

Cover Sheet: Request 13682

GEO 4XXX – Communicating Science in the Geosciences

Info

Process	Course New Ugrad/Pro
Status	Pending at PV - University Curriculum Committee (UCC)
Submitter	Stephen Mullens stephen.mullens@ufl.edu
Created	2/25/2019 4:41:12 PM
Updated	2/19/2021 12:52:58 PM
Description of request	A new course is being created.

Actions

Step	Status	Group	User	Comment	Updated
Department	Approved	CLAS - Geography 16220000	Jane Southworth		2/28/2019
No document changes					
College	Recycled	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Joseph Spillane	Returned by department request	2/28/2019
No document changes					
Department	Approved	CLAS - Geography 16220000	Jane Southworth		9/23/2019
No document changes					
College	Recycled	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Joseph Spillane	The College Curriculum Committee recycles this request, with the following changes needed: 1) consider whether the course title should be discipline or field specific; 2) under prereqs, change "status" to "designation"; 3) the weekly schedule of assignments should cover 15 weeks; 4) under "Course Objectives" remove the public presentation item, as it is an assignment rather than an objective; 5) add a grading scale.	11/16/2019
No document changes					
Department	Approved	CLAS - Geography 16220000	Jane Southworth		11/22/2019
No document changes					
College	Approved	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Joseph Spillane		1/10/2020
No document changes					
University Curriculum Committee	Recycled	PV - University Curriculum Committee (UCC)	Casey Griffith	Requested course title is overly broad and overlaps with offerings by other units at University. Please change course title.	2/18/2020
No document changes					

Step	Status	Group	User	Comment	Updated
College	Approved	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Joseph Spillane		2/21/2020
No document changes					
University Curriculum Committee	Conditionally Approved	PV - University Curriculum Committee (UCC)	Casey Griffith	Pending consult from CALS	3/18/2020
No document changes					
College	Recycled	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Joseph Spillane	Please note the request from the UCC; the consult with CALS will be part of the larger discussion re: Geospatial Sciences. Once consult is complete, please send back to college level.	4/3/2020
No document changes					
Department	Approved	CLAS - Geography 16220000	Jane Southworth		12/7/2020
No document changes					
College	Approved	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Joseph Spillane		12/10/2020
No document changes					
University Curriculum Committee	Recycled	PV - University Curriculum Committee (UCC)	Casey Griffith	Please upload consult as previously request by the UCC.	1/20/2021
No document changes					
College	Recycled	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Joseph Spillane	Per the UCC, a consult document from CALS is required. Please let me know if the department has a question about this--J. Spillane	1/22/2021
No document changes					
Department	Approved	CLAS - Geography 16220000	Jane Southworth		1/26/2021
CommSci-External-Consult-AEC-Lundy.pdf					1/26/2021
AEC External Consult Notes.docx					1/26/2021
College	Approved	CLAS - College of Liberal Arts and Sciences	Joseph Spillane		1/26/2021
No document changes					
University Curriculum Committee	Tabled	PV - University Curriculum Committee (UCC)	Casey Griffith	Tabled for March agenda, pending consultations.	2/19/2021
No document changes					
University Curriculum Committee	Pending	PV - University Curriculum Committee (UCC)			2/19/2021
No document changes					
Statewide Course Numbering System					

Step	Status	Group	User	Comment	Updated
No document changes					
Office of the Registrar					
No document changes					
Catalog					
No document changes					
Student Academic Support System					
No document changes					
College Notified					
No document changes					

Course|New for request 13682

Info

Request: GEO 4XXX – Communicating Science in the Geosciences

Description of request: A new course is being created.

Submitter: Stephen Mullens stephen.mullens@ufl.edu

Created: 7/31/2020 3:23:07 PM

Form version: 9

Responses

Recommended Prefix

Enter the three letter code indicating placement of course within the discipline (e.g., POS, ATR, ENC). Note that for new course proposals, the State Common Numbering System (SCNS) may assign a different prefix.

