

08-700

LSC Use Only No:	LSC Action-Date:	UWUCC USE Only No.	UWUCC Action-Date:	Senate Action Date:
		07-4300	App-10/14/08	App-2/24/09

Curriculum Proposal Cover Sheet - University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

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Proposing Department/Unit Geosciences - Natural Sciences and Mathematics	Phone 724-357-7650

Check all appropriate lines and complete information as requested. Use a separate cover sheet for each course proposal and for each program proposal.

1. Course Proposals (check all that apply)

New Course Course Prefix Change Course Deletion
 Course Revision Course Number and/or Title Change Catalog Description Change

GEOS 338 Geology of the American Southwest	GEOS 406 American Southwest Field Workshop
<i>Current Course prefix, number and full title</i>	<i>Proposed course prefix, number and full title, if changing</i>

2. Additional Course Designations: check if appropriate

This course is also proposed as a Liberal Studies Course. Other: (e.g., Women's Studies, Pan-African)
 This course is also proposed as an Honors College Course.

3. Program Proposals

New Degree Program Program Title Change Program Revision
 New Minor Program New Track Other
 Catalog Description Change

<i>Current program name</i>	<i>Proposed program name, if changing</i>
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4. Approvals		Date
Department Curriculum Committee Chair(s)		2/4/08
Department Chair(s)		2/4/08
College Curriculum Committee Chair		2-11-08
College Dean		2-11-08
Director of Liberal Studies *		
Director of Honors College *		
Provost *		
Additional signatures as appropriate: (include title)		
UWUCC Co-Chairs		10/14/08

* where applicable

Received Received
 SEP 25 2008 FEB 14 2008
 Liberal Studies Liberal Studies

Part II. Description of Curriculum Change

1. Catalog Description

GEOS 406 American Southwest Field Workshop (var-3cr)

Prerequisite: GEOS 405; instructor permission required,

A field study of the major geologic features and relationships exposed in the American Southwest, including the Colorado Plateau, the Rio Grande Rift, Death Valley, and parts of the eastern Sierra Nevada in California. (Three weeks, taught in the summer only).

2. Proposed Changes

Old Catalog Description:

GEOS 338 Geology of American Southwest (var-3cr)

Prerequisite: Instructor permission required, at least 14cr of Geoscience courses recommended

A field study of the major geologic features and relationships exposed in the American Southwest, including the Colorado Plateau, the Rio Grande Rift, Death Valley, and parts of the Southern Rocky Mountains. (Three weeks, taught in the summer only).

Proposed changes include a) a change in course number, b) elimination of the requirement that a student have completed 14 credits of Geoscience coursework, and c) addition of GEOS 405 as a prerequisite or corequisite.

3. Justification/Rationale for Proposed Changes

a) The change in course number is proposed to be consistent with the Geoscience Department's new course numbering system.

b) and c) Fourteen credits of Geoscience courses were only ever recommended with the final decision as to whether a student could take the course being left up to the instructor. As one goal of the Geoscience Department's proposed program revisions is to make these field courses more accessible to students earlier in their IUP careers, we are removing this recommendation. To prepare students for the field course we are adding as a prerequisite a one-credit pre-trip seminar (GEOS 405; see attached New Course Proposal). This seminar will introduce the regional geology of the field area, discuss controversies in the interpretation of the region's geologic history, and develop the skills necessary to successfully complete the field exercises conducted on the trip.

Part III. Letters of Support or Acknowledgement

No other departments or programs are affected by this change.