Submitted by: Kristin Laird

Department/Division: Science/STEM

Name of Course or Program: Internship in Biotechnology

For New Course only:
Proposed Course Number _____________ Registrar Verification ___________
PROPOSAL TYPE

COURSE

_____ New Course

_____ Existing Course:

Change in:

_____ Course title

X Course description

X Course prerequisite

_____ Semester credit hours

_____ Course number

_____ Other ____________________________

PROGRAM

_____ New Program Proposal

_____ New Concentration Proposal

_____ New Certificate Proposal

_____ Existing Program, Concentration or Certificate

Change in:

_____ Name

_____ Requirements

_____ Other: ____________________________
Recommended
Not recommended
Read, no opinion
Date Received
Date of Action

Department Chair’s Signature
Clark Grain
Name

Signatures of Faculty Members

Kyrsis Rodriguez
Monireh Esfahani
Kristin Laird
Kimberly Stieglitz
Stacey Olson

Comments:
Please attach your signed and dated comments to the proposal.

Please note: Recommendations from the Departmental Faculty, Division Chair, and Academic Dean (hereinafter referred to as the reviewer) are only advisory. Approval by all reviewers is not necessary for submission to the committee. If any reviewer fails to take action during the thirty (30) days following submission, the proposer may bring the proposal directly to the Curriculum Committee without the applicable signature(s).

Division Dean (Recommendation)
Recommended
Not recommended
Read, no opinion/comments
Date Received
Date of Action

Tala Khudairi
Name

Comments:
Curriculum Committee (Recommendation)

Recommended [ ]
Not recommended [ ]

Date Received: [ ]
Date of Action: 3/15/13

Comments:

Chairperson's Signature: [Signature]
Michelle Howard-Harrell
Name:

Vice President for Academic Affairs Recommendation

Date Received: [ ]
Date of Action: 3/15/13

Comments:

VP Signature: [Signature]
Dr. Brenda Mercomes
Name:

Curriculum Committee

Revised: S2010
Proposed Change

The Science Department is requesting a change in the course requirements for SCI 298 Internship in Biotechnology.

The current prerequisites are SCI 204, SCI 206 and MAT 111.

We are requesting that the following be added to these prerequisites:

- Students must earn a C or better in the prerequisite courses (SCI 204, SCI 206, MAT 111)
- The statement "By permission of the biotechnology coordinator or designee" be added to the course description.

Justification for Proposed Change

The Department acknowledges that internships are a valuable part of education, and over the past four years, there have been many examples of student accomplishment when placed in biotechnology internships in research or industry labs. On more than one occasion, however, there have been grave concerns with the placement of a student, and frequently, these concerns have originated prior to the placement. Some students enroll in SCI 298, and despite having completed the prerequisites (SCI 204, SCI 206 and MAT 111) as well as often SCI 207 and/or SCI 208, have not mastered the basic techniques to function independently in the laboratory as judged by some faculty and external supervisors. Other concerns have centered upon soft skills required for successful completion of internships in general, which include student maturity and attitude toward the internship placement.

As such, the Science Department is requesting that students be required to pass the prerequisite courses (SCI 204, SCI 206, MAT 111) with a C or better. By implementing the "C or better" designation, it underscores the importance of having a basic understanding of laboratory safety, professional etiquette and scientific techniques. The addition of "by permission of the biotechnology coordinator or designee", mandates that the student communicates his or her intention to enroll in an internship so the science department can aid in the placement of the student. This also provides the department a final opportunity to ensure that students are fully prepared to pursue an internship with external partners.