Response:

GEO

Course Level

Select the one digit code preceding the course number that indicates the course level at which the course is taught (e.g., 1=freshman, 2=sophomore, etc.).

Response:

4

Number

Enter the three digit code indicating the specific content of the course based on the SCNS taxonomy and course equivalency profiles. For new course requests, this may be XXX until SCNS assigns an appropriate number.

Response:

XXX

Category of Instruction

Indicate whether the course is introductory, intermediate or advanced. Introductory courses are those that require no prerequisites and are general in nature. Intermediate courses require some prior preparation in a related area. Advanced courses require specific competencies or knowledge relevant to the topic prior to enrollment.

Response:

Advanced

- 1000 and 2000 level = Introductory undergraduate
- 3000 level = Intermediate undergraduate
- 4000 level = Advanced undergraduate
- 5000 level = Introductory graduate
- 6000 level = Intermediate graduate
- 7000 level = Advanced graduate

4000/5000 and 4000/6000 levels = Joint undergraduate/graduate (these must be approved by the UCC and the Graduate Council)

Lab Code

Enter the lab code to indicate whether the course is lecture only (None), lab only (L), or a combined lecture and lab (C).

Response:
None

Course Title

Enter the title of the course as it should appear in the Academic Catalog.

Response:
Communicating Science in the Geosciences

Transcript Title

Enter the title that will appear in the transcript and the schedule of courses. Note that this must be limited to 21 characters (including spaces and punctuation).

Response:
Communicating Science

Degree Type

Select the type of degree program for which this course is intended.

Response:
Baccalaureate

Delivery Method(s)

Indicate all platforms through which the course is currently planned to be delivered.

Response:
On-Campus

Co-Listing

Will this course be jointly taught to undergraduate, graduate, and/or professional students?

Response:
No

Co-Listing Explanation

Please detail how coursework differs for undergraduate, graduate, and/or professional students. Additionally, please upload a copy of both the undergraduate and graduate syllabus to the request in .pdf format.

Response:
N/A

Effective Term

Select the requested term that the course will first be offered. Selecting "Earliest" will allow the course to be active in the earliest term after SCNS approval. If a specific term and year are selected, this should reflect the department's best projection. Courses cannot be implemented retroactively, and therefore the actual effective term cannot be prior to SCNS approval, which must be obtained prior to the first day of classes for the effective term. SCNS approval typically requires 2 to 6 weeks after approval of the course at UF.

Response:
Earliest Available

Effective Year

Select the requested year that the course will first be offered. See preceding item for further information.

Response:
Earliest Available

Rotating Topic?

Select "Yes" if the course can have rotating (varying) topics. These course titles can vary by topic in the Schedule of Courses.

Response:
No

Repeatable Credit?

Select "Yes" if the course may be repeated for credit. If the course will also have rotating topics, be sure to indicate this in the question above.

Response:
No

Amount of Credit

Select the number of credits awarded to the student upon successful completion, or select "Variable" if the course will be offered with variable credit and then indicate the minimum and maximum credits per section. Note that credit hours are regulated by Rule 6A-10.033, FAC. If you select "Variable" for the amount of credit, additional fields will appear in which to indicate the minimum and maximum number of total credits.

Response:
3

S/U Only?

Select "Yes" if all students should be graded as S/U in the course. Note that each course must be entered into the UF curriculum inventory as either letter-graded or S/U. A course may not have both options. However, letter-graded courses allow students to take the course S/U with instructor permission.

Response:
No

Contact Type

Select the best option to describe course contact type. This selection determines whether base hours or

headcount hours will be used to determine the total contact hours per credit hour. Note that the headcount hour options are for courses that involve contact between the student and the professor on an individual basis.

