

LSC Use Only No: LSC Action-Date: UWUCC USE Only No. 04-13d UWUCC Action-Date: Apr 10/26/04 Senate Action Date: Apr 12/7/04

Curriculum Proposal Cover Sheet - University-Wide Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

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Proposing Department/Unit SDR/Science for Disaster Response	Phone 724-357-2584

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

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SDR 311 Structure of DNA, RNA, and Cell Morphology  
Current Course prefix, number and full title      Proposed course prefix, number and full title, if changing

**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       Other  
 New Minor Program       New Track  
 Catalog Description Change       Program Revision

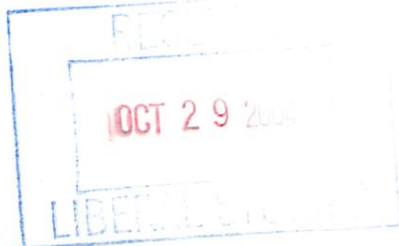
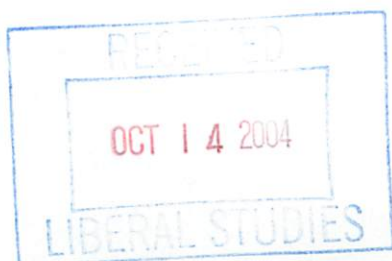
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Current program name      Proposed program name, if changing

**4. Approvals**

		Date
Department Curriculum Committee Chair(s)	<i>Archie G. Hahn - Secretary</i>	3-22-04
Department Chair(s)	<i>Colby</i>	3/22/04
College Curriculum Committee Chair	<i>[Signature]</i>	08/10/04
College Dean	<i>John D. Ed</i>	8/19/04
Director of Liberal Studies *		
Director of Honors College *		
Provost *		
Additional signatures as appropriate: (include title)		
UWUCC Co-Chairs	<i>Carl Sechrest</i>	10-26-04

\* where applicable



## **SYLLABUS OF RECORD**

### **I. Catalog Description**

SDR 311 Structure of DNA, RNA, and Cell Morphology	3 class hours
	3 lab hours
	5 credit hours
	(3c-31-5cr)

Prerequisites: SDR 211, CHEM 113, 114 or equivalent, and permission of instructor and local, state or federal agency/organization authorization.

Level 3 biology provides the apprentice level laboratory technician with the knowledge and laboratory skills necessary to work in a biological safety laboratory. Focuses on the basic understanding of fundamental microbiology, staining procedures and microscopic identification of potential biological agents. The possible role of microorganisms in bioterrorism is explored. Emphasis is placed on host-parasite interactions and the human immune system. Emphasis in laboratory classes in microbiology is on aseptic techniques and safe handling of biological agents. The laboratories in eukaryotic gene expression, cloning of sheep DNA and PCR technology provide the opportunity to gain knowledge of how genes could be modified and genetically manipulated in clandestine laboratories to produce potential bioterroristic agents.

### **II. Course Objectives**

Students successfully completing this course will be able to

1. Identify the unique and fundamental properties of microorganisms.
2. Differentiate between eukaryotic and prokaryotic cells.
3. Explain the host-parasite relationship.
4. Contrast innate and adaptive immunity.
5. Explain the role microbes may play in bioterrorism.

6. Explain the diversity of the microbial world.
7. Develop skills in aseptic and basic laboratory techniques when working with microorganisms.

### **III. Course Outline**

#### **Lecture Schedule (42 total hours)**

- A. Introduction (1 hour)
  1. History of Microbiology
  2. Basic Concepts in Microbiology
  3. Chemical Principles
- B. The Bacteria (1 hour)
  1. Bacterial Structure and Growth
  2. Bacterial Metabolism
  3. Bacterial Genetics
- C. Viruses (2 hours)
  1. Viral genomes and infection process
  2. Viral vectors and means of transmission
  3. Principles of Replication
  4. Prions, and Viroids
- D. Case studies on outbreak of specific infectious diseases (2 hours)
  1. Ebola Hemorrhagic fever
  2. Viral Encephalitis
  3. SARS
  4. West-Nile virus infection
- E. Principles of Disease and Epidemiology (2 hours)
  1. Pathogen, etiology, infection, and disease
  2. Koch's postulates
  3. Infection and Disease
  4. Communicable and non-communicable disease
  5. Reservoir of infection
  6. Emerging infectious diseases

