UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON -- NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

Electronically submit this completed form with attachments in one file to the Chair of the College Curriculum Committee.

**COLLEGE** (check one): [ ] Arts and Sciences [x] Business [ ] Education

Proposal Submitted By: Deborah Zies                           Date Prepared: July 17, 2013
Course Title: Current Topics in Biology
Department/discipline and course number*: BIOL128

*This course number must be approved by the Office of the Registrar before the proposal is submitted.

Number of credits proposed: 3  Prerequisites: BIOL121 or BIOL125

Will this be a new, repeatable “special topics” course? (Do you want students to be able to take this new course more than once if the topic changes?)  NO  [x]  YES

Date of first offering of this new course: FALL SEMESTER, year  Fall 2015
Proposed frequency of offering of the course: 2 sections per year
List the faculty who will likely teach the course: Various biology faculty
Are ANY new resources required?  NO  [x]  YES  Document in attached impact statement

This new course will be (check all that apply):

- [ ] Required in the major
- [x] General Elective
- [ ] Elective in the major
- [x] General Education**

**AFTER the new course is approved, a separate proposal must be sent to the General Education Committee.

Catalog Description:
Courses will cover topics in biology that are of current interest to non-major students. Topics will be specifically developed to build upon basic biological concepts and will satisfy the second semester of the natural science general education requirement. Does not count toward the biology major.

COURSE HISTORY

Was this course taught previously as a topics or experimental course?  [x] YES  NO  [ ]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number and Title of Previous Course</th>
<th>Semester Offered</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

CHECK HERE if the proposed course is to be equated with the earlier topics or experimental offerings. This means that students who took the earlier “topics” course will only be able to take the new course if they made a C- grade or lower in the earlier course.

NOTE: If the proposed course has not been previously offered as a topics or experimental course, explain in the attached rationale statement why the course should be adopted even though it has not been tried out.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS:
1. Rationale Statement (Why is this course needed? What purposes will it serve?)
2. Impact Statement (Provide details about the Library, space, budget, and technology impacts created by adding this new course. Include supporting statements from the Library, IT Department, etc. as needed.)
3. Sample Syllabus

Department Chair Approval: Andrew Dolby                      Date: October 2013

CCC Chair Approval: Tim ODonnell                           Date: 10-23-13

UCC Chair Approval:                                        Date:________
Rationale Statement for BIOL128 – Current Topics in Biology:
The Department of Biological Science seeks to have *Current Topics in Biology* established as a course that would provide a mechanism by which UMW students can satisfy the second semester natural science general education requirement. Currently, to fill the need, we teach four sections of BIOL127 (*Human Biology*) every spring and BIOL204 (*Nutrition*) on occasion (one section three of the last four years). We are removing BIOL204 from the curriculum to avoid any confusion with the new biology major course (*Nutrition and Metabolism*). *Current Topics in Biology* would be a new course that provides students with an alternative to BIOL127. The topics design of the course would allow a variety of biology faculty to develop non-major courses in their field of expertise. Examples of topics include human genetics, ecology, microorganisms, the diversity of life, and evolution. Although this course has not been taught before, each interested faculty member would develop a course that would be vertically building on topics introduced in BIOL121 (*Biological Concepts I*), therefore, the style of the course would be similar to BIOL127 and BIOL204, both of which satisfy the general education requirement and have been taught in previous years. Syllabi for each of those courses have been attached.

The department agrees that the topics of each individually developed course would be unique and that the course numbers should be appended with a letter. Therefore, the department will review and approve each new topic prior to its first offering. Students that receive a C- or below would have to repeat the same topic course in order to replace their grade. Student that receive and F could, however, take a different topic, or BIOL127, to satisfy their general education requirement.

Impact Statement
No new resources would be required to offer this course. We are dropping BIOL204 (*Nutrition*) from the curriculum and we anticipate a drop in the number of sections of BIOL122 (*Biological Concepts II*) and BIOL127 (*Human Biology*) as non-major students enroll in BIOL128. Therefore, faculty currently teaching those courses would be free to develop and teach *Current Topics in Biology*.

Sample Syllabus

**Biology 128 – Current Topics in Biology**

**Professor:** Dr. Deborah Zies

**Office:** Jepson 330  
**Office Phone:** (540) 654-1435  
**Email:** dzies@umw.edu

**Course Schedule:** Lecture TR 2:00pm – 3:15pm Jepson 219

**Course Topic:**
The topic for this section of BIOL128 is Human Nutrition. The course will cover current information regarding basic nutrition, the energy nutrients, energy balance and weight control, the importance of vitamins and minerals, and global nutrition. The course is taught in a functional and case study format where students will learn about nutrients in relationship to their functions in the human body and will apply those concepts to case studies and their own nutrition and health. BIOL 128 fulfills the natural sciences component of the university’s general education curriculum.
Course Objectives:
1. To identify current issues in which scientific progress may challenge traditional social ideas or present moral or ethical dilemmas, specifically in the area of human nutrition.
2. To understand energy metabolism.
3. To understand the relationship between vitamins and minerals and their function in the body.
4. To apply concepts in nutrition to a healthful lifestyle.
5. To understand food accessibility and safety on a global scale.

