

## **Creation of SCI course designator**

Contact: Chelsea Wolk, Assistant Director of Strategic Programs for the College of Science; Staci Simonich, Associate Dean of Academic and Student Affairs for College of Science

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

College of Science courses currently reside on the General Science (GS) designator which remains after the General Science major was terminated with the creation of the new BioHealth Sciences major. The continued use of this designator is confusing to faculty, staff and students. The College of Science (COS) proposes a new SCI course designator for courses offered through COS. We propose moving the few remaining GS courses (e.g. 5 students in one course this spring) over to SCI and terminating the GS designator. Creation of a SCI designator clearly aligns existing and planned courses with COS and eliminates confusion resulting from the use of the defunct GS major designator.

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

All undergraduate and graduate majors within the COS will be able to take courses through the SCI designator. These include all programs, majors, and certificates within the departments of: Biochemistry and Biophysics, Chemistry, Integrative Biology, Mathematics, Microbiology, Physics, and Statistics. However, at this time no SCI courses will be required within these majors, programs, certificates, and options.

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

The courses within SCI will be used for new content relevant to all COS students including but not limited to scientific professional development, training for COS peer advisors, scientific experiential learning including internships, research, and preceptorships.

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

The SCI designator will be used in the same manner that ENG and AGRI are used by the College of Engineering and the College of Agriculture respectively.

### **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 College of Science will be the academic College for SCI.

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

Gabrielle James, Executive Assistant for College of Science, Staci Simonich, Associate Dean of Academic and Student Affairs for College of Science, Doug Keszler, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research for College of Science

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

The COS curriculum committee, representing all seven departments and lead by Staci Simonich will be responsible for approving new courses within the designator, and consistency and outcome oversight will be managed by Staci Simonich Associate Dean of Academic and Student Affairs with the support of the curriculum committee.

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

The College of Science will receive all credit for the SCH generated by courses in SCI.

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

Staci Simonich, Associate Dean of Academic and Student Affairs for College of Science, and Chelsea Wolk, Assistant Director of Strategic Programs for the College of Science

**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?**

The courses in GS will be moved to SCI so that no redundancies exist.

**Are there expected cross-listings or curricular equivalencies?**

No expected cross-listings or curricular equivalencies.

**How will the new designator affect transfer credits?**

There are currently no planned SCI courses that are required or transferable, so this should not affect transfer credits in any way.

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

Yes, we will be expiring the GS designator as a result of creation of SCI.

**How will the new designator benefit students?**

The creation of a SCI designator allows COS to create courses which can benefit all COS majors. These include professional development, leadership, experiential learning courses, and courses for special college-wide programs. The SCI designator will also allow us to stop using the GS designator, which is confusing to faculty, staff and students, as the GS major no longer exists.