7. Function of CDC
  8. Methods of disease transmission in hospitals
- F. Microbial Mechanism of Pathogenicity (4 hours)
1. Pathogen ports of entry: viruses and bacteria
  2. Receptor sites and adhesion
  3. Role of capsules and pathogenicity in bacteria
  4. Nature and effects of exotoxins and endotoxins
  5. Enzymes and their role in penetration
  6. Plasmids, Lysogeny, and pathogenicity
  7. Cytopathic effects of viral infections
- G. Immune Responses (4 hours)
1. Specific and non-specific immune responses
  2. Practical applications of immunology
    - i) Vaccines and how they work
    - ii) Types of vaccines (inactivated, conjugated vaccines)
    - iii) Whole-agent vaccines, recombinant vaccines, and DNA vaccines
    - iv) ELISA
    - v) Monoclonal antibodies
    - vi) Fluorescent-antibody testing
  3. Innate immunity, Adaptive immunity and Serology
- Mid-Term Exam (1 hour)**
- H. Control of Microorganisms (4 hours)
1. Disinfection
  2. Sterilization
  3. Antisepsis, Antiseptics
  4. Chemical agents
  5. Germicides
  6. Degermination
  7. Sanitization
  8. Physical Control of Microorganisms
  9. Chemical Control of Microorganisms

10. Chemotherapeutic Agents and Antibiotics
- I. The Role of Microorganisms in Biological Warfare, Bioterrorism, and Biocrime (3 hours)
- J. DNA Replication Process and Polymerase Chain Reaction (2 hours)
1. Enzymes in DNA replication/Enzymes in *in vitro* amplification process
  2. DNA polymerization and role of dNTP's
  3. Role of the PCR Requirements in DNA amplification
- K. Factors Effecting PCR Specificity (2 hours)
1. component Concentration
  2. Time
  3. Temperature
  4. Primer-Template Duplex Stability
  5. Primer design
- L. Use of polymerase Chain reaction (PCR) (4 hours)
1. for detection of genes encoding *Botulinum* neurotoxin (Types A and B)
  2. for detection and characterization of *Brucella*
  3. for detection and characterization of *Bacillus anthracis*
  4. Reverse Transcription PCR (RNA starting material)
- M. Comparison of Real-Time PCR with Conventional PCR ( 2 hours)
1. Principles of Real-Time PCR (2-step PCR)
  2. Considerations for Real-Time PCR
  3. Applications of Real-Time PCR
- N. Nuclear RNA processing and Analysis (4 hours)
1. mRNA Processing (role of Capping, Splicing, and poly (A) addition)
  2. mRNA turnover
  3. Harvesting cells and preparation of nuclei
  4. Cellular lysis
  5. labeling transcripts
  6. RNA-RNA hybridization
  7. Nuclear run-off assay

- O. Role of RNA intermediates and Translation Process (2 hours)
    - 1. Mature mRNA transcripts (codons)
    - 2. role of tRNA, snRNA, and rRNA in translation process
    - 3. Genetic Code and Codon Degeneracy
  - P. The role of translation process that govern protein synthesis and the production of bioactive proteins (2 hours)
- Comprehensive Final Exam (2 hours)**

**Laboratory-Tentative Schedule (42 total hours)**

- A. Microscopy (2 hours)
- B. Survey of Microorganisms (2 hours)
  - 1. Bacteria
  - 2. Cyanobacteria
  - 3. Protozoa
  - 4. Fungi
- C. Isolation and Culture (2 hours)
  - 1. Aseptic Techniques and Broth Culture
  - 2. Agar Slant Culture
  - 3. Streak Plate
  - 4. Pour Plate
- D. Staining Techniques (4 hours)
  - 1. Smear Preparation and Simple Staining
  - 2. Gram Stain
  - 3. Endospore Stain
  - 4. Acridine Orange Stain
- E. Microbial Numbers (4 hours)
  - 1. Quantitative Dilution and Spectrophotometry
  - 2. Bacterial Growth Curve
- F. Metabolic Activities (4 hours)
  - 1. Sugar Fermentations
  - 2. Starch Hydrolysis

