Engineering Mathematics III ¹	3
Term Semester Credit Hours		15

Spring

GEOL 302	Introduction to Petrology ¹	4
GEOL 306	Sedimentology and Stratigraphy ¹	4
PHYS 208	Electricity and Optics ¹	4
<i>American history or Government/Political science</i>	¹	3
MATH 308	Differential Equations ¹	3
Term Semester Credit Hours		18

Third Year

Fall

GEOL 451	Introduction to Geochemistry ¹	3
GEOL 305	Paleobiology ¹	3
GEOL 309	Introduction to Geological Field Methods ¹	3
<i>Government/political science</i>	¹	3
<i>American history or Government/Political science</i>	<i>elective</i>	3
Term Semester Credit Hours		16

Spring

GEOL 304	Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology ¹	4
GEOL 312	Structural Geology and Tectonics ^{1,2}	4
GEOL Elective ^{1,2}	-----	4
<i>GGNG 430 Technical elective</i>	Introduction to Geological Oceanography ¹	3
<i>Creative arts</i>	¹ <i>elective</i>	3
Term Semester Credit Hours		17

Summer

GEOL 300	Field Geology	6
Term Semester Credit Hours		6

Fourth Year

Fall

Social and behavioral sciences	3
American history <i>of Government/Political science</i>	3
OCNG 604 Ocean Observing Systems ⁴	3
OCNG 608 Physical Oceanography ⁴	3
OCNG 603 Communicating Ocean Science	3
Term Semester Credit Hours	15
Spring	
Technical elective	3
Language, philosophy, and culture <i>American History or Government/Political science</i>	3
OCNG 657 Data Methods and Graphical Representation in Oceanography ³	3
OCNG 620 Biological Oceanography ³	3
OCNG 640 Chemical Oceanography ⁴	3
Term Semester Credit Hours	15
Total Semester Credit Hours:	132

Total Semester Credit Hours (9 graduate)
 Total undergraduate credit hours: 120
 Total graduate credit hours: 36 (36 credits required for non-thesis M.O.S.T.)
 Total credits actually taken: 156

insert

Choose one: 4 3
 OCNG 620 Biological Oceanography 3
 OCNG 630 Geological Oceanography 4
 OCNG 640 Chemical Oceanography 3

Fifth Year

Fall	Semester Credit Hours
Advanced specialized OCNG graduate course	3
Advanced specialized OCNG graduate course	3
Advanced specialized OCNG graduate course	3
Term Semester Credit Hours	9

Spring	
Advanced specialized OCNG graduate course	3
Advanced specialized OCNG graduate course	3
Capstone Experience II <i>OCNG 661 Advanced oceanographic Data Analysis and Communication</i>	3
Term Semester Credit Hours	9
Total Semester Credit Hours:	18

- Any of the required courses may be taken during the Summer Sessions to diminish the heavy semester loads during Years Two and Three.
- A second W course is required. GEOL 312 is offered as a W option when taught by Dr. Julie Newman, and other GEOL electives also fulfill the W requirement (including GEOL 491 when arranged with the permission of the instructor).
- Students will not be permitted to receive credit for both the 400- and 600-level versions of certain courses because the content and learning outcomes are too similar (e.g. OCNG 410/OCNG 608, OCNG 440/OCNG 640 ~~OCNG 470/OCNG 637~~).

⁴ Graduate courses will be taken for dual undergraduate/graduate credit.

Admission Process

Apply: End of junior year after 6 semesters; minimum GPR = 3.0.

Decision: August prior to starting graduate course work in Fall of Senior

Change to graduate status (G7)

Apply for graduate degree plan upon approval of G7 status

Detail Requirements

Roxanna R. Russell
 Oct 16, 2015 10:55 am

Viewing: Degree Evaluation (DEGEVAL, Email)
 Change Student

Information for Degree Evaluation

This is NOT an official evaluation.

Program Evaluation

*Should not list of program track
 as if past track*

Limitation Correspondence: No more than 12 hours of correspondence earned through an accredited institution may be used for an undergraduate degree.
Limitation Must maintain a minimum 3.0 program GPR.

Limitation Combination: Maximum combination of 18 hours of 481, 482, 485 and/or 491 courses may be used for an undergraduate degree.

Program : BS GEOL - GOC program Catalog Term : Fall 2015 - College Station
Campus : College Station Evaluation Term : Fall 2015 - College Station
College : Geosciences Expected Graduation Date :
Degree : Bachelor of Science Request Number : 6
Level : Undergraduate Results as of : Oct 16, 2015
Majors : Geology Minors :
Departments : Geology & Geophysics Concentrations :

	Met	Credits		Courses	
		Required	Used	Required	Used
Total Required :	No	120.000	0.000		0
Program GPA :	No	3.00	.00		
Overall GPA :	No	2.00	.00		
Other Course Information					
Transfer :			0.000		0

This is NOT an official evaluation.

