Undergraduate Minor in Biology

College of Science
School of Life Sciences
Department of Integrated Biology

Review by Gary Beach
Office of Academic Programs, Assessment, and Accreditation
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Proposed Effective Term: Spring Term 2017 (201703)

Per your request, here are my review comments and recommendations regarding the proposal from the Department of Integrated Biology to offer their existing Undergraduate Minor in Biology online via delivery by Ecampus.

(1) p.1 **Undergraduate Minor**
Observation/Suggestion: I realize that there is no Graduate Minor in Biology. However, since not all individuals who may be reviewing this proposal know this for a fact, it is best to state clearly that this is an Undergraduate Minor proposal.

(2) p.2 **Baccalaureate Core Courses**
Observation: Ultimately, this list of courses will be entered into the online Catalog. Baccalaureate Core Courses are identify with an asterisk "*". It is redundant to use both an asterisk and the abbreviation "(BCC)".
Recommendation: Add an asterisk where one is needed (a few courses were not identified as being a Baccalaureate Core Course), and delete all of the redundant (BCC) references.

(3) p. 2 **TOTAL Credit Hours Required to Complete the Undergraduate Minor**
Observation: The total credit hours required to complete the Undergraduate Minor in Biology are not the same when the On-Campus (Current) and the Ecampus (Proposed) versions are compared. This is not a problem since the core courses are the same and the differences lie with the elective course selection.
Recommendation: Change the total credit hour number for the OSU-Main (Current) version of the program from 28-31 to **28-32** and the (Proposed) Ecampus version from 28-31 to **29**.

ISSUE: A Category II proposal may need to be submitted by the Department of Integrative Biology to correct the total number of credit hours required for the Undergraduate Minor in Biology, along with the total number elective credit hours in the five elective categories; i.e., change from 28-31 to 28-32 (on campus). The total credit hours for the proposed online version of the Undergraduate Minor in Biology would probably need to be listed as 29 rather than 28-31.

(4) p. 2 **Program Core Course**
Observation: It would be helpful to add the total number of credit hours that are associated with the required core courses.
Suggestion: Add (16) to both "Current" and the "Proposed".

(5) p. 2 **Prerequisites for the Two Biology Sequence Courses**
Observation: The list of prerequisite courses applies to both BI 205 and BI 206 (listed) and to BI 212 and BI 213 (NOT listed).
Recommendation: Add the following "; BI 212 and BI 213".

(6) p. 2 **Elective Total Credit Hours**
Observation: The total credit hours associated with the elective categories appears to be incorrect.
Recommendation: Change the credit hours listed…
Current: from 16-19 to **12-16**
Proposed: from 16-19 to **13**

ISSUE: A Category II proposal may need to be submitted by the Department of Integrative Biology to correct the total number of credit hours required for the electives found in the five required elective categories; i.e., change from 16-19 to 12-16 (on campus, current version) and 16-19 to 13 (online, proposed version). [Note: These corrections can be made with the same Category II proposal.]

(7) p. 2 **Total Credit Hours for Each Elective Category**
Observation: It would be helpful to add the total credit hours for each of the five elective categories.
Suggestion: For example, for the Cell and Molecular Biology category add (3-4) to the current version of the undergraduate minor and (4) to the proposed online version.

(8) p. 2 **Prerequisites for BB/BI 314**
Observation: The prerequisite courses listed for BB/BI 314 is incorrect. It would appear that the correct sequence is BI 211, BI 212, and BI 213. If this is the case, then the total number of credit hours necessary to complete the undergraduate minor would be increased by 9 credit hours, or a total of 38 credit hours.

ISSUE: Need to resolve this issue. Either BB 331 will need to added as an Ecampus course, or the BB/BI 314 would need to be changed such that BI 204, BI 205, BI 206 can serve as prerequisites, or the total credit hour required for the program needs to be increased to 38 credit hours.

(9) p. 2 **Z 348. Human Ecology (3)**

Observation: Z 348 is NOT an approved course.

ISSUE: The Z 348 course needs to be deleted both from the current and from the proposed version of the Undergraduate Minor. It is not an approved course.

(10) p. 3 **Prerequisites for Z 423**
Question: CH 123 and CH 233 are respectively the third of a three course sequence. Can students complete the perquisite by taking just the third course or do they need to complete all three courses in the sequence? If they are required to complete all three courses, then this too will change the total credit hours required to completed the proposed online delivery of the Undergraduate Minor in Biology by Ecampus.

(11) p. 3 **TOTAL CREDITS**
Observation: If the observations noted above are all accurate, then the total credit hours listed for the Undergraduate Minor in Biology, both for the Current and the Proposed versions will need to be changed:

Current: 29-31 to 28-32
Proposed: 28-31 to 29

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glb (3-21-17)