3. Gelatin Hydrolysis
  4. Hydrogen Sulfide Production
  5. Catalase and Oxidase
  6. Urea Hydrolysis
  7. IMViC
  8. Miniaturized and Rapid Biochemical Tests
- G. Medical Microbiology (2 hours)
1. Blood agar Plates
  2. Normal Throat Flora
  3. Normal Skin Flora
  4. Antimicrobial Sensitivity Testing
- H. Immunology (4 hours)
1. Agglutination Reactions
  2. Immunodiffusion
  3. Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay
  4. Fluorescent Antibody Technique
- I. The students will be required to identify two sets of unknowns during the semester
- J. Recombinant DNA laboratories (cloning and Southern Blotting) (6 hours)
- K. Chromatin Isolation and analysis (6 hours)
- L. PCR Laboratories (6 hours)

#### **IV. Evaluation Methods**

The final grade in the course will be determined as follows:

##### **A. Examinations (Total = 50%)**

There will be two exams in the course. A mid-term during the middle of the semester and a comprehensive final during the finals week. The exams will be a variety of different question types including short answer and essay questions.

## **B. Laboratory Component (25%).**

The students will be required to submit laboratory portfolios with all the data carefully analyzed and discussed. The portfolios will be evaluated through out the semester after completion of a specific module. Each portfolio must include experimental observations, analysis, calculations, and conclusions. The portfolio will be evaluated for data collection, analysis, content, data presentation, and writing. The individual laboratory portfolio is expected to demonstrate the author's ability to collect the data, synthesize and interpret results and to think critically about scientific data. In its final form, the portfolio is to resemble a scientific review article with correct grammar usage, punctuation and spelling as well as scientific terminology.

## **C. Capstone Event (25%)**

The Capstone event is an equivalent of a term paper performed by the student outside of the regular class hours. The event is a simulation of a real-life incident involving WMD. Students will be evaluated on their ability to assess an "incident site" for possible unknown biological hazards and conduct a proper response call. The student will apply prior training and education in response to biological incidents. Each student will construct a portfolio that documents his or her response to the capstone event. The format for the portfolio report will be similar to the format used for real incident reports and training reports.

## **V. Grading Scale:**

Grades will be determined from the total points obtained divided by the total possible points, and expressed on a percentage scale.

A = 90-100%; B = 80 – 89%; C= 70 - 79%; D= 60-69%; F = below 60%



## VI. Attendance Policy

Attendance in both lecture and laboratory is expected of all students in the class. The policy is governed by university rules and regulations. The students are strongly encouraged to attend all classes.

## VII. Required Textbooks, Supplemental Books and Readings

### Required Textbooks:

1. Bharathan, N., A. Andrew, and S. Bharathan: *Weapons of Mass Destruction-Response Element Advanced Laboratory Integrated Training Indoctrination (WMD-REALITI) Intermediate Level Biological Lesson Plans*. (Revised January 2004).
2. Textbook: Alamo, E. *Fundamentals of Microbiology*. 6<sup>th</sup> ed.; Jones and Bartlett Publishers: Sudbury, MA, 2001.
3. Laboratory: Kelley, S.; Post, F. *Microbiology Techniques*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed.; Star Publishers: Belmont, CA, 2002.

### **Supplemental Books and Readings:**

1. Alamo, E. *Fundamentals of Microbiology*, 5th ed.; Benjamin Cummings: Menlo Park, CA, 1997.
2. Alibek, K. *Biohazard*; Delta Publishers: New York, 1999.
3. Boyd, R. *Basic Medical Microbiology*, 5th ed.; Little Brown and Company: Boston, MA, 1995.
4. Burden, D. W.; Whitney, D. B. *Biotechnology: Proteins to PCR*; Birkhauser: Boston, MA, 1995.
5. Farrell, R. E., Jr. *RNA Methodologies*; Academic Press: New York, 1998.

6. Fleming, D.; Hunt, D., Eds. *Biological Safety: Principles and Practices*, 3rd ed.; ASM Press: Washington, DC, 2000.
7. Forbes, B.; et.al. *Bailey and Scott's Diagnostic Microbiology*, 12<sup>th</sup> ed.; Mosby: St. Louis, MO, 2004.
8. Jensen, M. et al. *Microbiology for the Health Sciences*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed.; Prentice Hall: Upper Saddle River, NJ, 1997.
9. McKane, L.; Kandel, J. *Microbiology*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.; McGraw Hill: New York, 1996.
10. Prescott, L. et.al. *Microbiology*, 6<sup>th</sup> ed.; McGraw Hill: New York, 2004.

