

UConn | COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

COMMITTEE ON CURRICULA AND COURSES

Proposal to Add a New Graduate Course

Last revised: September 24, 2013

1. Date: 9 April 2014
2. Department requesting this course: Marine Sciences
3. Semester and year in which course will be first offered: Fall 2015.

Final Catalog Listing

Assemble this after you have completed the components below. This listing should not contain any information that is not listed below!

MARN 5500. Professional Development in Marine Sciences

3 credits.

Survey of practical skills required for professional integration into the scientific community, including proposal writing, scientific and public presentations, manuscript preparation and publication, scientific peer review, resume building, and interview skills.

Items Included in Catalog Listing

Obligatory Items

1. Abbreviation for Department, Program or Subject Area: MARN
2. Course Number: 5500
3. Course Title: Professional Development in Marine Sciences
4. Number of Credits (use digits, "3" not "three"): 3
5. Course Description (second paragraph of catalog entry):

The goal of this course is to provide graduate students with the skills required to succeed as a professional academic within marine sciences. Topics include: developing a research plan, completing a dissertation, grant writing, preparation of manuscripts for publication, conference presentations, teaching philosophies, job preparation and communicating with the media. Heavy emphasis is placed on student involvement, active learning, peer-review, and developing positive work habits. Each meeting includes a presentation, discussion of assigned readings, peer-review of work completed, and intensive feedback on work from both instructor and other class members within a constructive and encouraging setting.

6. Course Type, if appropriate:
☐ Lecture ☐ Laboratory ☒ Seminar ☐ Practicum

Optional Items

7. Prerequisites, if applicable: none
8. Recommended Preparation, if applicable: none

9. [Consent of Instructor](#), if applicable:
10. [Exclusions](#), if applicable:
11. [Repetition for credit](#), if applicable:
12. [S/U grading](#):

Justification

1. [Reasons for adding this course](#):

Graduate students typically receive high-level training in research, gain some experience in teaching, but lack formal training in many aspects of professional development including how to integrate into the scientific community. Addition of this course will advance graduate training beyond formal courses and research. Socializing graduate students, or describing the non-research aspects of career management, is key to their future success, be it in academia or other venues. This course will provide students with a suite of practical skills applicable across career choices from proposal writing through job interviewing. While specific topics will be covered, the students will be encouraged to bring questions and suggestions for discussion topics of specific interest to them to class for discussion.

2. [Academic merit](#): This course provides needed graduate training, is consistent with similar offerings in other Departments at UCONN, and may additionally help improve National Research Council (NRC) program rankings regarding graduate training.

3. [Overlapping courses](#):

4. Number of students expected: 10

5. Number and size of sections: 1

6. [Effects on other departments](#): none foreseen

7. [Staffing](#): Dr. Sandra Shumway, Research Professor (CV attached)

8. [Dates approved](#) by

Department Curriculum Committee: 4/15/2014

Department Faculty: 4/25/2014

9. Name, Phone Number, and e-mail address of principal contact person:

Heidi Dierssen, 860-405-9239, heidi.dierssen@uconn.edu

Syllabus

A [syllabus](#) for the new course must be attached to your submission email.

Additional Approval

New graduate courses must also be approved by the Graduate Faculty Council.