

UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON – EXPEDITED COURSE CHANGE PROPOSAL

Submit this form electronically, beginning with the first required level of review (department or college level). Each level of review passes the form and any attachments to the next level when the action is approved.

Submitted by: Pamela Grothe	Date Prepared: 9/27/2019
Department/Discipline(s) and Course Number(s): Earth and Environmental Science EESC 210	
Course Title: Oceanography	

Type of change (check all applicable):

Number* X Title _____ Description _____ Prerequisites X Deletion _____ Cross list** _____

This course number must be approved by the Office of the Registrar before the proposal is submitted. **With this course proposal, attach a list of ALL COURSES that will be affected by the number change (for example, cases where the course number that is changing is a prerequisite for another course).*

***To cross list courses between departments/colleges, there should be two cover sheets submitted with the proposal – one by the chair of each department with signatures from the relevant College Curriculum Committee Chair.*

Effective Date: FALL Semester, Year 2020

Current Catalog Entry	Proposed Catalog Entry (suggested length – less than 50 words)
210 – Oceanography (3) Prerequisite: EESC 111. An introduction to the oceans. Physical and chemical processes affecting seawater; the geology of the seafloor; biological productivity in the oceans; and environmental challenges involving the oceans.	121 – Oceanography (4) An introduction to the oceans. Physical and chemical processes affecting seawater; the geology of the seafloor; biological productivity in the oceans; and environmental challenges involving the oceans. Laboratory.

JUSTIFICATION (including impact on majors, minors, concentrations, and general education courses within the University curriculum; attach additional pages if required). **Any change that impacts another Department must have a written statement (such as a copy of an email) from the Chair(s) agreeing to the change.**

Currently, the EESC 210 Oceanography course does not have a required lab and is designed as the second sequence of the Natural Science track for the General Education requirements (EESC 111-210). With the change in General Education requirements where students may possibly only take one lab-based science class, we would like Oceanography to be an option to fulfill students' Natural Science elective. The optional Oceanography Lab (EESC 211) would be deleted (see additional Expedited Course Change Proposal) and incorporated into this class, changing the class to 4-credits (see Course Change Credit proposal). Since this will no longer be part of a sequence, we would like to remove the EESC 111 prerequisite and change the course number to 121, aligning it with other 100 level courses in the department not requiring a prerequisite. We chose 121 to align with geology-focused classes ending in '1' (e.g. EESC 111 – Our Dynamic Earth), as the Environmental Science introductory sequence classes ends with '0' (e.g. EESC 110 and 120).

This change would allow Oceanography to count as their Natural Science course for the General Education requirements, and would continue to count as an elective class for EESC majors and the Sustainability minor. Additionally, it would not affect the requirements for the Interdisciplinary Science Studies major, as students would now enroll in EESC 121 (4 credits) rather than EESC 210 (3 credits) and EESC 211 (1 credit).

The only content the prerequisite course, EESC 111 – Our Dynamic Earth, that overlaps Oceanography is plate tectonics. As the instructor, I have always re-taught this portion of the class as it relates to Oceanography, and will continue to teach it, assuming students do not have foundational knowledge in that subject. I have routinely approved students to take Oceanography out of sequence (common for those completing a Sustainability minor) as the way I teach it includes a thorough overview of the overlapping topics in EESC 111.

TRANSITION PLAN *(describe how will students who are in Catalogs where the course is required for a major be accommodated; attach additional pages if required)*

Students who take EESC 210 will still have it count as their elective in the EESC major, Sustainability minor, and Interdisciplinary Science Studies major. It will also count as the second sequence of the Natural Science General Education requirements for students graduating under the old General Education requirements. As EESC 210 does not have a lab (unless students take 211) it will not count as the Natural Science for students under the new General Education requirements. Once switched to EESC 121, the class will continue to count as an elective in the EESC major and Sustainability minor, and the Interdisciplinary Science major, but will also count as the lab-based science class for the Natural Science General Education requirement.

Approvals

Department Chair Jodie Hayob

Date: 9/30/2019

College Curriculum Chair _____

Date: _____

Expedited course changes are posted for a 10-class day comment period. If no comments are raised, the proposal becomes final. All expedited proposals approved in this way will be noted on the UCC web site. If comments are raised, the proposal may be reviewed by the UCC and then approved or it may be returned to the CCC for additional deliberation (as required).