

CAHNR Curricula and Courses Committee
Meeting Minutes - Final
April 17, 2015

I. The meeting was called to order at 1:22 pm by Chair Mike Darre

II. Old Business:

A. Electronic CAR form updates- ready to use for ADD, REVISE, and DROP.

III. New Business:

A. The Department of Environmental Studies proposed the following:

1. REVISE: Environmental Studies Major - Add introductory statistics to the major requirements. Effective Fall 2015 Gary moved and Tom seconded.

Existing Catalog Description of Major

Environmental Studies

The Environmental Studies major is an interdisciplinary program designed to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and perspectives needed to understand the interactions between human society and the environment. Understanding the ethical and cultural dimensions of our relationship with the environment, as well as the challenges of protecting it, requires insights from multiple perspectives, including the humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences. Core courses in the major ensure familiarity with basic principles from these three areas. With this shared core of knowledge, majors will focus their studies on an area of special interest, taking electives and related courses that allow greater specialization. Among the many possibilities are environmental sustainability, issues concerning public policy and environmental justice, and the literary and philosophical legacy of human encounters with the non-human world. A capstone course will allow each student to research a distinct perspective on a contemporary environmental issue. A major in Environmental Studies might lead to a career in a variety of fields, including public policy, environmental education, eco-tourism, marketing or consulting, journalism, or advocacy.

The major leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) or the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources (CANR). The student's choice of colleges should be made in consultation with faculty and advisors based upon the student's interests and career goals.

Requirements:

Introductory Courses. *All majors must take three introductory courses:*

[EVST 1000](#)

[NRE 1000](#), [GEOG 2300](#), [GSCI 1050](#) or [GSCI 1051](#)

[BIOL 1102](#) or, for those seeking a more advanced background, [BIOL 1108](#).

Core Courses (18 credits). *All majors must take 2 of the following courses from each core. Students cannot apply more than one course per department to count within a particular core. Additional core courses taken in the same department can be applied to the additional major requirements beyond the core requirements.*

Humanities Core [PHIL 3216](#); [HIST 3540](#) or HIST 3542; [ENGL 3240](#) or ENGL 3715 or JOUR 3046

Social Sciences Core [ARE 3434](#) or ARE 4462 or ECON 3466; [NRE 3245](#); NRE 3246; [POLS 3412](#)

Natural Science Core [EEB 2208](#), [GEOG 3400](#), [AH 3175](#), [GSCI 3010](#); [NRE 4170](#)

[EVST 4000W](#): Capstone Research Project (3 credits).

All majors must complete a capstone research project, which fulfills the Writing in the Major and the Information Literacy requirements for the major.

Additional requirements for the major

In addition, environmental studies majors in CAHNR must take an additional 15 credits of courses at the 2000-level or above to meet the 36-credit major requirement. These courses must be designed to form a coherent set of additional courses that will provide the student with a focus or additional depth in an area of interest related to the major. They must be chosen in consultation with the student's faculty advisor and be approved by the advisor. Courses listed above that are not used to meet the core requirements may be used to meet this requirement.

Other areas of recommended preparation (not required)

Physical Science: [CHEM 1122](#), [CHEM 1127Q](#); [PHYS 1030Q/1035Q](#) Earth Science: [GSCI/GEOG 1070](#); [MARN 1002/1003](#) Economics: [ARE 1110](#), [1150](#); [ECON 1179](#), [1200](#), [1201](#) Statistics: [STAT 1000Q](#), [1100Q](#)

Note: A B.A. in Environmental Studies can also be earned through the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. For a complete description of the major in that college, refer to the [Environmental Studies](#) description in the "College of Liberal Arts and Sciences" section of this Catalog.

Proposed Catalog Description of Major

Environmental Studies

The Environmental Studies major is an interdisciplinary program designed to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and perspectives needed to understand the interactions between human society and the environment. Understanding the ethical and cultural dimensions of our relationship with the environment, as well as the challenges of protecting it, requires insights from multiple perspectives, including the humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences. Core courses in the major ensure familiarity with basic principles from these three areas. With this shared core of knowledge, majors will focus their studies on an area of special interest, taking electives and related courses that allow greater specialization. Among the many possibilities are environmental sustainability, issues concerning public policy and environmental justice, and the literary and philosophical legacy of human encounters with the non-human world. A capstone course will allow each student to research a distinct perspective on a contemporary environmental issue. A major in Environmental Studies might lead to a career in a variety of fields, including public policy, environmental education, eco-tourism, marketing or consulting, journalism, or advocacy.

The major leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) or the College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources (CANR). The student's choice of colleges should be made in consultation with faculty and advisors based upon the student's interests and career goals.

