

Revision for BIOL 342

Proposal Reference Number : 8362

PRN Alias : 13-14#1775

Version No : 2

Submitted By : Ms Nancy Nelson

Edited By : Ms Nancy Nelson

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Summary of Changes	Course Activities, Course Title, Course Description
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	Current Data	New Data									
Program Affected?		N									
Program Change Form Submitted?											
Subject/Course/Term	BIOL 342 one term										
Credit Weight or CEU's	3 credits.										
Course Activities	- A - Lecture - L - Laboratory - Q - Conference	<table><tr><th>Schedule Type</th><th>Hours Per Week</th></tr><tr><td>A - Lecture</td><td>3</td></tr></table> A schedule type was removed. Total Hours per Week : 3 Total Number of Weeks : 13	Schedule Type	Hours Per Week	A - Lecture	3					
Schedule Type	Hours Per Week										
A - Lecture	3										
Course Title	<table><tr><td>Course Title on Transcript</td><td>Marine Biology</td></tr><tr><td>Course Title on Calendar</td><td>Marine Biology.</td></tr></table>	Course Title on Transcript	Marine Biology	Course Title on Calendar	Marine Biology.	<table><tr><td>Course Title on Transcript</td><td>Contemp Topics in Aquatic Ecol</td></tr><tr><td>Course Title on Calendar</td><td>Contemporary Topics in Aquatic Ecology</td></tr></table>	Course Title on Transcript	Contemp Topics in Aquatic Ecol	Course Title on Calendar	Contemporary Topics in Aquatic Ecology	
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Course Title on Calendar	Contemporary Topics in Aquatic Ecology										
Rationale		The title and course description changes reflect a change in emphasis of the course which will now consider topics in both freshwater and marine biology/ecology									
Responsible Instructor		Neil Price and Irene Gregory-Eaves									
Course Description	An introduction to marine benthic communities. Topics include structure and dynamics of hard and soft bottom communities; bioturbation, feeding strategies and trophodynamics; ecology of seagrass, mangrove and coral reef ecosystems; marine pollution.	An introduction to freshwater and marine biology and ecology. Topics include structure and function of the major aquatic ecosystems and how these are affected by environmental change									
Teaching Dept.	0286 : Biology										
Administering Faculty/Unit	SC : Faculty of Science										

Prerequisites	Prerequisite(s): BIOL 205 and BIOL 215 or both ENVR 200 and ENVR 202	
Corequisites		
Restrictions	Restriction: Not open to students who have taken BIOL 442	
Supplementary Calendar Info	1. Winter	
Additional Course Charges		
Campus		
Projected Enrollment		40
Requires Resources Not Currently Available		N
Explanation for Required Resources		
Consultation Reports Attached?		N
Effective Term of Implementation		201501
File Attachments		BIOL342 syllabus Feb 17 2014.docx View
To be completed by the Faculty		
For Continuing Studies Use		

Approvals Summary

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Version No.	Departmental Curriculum Committee	Departmental Meeting	Departmental Chair	Other Faculty	Curric/Academic Committee	Faculty	SCTP	Version Status
2								Approved by Departmental Curriculum Committee Edited by: Nancy Nelson on: Feb 19 2014

BIOL 342 – Contemporary Issues in Aquatic Ecology

Instructors: Irene Gregory-Eaves and Neil Price

Prerequisites: BIOL 205 and 215 or ENV 200 & 202

Projected enrollment: 30-40

Rationale:

The goal of this course is to stimulate student interest and understanding in aquatic ecology by covering topical issues. The content will cover material common to advance courses, but in a format that is accessible to U2 students. The course will provide continuity in the aquatic ecology program of the Biology Department, by providing a bridge between introductory ecology (Biol 215 – Introduction to Ecology and Evolution) and advanced courses in aquatic ecology (Biol 334 – Applied Tropical Ecology, 418 – Freshwater Invertebrate Zoology, 432 - Limnology, 441 – Oceanography, 515 – Advances in Aquatic Ecology and 540 – Ecology of Species Invasions).

Course Description: The course teaches fundamental concepts in freshwater and marine ecology by addressing topics that represent some of the most pressing environmental issues of the day. Lectures provide baseline knowledge about the structure and function of aquatic ecosystems and how these are altered by processes including climate change, acidification, habitat loss and eutrophication. Students will be instructed in an active learning environment that involves small group discussions and presentations. The primary learning objectives for student are to develop an understanding of key principles in aquatic ecology and to develop problem-solving skills.

Evaluation:

Class participation:	10%
Oral presentations	40%
Written assignments	20%
Final Term Paper	30%

Lecture:

Background lectures will be given on specific topics, but the focus of the class will be on discussion. There is no textbook for the course but selected book chapters and articles from the primary literature will be provided.

Presentations:

During the course, each student will be responsible for delivering four presentations (each worth 10%). These presentations may come in the form of a discussion of a paper from the primary literature, a debate or an analysis and interpretation of a dataset.

Written assignments:

We are planning numerous short written assignments which will come in the form of answering questions to assigned reading or a reading of the student's choosing.

Term paper:

This assignment will take the form of a short review paper that relates to a topic (either a technical method or area of research) covered in the class. The length should be 2000-3000 words. The paper may include figures and tables. The paper should cite a minimum of 10 sources. Potential topics will be provided, or the students may propose their own topic. A draft of the paper is due two weeks prior to the final due date.

McGill University values academic integrity. Therefore all students must understand the meaning and consequences of cheating, plagiarism and other academic offences under the Code of Student Conduct and Disciplinary Procedures (see www.mcgill.ca/integrity for more information).

In accord with McGill University's Charter of Students' Rights, students in this course have the right to submit in English or in French any written work that is to be graded.