### **VIII. Special Resource Requirements**

None.

### **IX. Bibliography**

Alberts, B.; Bray, D.; Lewis, J.; Raff, M.; Roberts, K.; Watson, D.J. *Molecular Biology of The Cell*; Garland Publishing, Inc.: New York, 1994.

August, J.T.; Anders, M.W.; Murad, F.; Coyle, T. J. In *Advances in Pharmacology*; Gene Therapy, Vol. 40; Academic Press: New York, 1997.

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Browne, M.; Thurlby, P. *Genomes, Molecular Biology, and Drug Discovery*; Academic Press: New York, 1996.

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Glick, B.R.; Pasternak, J.J. *Molecular Biotechnology. Principles of Recombinant DNA*; ASM Press: Washington, DC, 1994.

Heldt, H.-W. *Plant Biochemistry and Molecular Biology*; Oxford University Press: New York, 1997.

- Hawley, S.R.; Mori, A.C. *The Human Genome*; Academic Press: New York, 1998.
- Hehl, R. Transposon tagging in heterologous host plants. *Trends in Genetics* **1994**, 10: 385-386.
- Howell, H.S. *Molecular Genetics of Plant Development*; Cambridge University Press: New York, 1998.
- Innis, A. M.; Gelfand, H. D.; Sninsky, J.J.; White, J. T. *PCR Protocols: A Guide to Methods and Applications*; Academic Press: New York, 1990.
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- Kier, B. L.; Hall H. L. *Molecular Structure Description*; Academic Press: New York, 1999.
- Kenyon, C. If birds can fly, why can't we? Homeotic genes and evolution. *Cell* **1994**, 78: 175-180.
- Kriegler, M. *Gene Transfer and Expression*; W.H. Freeman and Company: New York, 1990.
- Laux, T.; Jurgens, G. Embryogenesis: A new start into life. *Plant Cell* **1997**, 9:989-1000.
- Lodish, H.; Berk, K.; Zipursky, L.S.; Matsudaria, P.; Baltimore, D.; Darnell, J. *Molecular and Cell Biology*; W.H. Freeman: New York, 2000.
- Long, D.; Coupland, G. In *Arabidopsis Protocols*; Zapater, J.M., Salinas, J., Eds.; Transposon tagging with Ac/Ds in Arabidopsis Methods in Molecular Biology, Vol. 82; Humana Press Inc.: Totowa, NJ, 1998.
- Moffat, A.S. Exploring transgenic plants as a new vaccine source. *Science* **1995**; 268:658-660.
- Nicholl, D.S.T. *An Introduction into Genetic Engineering*; Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, 1994.
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Ream, W.; Field, G.K. *Molecular Biology Techniques*. Academic Press: New York, 1999.

Watson, D. J.; Gilman, M.; Witkowski, J.; Zoller, M. *Recombinant DNA*. W.H. Freeman: New York, 1992.

Watson, D.J.; Hopkins, H.N.; Roberts, W.J.; Steitz, A.J.; Weiner, M.A. *Molecular Biology of the Gene*, Vols. I and II; The Benjamin/Cummings Publishing Company, Inc.: USA, 1987.

Willmitzer, L. Transgenic Plants. In *Biotechnology*, a multi-volume comprehensive treatise; Rehm, H.J., Reed, G., Puhler, A., and Stadler, P., Eds.; Verlag Chemie: Weinheim, 1993; Vol. 2, pp 627-659.

## COURSE ANALYSIS QUESTIONNAIRE

### A. Details of the Course

- A1. How does this course fit into the programs of the department? For which students is the course designed? (majors, students in other majors, liberal studies). Explain why this content cannot be incorporated into an existing course.

This course is one of the required courses for students in the BS in Natural science with a Science for Disaster Response (SDR) concentration. It is not intended to be a liberal studies course. This course is designed for first responders – the emergency personnel who respond to any suspected incident of a chemical, biological, radiological and or nuclear nature. The content and the intense material of the course are too specific to counterterrorism and first responders to be incorporated into existing courses.

- A2. Does this course require changes in the content of existing courses or requirements for a program? If catalog descriptions of other courses or department programs must be changed as a result of the adoption of this course, please submit as separate proposals all other changes in courses and/or program requirements.