Requirements:

Introductory Courses. *All majors must take three introductory courses:*

[EVST 1000](#)

[NRE 1000](#), [GEOG 2300](#), [GSCI 1050](#) or [GSCI 1051](#)
[BIOL 1102](#) or, for those seeking a more advanced background, [BIOL 1108](#).
STAT 1000Q or STAT 1100Q or Equivalent

Core Courses (18 credits). *All majors must take 2 of the following courses from each core. Students cannot apply more than one course per department to count within a particular core. Additional core courses taken in the same department can be applied to the additional major requirements beyond the core requirements.*

Humanities Core [PHIL 3216](#); [HIST 3540](#) or HIST 3542; [ENGL 3240](#) or ENGL 3715 or JOUR 3046

Social Sciences Core [ARE 3434](#) or ARE 4462 or ECON 3466; [NRE 3245](#); NRE 3246; [POLS 3412](#)

Natural Science Core [EEB 2208](#), [GEOG 3400](#), [AH 3175](#), [GSCI 3010](#); [NRE 4170](#)

[EVST 4000W](#): Capstone Research Project (3 credits). All majors must complete a capstone research project, which fulfills the Writing in the Major and the Information Literacy requirements for the major.

Additional requirements for the major

In addition, environmental studies majors in CAHNR must take an additional 15 credits of courses at the 2000-level or above to meet the 36-credit major requirement. These courses must be designed to form a coherent set of additional courses that will provide the student with a focus or additional depth in an area of interest related to the major. They must be chosen in consultation with the student's faculty advisor and be approved by the advisor. Courses listed above that are not used to meet the core requirements may be used to meet this requirement.

Other areas of recommended preparation (not required)

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Note: A B.A. in Environmental Studies can also be earned through the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. For a complete description of the major in that college, refer to the [Environmental Studies](#) description in the "College of Liberal Arts and Sciences" section of this Catalog.

MOTION PASSED CAHNR CC 14-15-90

2. ADD- EVST 2998 Variable Topics in Environmental Studies. Effective Spring 2015 Tom Moved and Sal Seconded.

Proposed Catalog Description:

EVST 2998. Variable Topics in Environmental Studies. Either semester. Three credits. May be repeated for credit with a change in subject matter.

Explorations of environmental studies from various perspectives and methodologies.

MOTION PASSED CAHNR CC 14-15-91

B. The Department of Plant Science and Landscape Architecture proposes the following:

1. ADD: PLSC 2500 Principles and Concepts of Agroecology. Effective Fall 2015 Kristen Moved and Gary Seconded

Proposed Catalog Copy:

PLSC 2xxx Principles and Concepts of Agroecology. Three credits. Three class periods. Guillard Application of ecological processes to modern agricultural production practices. Crops and their environment. Soil quality and maintenance of soil productivity. Sustainability of agroecosystems.

MOTION PASSED CAHNR CC 14-15-92

2. ADD: PLSC 2100 Environmental Sustainability of Food Production in Developed Countries. Kristen Moved and Gary Seconded

Proposed Catalog Copy:

PLSC 2100 Environmental Sustainability of Food Production in Developed Countries. Three credits. Three class periods. Guillard. Foundations of modern food production systems that produce the majority of food calories consumed in North America and other developed countries.

Environmental risks associated with modern food production systems. Alternative food production systems and sustainability. Local food production and food security. Food production and climate change. Ethical, social, and economic issues related to production and consumption of food calories in developed countries.

MOTION TABLED CAHNR CC 14-15-93 (Tom Moved and Denise Seconded the motion to table, due to not having print copies of the motion and syllabus. This because Mike did not see the course materials in the IBM forms site prior to the meeting.)

(NOTE: PLSC will decide upon numbers for 2XXX and 2YYY for the final minutes)

IV. Report from Academic Programs:

1. Pat Jepson said she asked Dr. Faustman about the voting procedures at the CAHNR Faculty meeting since we have a Bylaw change up for discussion and vote. We needed to know if there is a special time frame on voting for changes in Bylaws. According to the current CAHNR By-Laws:

V. Procedures to change the Bylaws

Amendments to these Bylaws can be made only upon a vote of the faculty with a quorum voting. Dates of any approved amendments to these Bylaws shall be noted in this document.

(Note: There does not appear to be any language saying the proposal requiring a vote of the faculty needs to be presented at one meeting and then voted at the next, so long as the 7 day notice of the agenda is abided.)

2. Pat was looking for sample Internship Forms. I have attached the guidelines for internships from CAHNR. We discussed the various types of internships and summer vs fall or spring semester variations. We discussed the possibility of setting up Zero credit internships for the summer, similar to the UNIV 1981. We discussed that probably a minimum of 40-42 contact hours should be set for any Zero Credit internship. Mike will contact Lauren DiGrazia, the registrar, about setting up Zero credit internships through the CAHNR departments.

3. Pat also brought up the need for a CHANR presence at the regional campuses. We used to have NRE 1000 available. Are there any other courses we could possibly offer at a regional?
4. The language for Non-Degree students is being changed to Visiting Students.

V. Other Business:?

VI. Time and Place of next meeting. May 1, 2015. 1:15 pm WBY 209

VII. Adjourn 2:45 pm.

Attachement 1.

