

Materials linked to the April 3, 2020 Curriculum Council agenda.

Dear Drs. Swift and McKiel and members of the University Curriculum Council:

Thank you for your thoughtful feedback and suggestions for the Marine Studies degree proposal (CPS #106759). We've taken each of your suggestions and done our best to address them as requested in the most direct and meaningful ways possible. Before going through those specifics we'll mention a couple of general matters related to the most recent submission:

- We have uploaded a "clean" copy into the CPS with all new edits and amendments; we also uploaded a copy under "Other Attachments" that highlights all changes between this version and the last;
- We've added some new content into the proposal itself as well as uploading it as a separate document within "Other Attachments" as indicated below.

Here are summaries of specific actions taken in response to UCC requests (in italics) and where they are to be found in the proposal.

1) *Expand the Marine Studies Degree Program Coordinating and Oversight Committee to include non-CLA representatives from the Environmental Sciences, Natural Resources and/or Fisheries and Wildlife programs. The Curriculum Council would appreciate if emails/letters confirming those representatives' willingness and interest in participating on the committee were attached to the CPS proposal.*

- Please see p. 29 for a list of invited curricular program partners. Please see "MAST-Committee-MembershipInvites-Feb 2020" in "Other Attachments" for list of specific individuals invited, the invitation, and the responses as of 2/17/2020.

2) *More clearly distinguish the MAST degree, especially the B.S., from other existing OSU programs that also explore aspects of the human-marine interactions (e.g. Environmental Science, Natural Resources, and Fisheries and Wildlife). For example,*

a. *In the program description, specifically item 1b, clarify that how this program's emphasis on the human dimension differs from the other programs that also explore human dimensions. For example, this program focuses on the human dimension by taking a humanities (rather than a science) approach.*

- We've added language in 1b to emphasize the distinctive liberal-arts perspective the MAST degree takes (pp. 1 - 2).
- We've pasted the MAST learning outcomes in a box at the bottom of page 3 to clarify earlier in the proposal the liberal arts focus of the degree.

b. *Specify where the coursework in the MAST degree differs from the coursework in other OSU marine-related programs (e.g., Environmental Science requires a Biosphere course, MAST does not).*

- We added a new section on pp. 5 -6 called "Hallmarks & Distinctions of the Marine Studies Degree" that goes through a point by point series of distinctive, in some cases unique, elements of the degree that contrast with other current marine-based offerings. It is also included as an attachment in "Other Attachments."

- We've emphasized the importance of the "CLA Core" (15 – 20 credits in the liberal arts broken down into specific categories) throughout the document as a vital element of the degree that distinguishes it from other marine-centered offerings.
 - We call out the specific requirements of a BS degree in CLA which, while the same across the college for liberal arts majors that offer the BS (the vast majority), are not the same as those in other colleges (for example, the CLA requirements include an approved computer science course and a lot of quantitative courses and one approved general science course from the College of Science).
- c. *In comparing the coursework between the MAST degree with Environmental Science, there appears to be significant overlap and it would be possible for a MAST student to take coursework nearly identical to that taken by a student in Environmental Sciences. To mitigate this possibility, the Curriculum Council asks that the courses listed on page 18 in the proposal be grouped by area of potential specialization. The MAST proposal lists these specializations as potentially including:*
- i. *Environmental and Social Justice*
 - ii. *Politics and Policy*
 - iii. *Arts and Literature*
 - iv. *Global and Transnational Perspectives*
 - v. *Marine Entrepreneurship*
 - vi. *Community Development*

For examples on how you might set these up, see the specialization options associated with the Environmental Science major (<https://catalog.oregonstate.edu/college-departments/earth-ocean-atmospheric-sciences/environmental-sciences-bs-hbs/>) or the options associated with Natural Resources (e.g., <https://catalog.oregonstate.edu/college-departments/forestry/forest-ecosystems-society/natural-resources-bs-hbs/human-dimensions-natural-resources-option/#requirementstext>).

- We've added some additional CLA courses to the total list of electives related to Areas of Distinction on pages 20 and 21.
 - Page 22 discusses Marine Studies specialization work in more detail; we emphasize that all Areas of Distinction programs must be approved by the MAST Coordinating and Oversight Committee as an additional mechanism to prevent potential duplications/confusion with other programs.
 - Each Area of Distinction now requires a minimum of 8 elective credits of CLA courses; those 8 credits plus the required 4 for the MAST capstone (425) and 4 for a MAST internship (410) mean that of the minimum 20 credits required for the specialization 80% are CLA/MAST-based;
 - Pages 23 – 27 provide outlines of coursework for the six noted Areas of Distinction.
 - Since receiving your feedback, we have again done a critical comparison of the proposed MAST curriculum with the Environmental Sciences degree, including all of its specialization options. We tested the questions "Could a MAST student duplicate the requirements of an Environmental Sciences degree?" and "Could an Environmental Sciences student duplicate the requirements of a MAST degree?" We have concluded the answer is 'no.'
- 3) *Please indicate CPS or CIM numbers for the proposed/draft courses listed in Table 4 (e.g., MAST 300, ANTH 320). The Curriculum Council would like to see syllabi and liaisons for each of those courses (e.g., liaison with BI and OC for MAST 300, with Fisheries & Wildlife for WGSS 441).*

- Please see Box A on page 15 for list of courses and CPS/CIM numbers; each proposal listed includes required syllabi and liaison efforts/responses.
- CPS 105925 includes liaison approval from Fisheries and Wildlife for WGSS 341.
- CPS 105584 includes evidence of liaison process and approvals from Integrative Biology and Oceanography for MAST 300.

4) *Work with Michael Harte and Rob Wheatcroft (both with CEOAS) to ensure MAST 300 Society, Culture, and the Marine Environment is clearly differentiated from OC 333 Oceans, Coasts and People. Also contact the instructor for BI 347 (according to the catalog this is Jeremy Rose) to ensure MAST 300 is also distinct from BI 347 Oceans in Peril. It might be advisable to include them as liaisons in the course proposal.*

- We have completed this request. CPS 105584 evidences the liaison process and approvals from Integrative Biology and Oceanography for MAST 300.

Again, we thank you and the members of the University Curriculum Council for all your input and efforts in making the Marine Studies degree stronger, clearer, and of greatest benefit to students and the university.

Kristen and Marion