This course does not require changes in any other course in the department. A new track (Science for Disaster Response) of the existing program of the BS in Natural Science will include this course among the required courses.

- A3. Has this course ever been offered at IUP on a trial basis (e.g. as a special topic). If so, explain the details of the offering (semester/year and number of students).

This course was offered as a pilot of an eleven-day WMD-REALITI Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Apprentice Module for the National Guard in August 2002. There were 22 students enrolled in this course.

- A4. Is this course to be a dual-level course? If so, please note that the graduate approval occurs after the undergraduate.

This course is not a dual level course.

- A5. If this course may be taken for variable credit, what criteria will be used to relate the credits to the learning experience of each student? Who will make this determination and by what procedures?

This course is not to be taken for variable credit.

- A6. Do other higher education institutions currently offer this course? If so, please list examples (institution, course title).

To the best of our knowledge, this course and its intended degree program are unique in the United States. This lack of specific scientific education for emergency first responders at an accredited institution was one of the primary motivating factors for the National Guard Bureau (NGB) to approach IUP to develop this course.

- A7. Is the content, or are the skills, of the proposed course recommended or required by a professional society, accrediting authority, law or other external agency? If so, please provide documentation.

The Department of Defense (DoD) Combating Terrorism Technology Support Office (CTTSO) and the Technical Support Working Group (TSWG) appropriated three years of funding for the Weapons of Mass Destruction-Response Element Advanced Laboratory Training and Indoctrination (WMD-REALITI) program. The purpose of this program is to develop an accredited (professional, academic, or both) education, training, and research program designed to provide the novice (Level 1) intermediate (Level 2), apprentice (Level 3) and advanced laboratory (Level 4) technicians with knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSA) comparable to those needed to work in a chemical Surety, or

Biological Safety Level 3 Laboratory. The intended audience is the National Guard Bureau's Weapons of Mass Destruction-Civil Support Teams (WMD-CST), other U.S. Government WMD and homeland security response elements, state, and local civilian WMD, and homeland security response elements, and related emergency planners. IUP was contracted to develop the four modules of courses (novice, intermediate, apprentice, and advanced) over the three years of the WMD-REALITI program. This course is part of the Apprentice (Level 3) module. The first year was funded for \$170,317, the second year for \$441,445, and the third year for \$601,776. The request for the creation of this course came from the Department of Defense.

**B: Interdisciplinary Implications**

- B1. Will this course be taught by instructors from more than one department or team taught within the department? If so, explain the teaching plan, its rationale, and how the team will adhere to the syllabus of record.

This course will be taught by one instructor or team taught by two or three instructors from biology department as needed (individual faculty workloads will likely dictate whether one or two instructors are assigned to the course. The course has a lecture and laboratory component. The three instructors who will be teaching this course developed the course to meet government approval and the needs of the first responders to WMD incidents.

- B2. What is the relationship between the content of this course and the content of courses offered by other departments? Summarize your discussions (with other departments) concerning the proposed changes and indicate how any conflicts have been resolved. Please attach relevant memoranda from these departments that clarify their attitudes toward the proposed change(s).

The intended audience of SDR 331 (active first responders in the WMD community) may require intensive delivery and specific educational objectives that are not met by existing IUP courses.

- B3. Will this course be cross-listed with other departments? If so, please summarize the department representatives' discussions concerning the course and indicate how consistency will be maintained across departments.

This course is not cross-listed.

- B4. Will seats in this course be made available to students in the School of Continuing Education?

Only if the Continuing Education students have been accepted in the SDR program.

### **C. Implementation**

- C1. Are faculty resources adequate? If you are not requesting or have not been authorized to hire additional faculty, demonstrate how this course will fit into the schedule(s) of current faculty. What will be taught less frequently or in fewer sections to make this possible? Please specify how preparation and equated workload will be assigned for this course.

Yes, faculty resources are adequate because of external funding. If no external funding is available, then additional faculty resources will be required. This course will be counted as six (6) workload hours towards the workload for one faculty member, or as credits split appropriately among the workloads of each of three faculty members who team-teach the course. Each contact hour in laboratories in chemistry, biology, and physics is assigned one (1) workload hour, so  $3c + 3l = 6$  workload hours. The faculty credentials include possession of a Ph.D. in experimental biological sciences with emphasis in molecular biological techniques and microbiology and a minimum of five years teaching experience, balanced with three to five years of professional work experience in the



following areas, skill sets, and certificates. The qualified faculty member will have experience in Biosafety training, immunological techniques, and demonstrated three to five years of conducting training at a facility using biological materials.

