

**Oregon State University**  
**Course Designator Proposal**  
**IB**  
**College of Science**  
**School of Life Sciences**  
**Department of Integrative Biology**  
**January 17, 2017**

**Purpose:** The proposed course designator should have an identified purpose within the curricular structure of Oregon State University.

- What academic programs, including majors, certificates, options and minors will be served by courses within the designator?

This proposal seeks to create the Integrative Biology designator outlined in the new Integrative Biology (IB) graduate program (proposal #93583) in the Department of Integrative Biology. The IB designator will house the graduate courses in the Department of Integrative Biology currently housed in the Biology (BI) and Zoology (Z) designators.

- In what ways do the general area and scope of the content constitute a coherent body of knowledge?

These courses will serve the Integrative Biology graduate MS and PhD programs in addition to the graduate minor. The BI and Z designators will continue to serve the undergraduate Biology and Zoology majors.

- Is the proposed usage of the designator consistent with practice at OSU and other institutions? Give examples.

Current biological research and graduate training transcends taxonomic boundaries and levels of biological organization as do our courses housed in the new Integrative Biology designator. Our change from graduate training in Zoology to Integrative Biology is reflected by similar name change by many other departments in the US and Canada. Several renowned universities (e.g., UC, Berkeley and University of Texas, Austin) have changed their departments and graduate programs to Integrative Biology. Changing our graduate designator to Integrative Biology will bring it in line with our degrees and departmental name, eliminate confusion about multiple graduate designators, and help to reflect the scope of our graduate training. It will also align with peer academic units on campus such as Botany and Plant Pathology (PBB), Biochemistry and Biophysics (BB) and Microbiology (MB).

**Accountability:** Responsibility for the integrity and oversight of the proposed course designator should be clearly identified.

- What is the academic College of the designator?

The new Designator will be managed by the Department of Integrative Biology in the College of Science.

- Who is responsible for administering courses in the designator, e.g. scheduling and catalog updates. Who are the faculty contact persons?

The management of the designator will be the responsibility of Integrative Biology, and Student Credit Hours (SCH) will continue to accrue to IB under the proposed change.

- Who is responsible for consistency and outcome assessment for courses in the designator?

Scheduling, updates and assessment will be covered by the same faculty and staff in the Department of Integrative Biology who are responsible for the current BI and Z designators.

- Which units get credit for the SCH generated by courses in the subject code?

Department of Integrative Biology

School of Life Sciences

College of Science

- Who is responsible for communicating information about the new designator to stakeholders, including advisors, Admissions, and students?

Department of Integrative Biology

**Impacts:** Who will benefit from the new designator and what changes will result from its implementation?

- Will courses in the new designator duplicate or compete with existing ones?

Only current graduate courses under BI and Z in the Department of Integrative Biology will be moved to the new designator.

- Are there expected cross-listings or curricular equivalencies?

There will be no changes in the crosslisting of graduate IB courses with undergraduate courses except for updates within our department (e.g. Z423/IB 423).

- How will the new designator affect transfer credits?

This change will have no impact as only current BI and Z graduate courses will move to the new designator. Any transfer of credits by course would remain aligned.

- Will any previous existing designators expire as the new one appears?

The graduate versions of Biology (BI) and Z (Zoology) courses will be terminated once the new IB designator is in place.

- How will the new designator benefit students?

Changing our graduate designator to Integrative Biology will bring it in line with our graduate degree and departmental name, eliminate confusion about multiple graduate designators, and help to reflect the scope of our graduate training. It will also align with peer academic units on campus such as Botany and Plant Pathology (PBB), Biochemistry and Biophysics (BB) and Microbiology (MB).