Response:
Regularly Scheduled

- Regularly Scheduled [base hr]
- Thesis/Dissertation Supervision [1.0 headcount hr]
- Directed Individual Studies [0.5 headcount hr]
- Supervision of Student Interns [0.8 headcount hr]
- Supervision of Teaching/Research [0.5 headcount hr]
- Supervision of Cooperative Education [0.8 headcount hr]

Contact the Office of Institutional Planning and Research (352-392-0456) with questions regarding contact type.

Weekly Contact Hours

Indicate the number of hours instructors will have contact with students each week on average throughout the duration of the course.

Response:
3

Course Description

Provide a brief narrative description of the course content. This description will be published in the Academic Catalog and is limited to 50 words or fewer. See course description guidelines.

Response:
An examination of techniques to communicate scientific knowledge and research to non-science audiences. Topics include quantitative and qualitative research methods, using narrative, discussing data and statistics, risk communication, and communicating with journalists and politicians. Readings, discussions, and projects facilitate understanding of best practices when communicating to people making evidence-based decisions.

Prerequisites

Indicate all requirements that must be satisfied prior to enrollment in the course. Prerequisites will be automatically checked for each student attempting to register for the course. The prerequisite will be published in the Academic Catalog and must be formulated so that it can be enforced in the registration system. Please note that upper division courses (i.e., intermediate or advanced level of instruction) must have proper prerequisites to target the appropriate audience for the course.

Response:
Any GenEd course with a "B" or "P" designation.

Completing Prerequisites on UCC forms:

- Use "&" and "or" to conjoin multiple requirements; do not use commas, semicolons, etc.
- Use parentheses to specify groupings in multiple requirements.
- Specifying a course prerequisite (without specifying a grade) assumes the required passing grade is D-. In order to specify a different grade, include the grade in parentheses immediately after the course number. For example, "MAC 2311(B)" indicates that students are required to obtain a grade of B in Calculus I. MAC2311 by itself would only require a grade of D-.
- Specify all majors or minors included (if all majors in a college are acceptable the college code is sufficient).
- "Permission of department" is always an option so it should not be included in any prerequisite or co-requisite.

Example: A grade of C in HSC 3502, passing grades in HSC 3057 or HSC 4558, and major/minor in PHHP

should be written as follows:

HSC 3502(C) & (HSC 3057 or HSC 4558) & (HP college or (HS or CMS or DSC or HP or RS minor))

Co-requisites

Indicate all requirements that must be taken concurrently with the course. Co-requisites are not checked by the registration system.

Response:

None

Rationale and Placement in Curriculum

Explain the rationale for offering the course and its place in the curriculum.

Response:

This course will equip students with a deeper understanding of communicating natural science topics to non-science audiences. It is best for upper-level undergraduate students who have already taken a science course and have interest in the research process. It is a new course affiliated with the Department of Geography.

Course Objectives

Describe the core knowledge and skills that student should derive from the course. The objectives should be both observable and measurable.

Response:

Compare and explain the differences between academic communication of quantitative and qualitative scientific methods.

Construct systematic narratives that aid science communications.

Evaluate communications from science organizations for their use of narrative.

Evaluate and translate p-values and statistically significant, nearly-significant, and non-significant results to the public.

Evaluate and understand risk, the importance of communicating risk, and how organizations engage in risk communication.

Understand and contrast principles for communicating with the public, media, and elected officials.

Course Textbook(s) and/or Other Assigned Reading

Enter the title, author(s) and publication date of textbooks and/or readings that will be assigned. Please provide specific examples to evaluate the course.

Response:

Risk Communication: A Handbook for Communicating Environmental, Safety, and Health Risks, Regina E. Lundgren and Andrea H. McMakin, 2009

Houston, We Have A Narrative, Randy Olson, 2015

Academic journal articles that aid learning objectives.

Weekly Schedule of Topics

Provide a projected weekly schedule of topics. This should have sufficient detail to evaluate how the course would meet current curricular needs and the extent to which it overlaps with existing courses at UF.