C2. What other resources will be needed to teach this course and how adequate are the current resources? If not adequate, what plans exist for achieving adequacy? Reply in terms of the following:

\*Space

\*Equipment

\*Laboratory Supplies and other Consumable Goods

\*Library Materials

\*Travel Funds

Space: For academic year 2002/2003, Weyandt Hall will suffice, but future offerings will require a separate facility. However, plans are underway to renovate the second floor of Walsh Hall for SDR programs. The DoD is covering the cost of this facility. John P. Murtha has arranged to have ten million dollars of DoD money appropriated for the construction of the John P. Murtha Institute of Homeland Security at IUP. The WMD project and the courses will be housed in this building. Until the building is ready, IUP has acquired funds for an interim facility to house the WMD project and courses.

Equipment: Specialized equipment, including glove boxes, class II B and class III B Biological safety cabinets, DNA thermal Cyclers, RAPID, Smart Cyclers, Microscopes with digital capabilities and photo-documentation system is provided by the DoD through the WMD-REALITI grant. In the event that contract money is not available to purchase equipment, ESF funds will be used to purchase the equipment, or the WMD faculty will write grant proposals for specialized equipment.

Laboratory Supplies: Laboratory supplies are provided by the DoD through the WMD-REALITI contract. In the event that contract money is not available to purchase laboratory supplies, funds from the WMD operating budget will be used to purchase the laboratory supplies. This money will be generated from the indirect funds acquired by contract offerings of the WMD courses or by funds generated by tuition and student fees.

Library: Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC), on behalf of the National Guard Bureau (NGB), has packaged materials needed by the students. In the event that the course is not funded by external money, students will purchase the required text at a local copying business, such as Pro Packet. Additional materials will be available on-line or purchase optional supplemental text at the Co-op store.

Travel Funds: Not applicable

- C3. Are any of the resources for this course funded by a grant? If so, what provisions have been made to continue support for this course once the grant has expired? (Attach letters of support from Dean, Provost, etc.)

Yes. So far, all resources for this course have been funded by the DOD and the National Guard Bureau (NGB). Contracts with these agencies are expected to continue for several years. However, IUP is preparing to support this course when it is independent of external funding. For example, this course will also be offered to eligible IUP students who want to enter the WMD first responder community. Additionally, IUP has actively sought and acquired funds for a facility to house the WMD courses.

- C4. How frequently do you expect this course to be offered? Is this course particularly designed for or restricted to certain seasonal semesters?

We expect this course to be offered every Fall semester depending on student demand and faculty availability.

C5. How many sections of this course do you anticipate offering in any single semester?

One section will be offered at a time.

C6. How many students do you plan to accommodate in a section of this course? What is the justification for this planned number of students?

A maximum of 24 students can be accommodated in this class in which students do a considerable amount of laboratory work which limits the enrollment.

C7. Does any professional society recommend enrollment limits or parameters for a course of this nature? If they do, please quote from the appropriate documents.

No professional society recommends enrollment limits or parameters for this course. However, the DoD recommends an Instructor to Student ratio of 1:15

C8. If this course is a distance education course, see the Implementation of Distance Education Agreement and the Undergraduate Distance Education Review Form in Appendix D and respond to the questions listed.

This course is not a distance education course.

**D. Miscellaneous**

Include any additional information valuable to those reviewing this new course proposal.

Justification for 3c, 3l, 5cr:

Typically in the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, 4 credits are assigned to a class with 3 hours of class and 3 or 4 hours of lab. That is, usually a lab is valued as 1 credit towards the total course credits. In this course, the lab is valued as 2 credits due to the special nature of

the laboratory exercises, which are more intensive in content and require the students to work with more dangerous and/or high-risk materials. Because very little trial and error can be tolerated, students must be better prepared for the laboratory exercises and perform at a higher level. The intensive content and levels of preparation and performance are unlike that for the laboratory exercises in 1 credit laboratory courses. The 5 credits for this course have been acknowledged and approved by the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. Please see Appendix A for letter from Ms. Ola Kaniasty, Assistant Dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics and Chair of the College Curriculum Committee.