CAHNR Guidelines for Academic Recognition/Credit for Internships

Overview

Experiences through which students can apply their academic knowledge in work settings are a vital component of a college education. These experiences are widely labeled as “internships,” but the criteria for, and oversight of these experiences vary widely among institutions of higher education and employers (hereafter Host).

To establish uniformity in the use and application of the term “internship,” the **National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE)** recommends the following definition:

An internship is a form of experiential learning that integrates knowledge and theory learned in the classroom (i.e., expands classroom learning) with practical application and skills development in a professional setting. Internships give students the opportunity to gain valuable applied experience and make connections in professional fields they are considering for career paths; and give employers the opportunity to guide and evaluate talent.

Internships are a formal approach to meaningful on-the-job training for students. Properly constructed, they are valuable experiences that benefit both the student and the internship host, and in some cases may lead to permanent employment. Prospective students and their families are increasingly seeking majors that offer internships as a part of the undergraduate experience; it is critical that departments and the college have a mechanism for readily identifying the number of students that have participated in internships within their major(s).

Students can gain practical experiences through independent studies or field experiences hosted by faculty members. Some overlap may exist for skills obtained through these mechanisms and internships. The purpose of this document is to set forth guidelines that should be considered carefully by CAHNR academic departments as they implement their internship programs each year.

CAHNR/NACE Definition

Internships are distinguished by being earned outside the classroom and by a Learning Contract (see attached sample, *Form 1*) that is signed by the student, internship host and faculty member/dept head. These experiences will be recorded on a student’s transcript with a department specific course number and may carry zero or greater credits.

Credits Earned

Each department will establish an approach for determining the number of credits earned for a given internship experience keeping in mind the topics addressed in the **Additional Items to Consider by the Department** section of this document.

Summer Internships

Students participating in activities that they wish to have recorded as internships on their transcripts will need to have such indicated as

- (1) The department's Internship course number with associated credits, or
- (2) The zero credit internship notation. This is a mechanism for communicating relevant experience without requiring payment for summer credit hours (a registration fee is required; see attached *Sample Form 2*).
- (3) Both (1) and (2) must have signed documentation (i.e., Learning Contract – See attached sample *Form 1*) in place before the internship experience begins.
- (4) Credits for internship activities engaged in during the summer cannot be awarded during the fall or spring semesters. However, a write-up or other academic products that would be submitted during an academic semester can be considered by faculty.

Learning Contracts

Each department will develop its own Learning Contract for internship experiences. To ensure that an internship experience is educational and thus eligible to be considered a legitimate internship (by the definition set forth by CAHNR/NACE), all of the following criteria must be met and Learning Contracts should, at a minimum, reference/contain the following items:

1. The experience must be an extension of and outside the classroom: a learning experience that provides for applying the knowledge gained in the classroom. It must not be simply to advance the operations of the employer or be the work that a regular employee would routinely perform.
2. The skills or knowledge of intellectual value learned by the intern must be transferable to other employment settings.
3. The experience has a defined beginning and end, and a position description with desired qualifications.
4. Clearly defined learning objectives/goals related to the professional goals of the student's academic coursework.
5. Evidence of supervision provided to the intern by a professional with expertise and educational and/or professional background in the field of the experience, with routine feedback by the experienced supervisor provided to the intern.
6. Sufficient resources, equipment, and facilities are provided by the host to support the learning objectives/goals of the intern.

Grading

Each department will develop its own policy for grading of internships.

Additional Items to Consider by the Department (All University rules and regulations for credit restrictions apply during an internship)

The resident CAHNR Academic Department determines if the following items apply.

- 1) An Academic Department may consider GPA requirements and the instructor's consent may be required if a student is on academic probation.
- 2) There are limitations to the number of internship credits than can count toward graduation.
- 3) If a student plans to intern for a second time with the same host and wishes to receive academic credit for the experience, their Learning Contract must document the ways in which the second internship entails responsibilities or assignments that differ significantly from those of the first internship.

4) The minimum number of hours for an internship credit is 40. There is no maximum; it is up to the student to determine whether the work hours are reasonable.

Behaviors Expected of the Student Engaged in an Internship

- 1) Comply with any confidentiality rules in force at the internship site;
- 2) Observe all policies and procedures stipulated by the host;
- 3) Recognize regular attendance and compliance with all job requirements are essential; and
- 4) Confer at least weekly with the host supervisor to receive guidance on assignments, feedback on performance, and explanations of the organization's mission, objectives, methods, and operations.

Completion of Internship

The student will request that their host supervisor fill out the Internship Completion Form (See attached sample, *Form 3*). The student will receive academic credit or a transcript notation (zero credit option) once the internship has been completed to the host supervisor's satisfaction and the Completion Form has been signed and submitted by the student's host employer.

The student fills out the Student Evaluation Form (see attached sample, *Form 4*).

Sample Learning Contract Forms (UCONN forms- Four forms in total)