Area : Major Coursework (51.000 credits) - Not Met

Met	Condition	Rule Subject	Attribute	Low	High	Required Credits	Required Courses	Term Subject	Course Title	Attribute	Credits	Grade	Source
No		A.	GEOL 104										
No	AND	B.	GEOL 106										
No	AND	C.	GEOL 203										
No		D.	GEOL 300										
No		E.	GEOL 302										

No	AND	F.	GEOL 304
No	AND	G.	GEOL 305
No	AND	H.	GEOL 306
No	AND	I.	GEOL 309
No	AND	J.	GEOL 312
No	AND	K.	GEOL 451
No	AND	L.	GEOP 341
No	AND	M.	Geology Elective 4hrs
To be selected in consultation with academic advisor.			
No	AND	N.	GEOL 311

Total Credits and GPA 0.000 .00

unofficial evaluation

Area Supporting Coursework (12.000 credits) - Not Met

Met	Condition	Rule	Subject	Attribute	Low	High	Required Credits	Required Courses	Term	Subject	Course	Title	Attribute	Credits	Grade	Source
No	A.		Technical Electives	12hrs												

Any science, math or engineering course that augments the degree with approval of an academic advisor. (D3)
Two of these will be the dual credit 600 level courses taken in year four.

Total Credits and GPA 0.000 .00

unofficial evaluation

Area : Communication (6.000 credits) - Not Met

Met	Condition	Rule	Subject	Attribute	Low	High	Required Credits	Required Courses	Term	Subject	Course	Title	Attribute	Credits	Grade	Source
No	A.		ENGL 104													
No	AND	B.	Communication Rqmnt	3hrs												
Select 3 hours from any courses with the Communication attribute [KCOM].																

Total Credits and GPA 0.000 .00

unofficial evaluation

Area : Mathematics (14.000 credits) - Not Met

No	Met	Condition	Rule	Subject	Attribute	Low	High	Required	Credits	Required	Courses	Required	Term	Subject	Course	Title	Attribute	Credits	Grade	Source	
No		AND	A.	MATH	151																
No		AND	B.	MATH	152																
No		AND	C.	MATH	251																
No		AND	D.	MATH	308																
										Total Credits and GPA		0.000									.00

unofficial evaluation

Area : Life and Physical Sciences (16,000 credits) - Not Met

No	Met	Condition	Rule	Subject	Attribute	Low	High	Required	Credits	Required	Courses	Required	Term	Subject	Course	Title	Attribute	Credits	Grade	Source	
No		AND	A.	CHEM	101																
No		AND	B.	CHEM	102																
No		AND	C.	PHYS	208																
No		AND	D.	PHYS	218																
										Total Credits and GPA		0.000									.00

unofficial evaluation

Area : Language, Philosophy & Culture (3,000 credits) - Not Met

No	Met	Condition	Rule	Subject	Attribute	Low	High	Required	Credits	Required	Courses	Required	Term	Subject	Course	Title	Attribute	Credits	Grade	Source	
No			A.	Lang, Phil, Culture	Rqmt	3hrs															
										Total Credits and GPA		0.000									.00

Select any course with the Language, Philosophy and Culture attribute [KRPC].

unofficial evaluation

Area : Creative Arts (3,000 credits) - Not Met

No	Met	Condition	Rule	Subject	Attribute	Low	High	Required	Credits	Required	Courses	Required	Term	Subject	Course	Title	Attribute	Credits	Grade	Source	
No			A.	Creative Arts	Requirement																
										Total Credits and GPA		0.000									.00

Select three hours from any course with the Creative Arts attribute [KCRA].

unofficial evaluation

Area : Social and Behavioral Sciences (3,000 credits) - Not Met

Met Condition Rule Subject Attribute Low High Required Credits Required Courses Term Subject Course Title Attribute Credits Grade Source

No A. Social Science Rqmt 3hrs
 Select from courses with the Social and Behavioral Science attribute [KSOC].

Total Credits and GPA 0.000 .00

unofficial evaluation

Area : Citizenship (12,000 credits) - Not Met

Description : Completion of 4 semesters of Upper-Level ROTC may be substituted for 3 hours of American History and 3 hours of Political Science.

Met Condition Rule Subject Attribute Low High Required Credits Required Courses Term Subject Course Title Attribute Credits Grade Source

No A. American History Rqmt 6hrs
 Select from any course with the [KHIS] attribute.

No AND B. Political Science Rqmt 6hrs
 Take POLS 206 and POLS 207.

Total Credits and GPA 0.000 .00

unofficial evaluation

Area : Work Not Applied - Met

Description : See advisor for acceptable substitutions.

Met Condition Rule Subject Attribute Low High Required Credits Required Courses Term Subject Course Title Attribute Credits Grade Source

No A. Courses not applied

Total Credits and GPA 0.000 .00

unofficial evaluation

Area University Writing Requirement - Not Met

Met Condition Rule Subject Attribute Low High Required Credits Required Courses Term Subject Course Title Attribute Credits Grade Source

No A. Writing Requirement

Two courses required.
 Only sections of GEOL 301, 311, 312, 420, 440, 491 with the Writing attribute [UWRT] may be used to satisfy this requirement.