Response:

1-Quantitative Research Methods

2-Qualitative Research Methods

- 3-Using narrative in science
- 4-Tools for creating narratives for science communication
- 5-Communicating statistical significance
- 6-Risk communication introduction
- 7-Decision-making in crisis situations
- 8-Motivating action through calls to action.
- 9-Adapting and reaction to audiences, minorities, and critics
- 10-Narratives and data visualization
- 11-Creating and delivering risk communication
- 12-Educating the public on scientific topics
- 13-Engaging in outreach activities, in person and online
- 14-Communicating with journalists and elected officials.
- 15-Managing existing false and misleading information

Links and Policies

*Consult the syllabus policy page for a list of required and recommended links to add to the syllabus. Please list the links and any additional policies that will be added to the course syllabus.
Please see: syllabus.ufl.edu for more information*

Response:

Attendance

Class attendance is mandatory. Each unexcused absence will result in a 10 point reduction in the final grade. Excused absences are consistent with university policies in the undergraduate catalog (<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>) and require appropriate documentation. Students who can demonstrate that they were unable to submit an assignment by the deadline due to an excused absence and who can provide appropriate documentation for the absence will be given a reasonable period of time to make up the late work.

Accommodations

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluation

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>.

Expectations of you

Students are expected to arrive to class on time and behave in a manner that is respectful to the instructor and to fellow students. Please avoid the use of cell phones and restrict eating to outside of the classroom. Opinions held by other students should be respected in discussion, and conversations that do not contribute to the discussion should be held at minimum, if at all. UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

The Honor Code (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

Counseling and Wellness

Contact information for the Counseling and Wellness Center:

<http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392-1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Writing Assistance

The writing studio is committed to helping University of Florida students meet their academic and professional goals by becoming better writers. Visit the writing studio online at <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/> or in 302 Tigert Hall for one-on-one consultations and workshops.

Grading Scheme

List the types of assessments, assignments and other activities that will be used to determine the course grade, and the percentage contribution from each. This list should have sufficient detail to evaluate the course rigor and grade integrity. Include details about the grading rubric and percentage breakdowns for determining grades.

Response:

15% - Exam 1

25% - Exam 2

25% - Final Project

25% - Homework assignments

10% - Attendance

A 93.0-100

A- 90.0-92.9

B+ 87.0-89.9

B 83.0-86.9

B- 80.0-82.9

C+ 77.0-79.9

C 73.0-76.9

C- 70.0-72.9

D+ 67.0-69.9

D 63.0-66.9

D- 60.0-62.9

E 0.0-59.9

Instructor(s)

Enter the name of the planned instructor or instructors, or "to be determined" if instructors are not yet identified.

Response:

Stephen Mullens

External Consult Notes – Department of Agricultural Education and Communication

Our AEC faculty who focus on agricultural communication collaborated and offer the following external consult notes:

- The course covers bits and pieces from several of our courses, specifically risk/crisis comm (AEC 3065 and AEC 6540), media literacy (AEC 3070), communicating with politicians (AEC 4932/6932), constructing narratives (AEC 4035 and several other courses), and working with journalists (probably covered in all of our courses to some degree). Because this is a very foundational-type course, we don't think it goes into the depth our courses do in any of these areas.
- If this is just something CLAS Geography is aiming to offer for students in their department, we support this and would gladly come alongside them in offering assistance with guest lectures, connections, etc. If they are looking to offer something bigger (in terms of enrollment or programmatic focus), there are a number of other programs on campus already offering similar courses (AEC, Communication Studies, Journalism and Communications).

External Consultation Results (departments with potential overlap or interest in proposed course, if any)

Department	Name and Title
_____	_____
Phone Number	E-mail
_____	_____
Comments	

Department	Name and Title
_____	_____
Phone Number	E-mail
_____	_____
Comments	

Department	Name and Title
_____	_____
Phone Number	E-mail
_____	_____
Comments	