Course Materials:

Course Grades

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Lecture tests X 100 points each</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th lecture test at the final exam time</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Nutrition article assignments</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Homework assignments</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutri Case assignments</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Book in class assignments</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diet Analysis</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>650</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grade Determination: your total points earned/650 X 100

Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84-86</td>
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<td>C+</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>74-76</td>
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<td>D+</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>&lt;60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mid-Semester Report (July 7): Averages below 70% will be reported a “U”.

Honor Code
You are expected to abide by the UMW Honor Code. You may discuss assignments and labs with your classmates, but the final report must be your own work.

a. For On-line assignments you must type your initials after the pledge to indicate your acceptance of the pledge.

b. For written assignments you must write out or type the complete pledge as follows, “I hereby declare, upon my word of honor, that I have neither given nor received any unauthorized help on this work.” Signature is required.

c. For exams, you must sign the pledge where indicated.

Additional Information:
1. Attendance in lecture: Attendance in lecture is not mandatory. There are, however, discussion and in class assignments that cannot be made up.
2. Disability Services: In order to receive accommodation for disabilities you must bring a formal letter addressed to me from Dr. Sally Scott, Director of Disability Services (654-1010).
3. No food or drink are allowed in class
4. Cell phones must be turned off during lecture

**Nutrition Article Assignments.** These assignments are meant to emphasize current hot topics in the nutrition field. In each unit, you will choose from a series of annual edition articles. You will read the article, determine the main thesis of the article and indentify supporting facts from the article and your text. There is a guide for the nutrition article assignments on blackboard (10 points each for 40 points). Additionally, you must contribute to the class discussion on nutrition trends at least twice during the semester using the information from your article (5 points each for 10 points). You may add information to other discussions for 1 pt extra credit each.

**Homework.** There will be 5 homework assignments dispersed throughout the semester. These assignments are meant to review material before each exam. The assignment will be posted on blackboard and is due at the beginning of class on the day indicated.

**Nutri Case Assignments.** These assignments are dispersed throughout your text. You will be assigned one nutri case individual. When your individual appears within the text, you need to write and be prepared to present a summary of the situation to the class. You do not need to answer the questions, that is for class discussion, you just need to present the case. The first 5 summaries you complete are worth 5 points each. Each additional summary, and a presentation in class are worth 1pt extra credit (up to 7 total).

**Blue Book Assignments.** These assignments are in class questions regarding our current topics. You must be present to complete the assignment. There will be at least 10 assignments randomly placed throughout the semester. They are worth 5 points each. If you complete more than 10, each additional assignment is worth 2pts extra credit.

**Diet Analysis.** These assignments are meant to help you analyze your own diet in terms of the topics we cover. Initially you will create a three day food log and activity log. Subsequently, you will use that information to analyze the quality of your diet in terms of the various nutrients we discuss throughout the semester. They are worth varying amounts of points. These assignments include a final, comprehensive assignment in which you analyze a case study diet.
**Tentative Lecture Schedule**

All powerpoint slides for lectures will be posted before class in blackboard under lecture notes. I strongly recommend printing out the slides and taking notes directly on the slides during lecture.

**Week 1**

- Introduction - Syllabus
- Chapter 1 – The Role of Nutrition in Our Health
- Assign nutricases
- Chapter 2 – Designing a Healthful Diet

**Bring to class blue book/Food pyramid**

- BB1
- Have nutricase introductions here

**Week 2**

- Chapter 3 – The Human Body: Are We What We Eat?
- Chapter 4 – Carbohydrates: Bountiful Sources of Energy and Nutrients

**Seven day analysis due (DA2)**

- BB2

**Week 3**

- Chapter 4 – Carbohydrates: Bountiful Sources of Energy and Nutrients

**Homework 1 due**

- BB3

**Nutrition article discussion 1**

**Week 4**

- Chapter 5 – Lipids: Essential Energy-Supplying Nutrients

**Nutri case discussion/Wrap up and Review**

**Week 5**

- **Exam 1 (Chapters 3-5)**
  - Chapter 6 – Proteins: Crucial Components of All Body Tissues
  - Chapter 7 – Metabolism: From Food to Life

**Week 6**

- Chapter 8 – Nutrients Involved in Energy Metabolism
- Chapter 9 – Nutrients involved in Fluid and Electrolyte Balance
- Chapter 10 – Nutrients Involved in Antioxidant Function

**Week 7**

- **Nutrition Article Discussion 2**

**Exam 2 (Chapters 7 – 10)**

**Week 8**

- Spring Break

**Week 9**

- Chapter 11 – Nutrients Involved in Bone Health
**Nutri case discussion**  
Chapter 12 – Nutrients Involved in Blood Health

**Week 10**  
Chapter 13 - Maintaining a Healthful Weight  
**Nutrition Article Discussion 3**

**Week 11**  
Chapter 14 – Physical Activity  
Chapter 15 – Disordered Eating

**Week 12**  
**Exam 3 (Chapters 11 – 15)**  
Diet For A New America

**Week 13**  
Chapter 16 – Food Safety  
Chapter 17, 18, 19 – Nutrition through the life cycle

**Week 14**  
**Nutri case discussion**  
Chapter 17, 18, 19 – Nutrition through the life cycle

**Week 15**  
Chapter 20 – Global Nutrition  
**Nutrition Article discussion 4**

**Week 16**  
Final exam