Total Credits and GPA 0.000 .00

unofficial evaluation

Area Int'l & Cult Diversity - Not Met

Met Condition Rule Subject Attribute Low High Required Credits Required Courses Term Subject Course Title Attribute Credits Grade Source

Select from courses with the International and Cultural Diversity attribute [UICD] (except sections of BUSN 289 with the UWRT attribute).

Total Credits and GPA 0.000 .00

unofficial evaluation

Area Foreign Language - Not Met

Met Condition Rule Subject Attribute Low High Required Credits Required Courses Term Subject Course Title Attribute Credits Grade Source

Complete one of the following:
1. Two years of the same foreign language in High School.
2. A two semester sequence of the same foreign language for University credit.

Total Credits and GPA 0.000 .00

unofficial evaluation

Area Residence Requirement - Not Met

Description : A minimum of 36 hours of 300-400 level coursework must be completed at Texas A&M University. 12 hours must be in the major field.

Met Condition Rule Subject Attribute Low High Required Credits Required Courses Term Subject Course Title Attribute Credits Grade Source

Select from GEOL 309-499 and GEOP 400 -499.

Select any 300 or 400 level course.

Total Credits and GPA 0.000 .00

unofficial evaluation

Area GPR-Major - Not Met

Met Condition Rule Subject Attribute Low High Required Credits Required Courses Term Subject Course Title Attribute Credits Grade Source

Major GPR 46+hrs

Includes: CHEM 100-499; GEOL 100-499; GEOP 100-499; MATH 151-152, 171-172, 221, 251, 253, 308, 311, 412; PHYS 208, 218, 219, 221, 302, 304.

Total Credits and GPA 0.000 .00

unofficial evaluation

[Back to Display Options](#)

3

[Print](#)

23 October 2015

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Chris Houser, Associate Dean, Undergraduate and Faculty Affairs, College of Geosciences 

To: Dr. Eric Riggs, Assistant Dean, Graduate Affairs and Diversity, College of Geosciences 

From: Dr. Debbie Thomas, Department Head, Oceanography
Dr. Michael Pope, Department Head, Geology and Geophysics 

RE: Revisions to catalog degree requirements for the Joint degree program between Oceanography and the Geology BS program

I have attached a revision to the Fast Track 3+2 program for BS GEOL and the non-thesis MS in Oceanography. It has been modified to fix the errors in the catalog degree requirements and in the degree evaluation.

Catalog changes include:

First Year Fall

- Remove GEOS First year seminar and change the semester hours from 16 to 15.

First Year Spring

- Communications elective

Second Year Spring

- Showing the American History elective correctly as 'American History or Government/Political Science Elective'

Third Year Fall

- Swap GEOL 309 (3 cr) with GEOL 304 (4 cr) (from spring semester) and change the semester credit hours from 15 to 16.
- Replace Government/Political Science elective with Language/Philosophy/Culture elective
- Showing the American History elective correctly as 'American History or Government/Political Science Elective'
- Removing the old footnote references.

Third Year Spring

- Swap GEOL 304 (4cr) with GEOL 309 (3 cr) (from fall semester) reducing the semester credit hours by 1.
- Include the 4 credits from the GEOL elective, increasing the new total by 4 credits.
- The total credits for this semester go from 14 to 17
- Add the word elective to the creative arts elective

Fourth Year Fall



- Change OCNG 430 to technical elective

Fourth Year Fall

- Showing the American History elective correctly as 'American History or Government/Political Science Elective'
- Move OCNG 603 to the spring semester. Replace with choosing one of the fundamental graduate OCNG courses (OCNG 620, OCNG 630 or OCNG 640)

Fourth Year Spring

- Replace h Language/Philosophy/Culture elective with American History or Government/Political Science Elective
- Replacing OCNG 620 with OCNG 603 Communicating Ocean Science
- Replace OCNG 640 with choosing one of the fundamental graduate OCNG courses (OCNG 620, OCNG 630 or OCNG 640).

Total Four year hours

- Correcting the total credits for four years to 132. There are 12 credit hours that are graduate only in the fourth year along with 6 credit hour of dual graduate/undergraduate credit.

Fifth Year Spring

- Correcting the Capstone Experience to the actual course ONG 661 Advanced Oceanographic Data Analysis and Communication

Correct footnotes are:

¹ Students may take any of these course in the summer to reduce the heavy semester loads.

² A second W course is required. GEOL 312 is offered as a W option when taught by Dr. Julie Newman, and other GEOL electives also fulfill the W requirement (including GEOL 491 when arranged with the permission of the instructor).

³ Students will not be permitted to receive credit for both the 400- and 600-level versions of certain courses because the content and learning outcomes are too similar (e.g. OCNG 440/OCNG 640).

⁴ Two graduate courses will be taken for dual undergraduate/graduate credit and will contribute to the minor.

Corrections to the Degree Evaluation include:

Life and Physical Sciences

- Added the labs for CHEM (111 and 112) to maintain the 16 credit hours

If you have any questions, please contact the assistant department head, Dr. Shari Yvon-Lewis (979-458-1816; syvon-lewis@tamu.edu).