Washington State University
MAJOR CURRICULAR CHANGE FORM -- COURSE
(Submit original signed form and ten copies to the Registrar's Office, zip 1035)

Future Effective Date: 08/19/2013 (effective date cannot be retroactive)

☐ New course
☐ Temporary course
☐ Drop service course
☐ There is a course fee associated with this course (see instructions)

☐ Variable credit
☐ Increase credit (former credit _______)
☐ Number (former number ________)
☐ Crosslisting (between WSU departments) (Must have both departmental signatures)
☐ Conjoint listing (400/500)
☐ Request to meet Writing in the Major [M] requirement (Must have All-University Writing Committee Approval)
☐ Request to meet GER in ________ (Must have GenEd Committee Approval)
☐ Professional course (Pharmacy & Vet Med only)
☐ Graduate credit (professional programs only)
☐ Other (please list request)

MBioS _______ 579 Molecular Biosciences Seminar

V 1-2

credit lecture hrs lab hrs studio hrs
per week per week per week

prerequisite

Description (20 words or less) May be repeated for credit; cumulative maximum 10 hours. Required of all graduate students in Molecular Biosciences.

Instructor: Terry Hassold/Pat Hunt
Contact: Kelly McGovern
Campus Zip Code: 7520

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- Please attach rationale for your request, a current and complete syllabus, and explain how this impacts other units in Pullman and other branches (if applicable).
- Secure all required signatures and provide 10 copies to the Registrar's Office.

Chair/date 31Jan 40P
Dean/date 2-4-13

General Education Com/date

Chair (if crosslisted/interdisciplinary)*

Dean (if crosslisted/interdisciplinary) *

Graduate Studies Com/date

All-University Writing Com/date

Academic Affairs Com/date

Senate/date

*If the proposed change impacts or involves collaboration with other units, use the additional signature lines provided for each impacted unit and college.
Request to change from (A-E) graded to S/F grading

Course name/description:
MBioS 579 Molecular Biosciences Seminar. Required of all graduate students in molecular biosciences. May be repeated for credit; cumulative maximum 10 hours.

Rational for change:
In April 2010, the Graduate School and Faculty Senate approved the School of Molecular Biosciences proposal to reduce the required number of graded credits from 34 to 21 hours. Part of this reduction in graded credit hours arises from the move endorsed by the SMB faculty to give graded credit only for didactic coursework. One rationale for this move is that the students' GPAs will be more reflective of the academic class room performance.

Therefore, it is intended that non-didactic courses, such as MBioS 579, should be converted to non-graded course requirements. MBioS 579 is the course designation for this seminar series and is used in two parts, a) for students to learn techniques for giving successful oral presentations for future careers in the sciences, and b) for scientists (a mixture of WSU scientist and outside speakers from other institutions) to share current scientific information in the field of molecular biosciences. Grading on this course was based on attendance and a subjective evaluation of the student's presentation. We have since instituted the practice of giving critiques at the end of a student's seminar to enable them to develop the techniques to improve. Since we are trying to train both M.S. and Ph.D. students for professional settings the Pass/Fail assessment seems for appropriate than a graded coursework performance.
MBioS 579
SMB Seminar
Spring 2013

Faculty: Hunt
Hassold

The SMB Seminar Series: For scientists, a primary mechanism of sharing information is the seminar format. This SMB seminar course consists of two weekly seminars, the Student Seminar series at 12:10 on Tuesday, and the Departmental Seminar series on 12:10 on Thursdays. As a registered student, your attendance at both seminars every week is mandatory.

The Student Seminar series is designed to help you learn tricks and techniques for giving successful oral presentations. The Thursday Departmental Seminar series is a mixture of invited speakers from other departments and institutions, SMB faculty, and postdoctoral trainees and will give you a well-rounded view of state-of-the-art research in molecular biosciences. Written evaluation forms are handed out each week at the Tuesday Student Seminar. You must submit a completed evaluation form every week because these forms are used to monitor your attendance. Note that faculty, students registered for the course, and other attendees are all asked to provide written comments for the student presenters – please be sure that you fill out and turn in the yellow form for enrolled students.

First year students: If this is your first semester in the class, you will be asked to remain behind at the end of the Student Seminar with Drs Hunt, Hassold, and Nilson to provide constructive feedback to the speaker. Note that the focus is on being constructive in your comments. During the first class, Drs Hunt and Hassold will not only provide you with a set of helpful hints for making slides and delivering strong oral presentations, but they will also discuss with you methods of delivering criticism in a constructive manner. If you cannot attend this class, you must make an appointment with either Dr. Hassold or Dr. Hunt to discuss the material. During your second semester, a critique of your seminar will be provided by Drs Hunt, Hassold, Nilson and one or two selected faculty members. Please take this as an opportunity to discover the strengths and weaknesses in your personal presentation style and use the information provided to hone your skills.

Grades: This syllabus reflects 2012; SMB is requesting that this be converted to an S/F course. During your first semester, your grade will be based on your attendance record and your participation in the post-seminar feedback sessions. In the second semester, your grade will be based on your attendance record and on your seminar.

Academic Integrity:
I encourage you to work with classmates on assignments. However, each student must turn in original work. No copying will be accepted. Students who violate WSU's Standards of Conduct for Students will receive an F as a final grade in this course, will not have the option to withdraw from the course and will be reported to the Office Student Standards and Accountability. Cheating is defined in the Standards for Student Conduct WAC 504-26-010 (3). It is strongly suggested that you read and understand these definitions: http://conduct.wsu.edu/default.asp?PageID=338

Students with Disabilities:
Reasonable accommodations are available for students with a documented disability. If you have a disability and may need accommodations to fully participate in this class, please visit the Access
Center (Washington Building 217) to schedule an appointment with an Access Advisor. All accommodations MUST be approved through the Access Center.

**WSU Campus Safety:**
Washington State University is committed to maintaining a safe environment for its faculty, staff, and students. Safety is the responsibility of every member of the campus community and individuals should know the appropriate actions to take when an emergency arises. In support of our commitment to the safety of the campus community the University has developed a Campus Safety Plan, [http://safetyplan.wsu.edu](http://safetyplan.wsu.edu). It is highly recommended that you visit this web site as well as the University emergency management web site at [http://oem.wsu.edu](http://oem.wsu.edu) to become familiar with the information provided.