

Rochester INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Minor Program proposal form

College of science

**Gosnell School of Life Sciences**

**Name of Minor:** Biology: Ecology & Evolution

**Brief description of the minor to be used in university publications**

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| The minor in Biology: Ecology & Evolution provides students with the opportunity to experience both the ecological and evolutionary underpinnings of modern biology. The minor provides opportunities to explore these areas of biology through laboratory and field experiences. |

**1.0 Minor Program Approvals**

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Approval request date: | Approval granted date: |
| Academic Unit Curriculum Committee | 1/15/16 | 2/12/16 |
| College Curriculum Committee | 2/22/16 | 2/22/16 |
| Inter-College Curriculum Committee |  |  |

**2.0 Rationale:**

A minor at RIT is a related set of academic courses consisting of no fewer than 15 semester credit hours leading to a formal designation on a student's baccalaureate transcript

How is this set of academic courses related?

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| **All courses are focused on the biological subfields of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology. This includes courses that are focused on organisms and physiology, as well as courses focused on ecosystems and conservation.** |

**3.0 Multidisciplinary involvement:**

If this is a multidisciplinary minor spanning two or more academic units, list the units and their role in offering and managing this minor.

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| N/A |

**4.0 Students ineligible to pursue this minor:**

The purpose of the minor is both to broaden a student's college education and deepen it in an area outside the student’s major program. A minor may be related to and complement a student’s major, or it may be in a completely different academic/professional area.   It is the responsibility of the academic unit proposing a minor and the unit’s curriculum committee to indicate any home programs for which the minor is not a broadening experience.

Please list below any home programs whose students will not be allowed to pursue this minor, provide the reasoning, and indicate if this exclusion has been discussed with the affected programs:

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| Biology  Environmental Science – Biology Concentration |

**5.0 Minor Program Structure, Sequence and Course Offering Schedule:**

Describe the structure of the proposed minor and list all courses, their anticipated offering schedule, and any prerequisites.

* All minors must contain at least fifteen semester credit hours;
* Minors may be discipline-based or interdisciplinary;
* In most cases, minors shall consist of a minimum of two upper division courses (300 or above) to provide reasonable breadth and depth within the minor;
* As per New York State requirements, courses within the minor must be offered with sufficient frequency to allow students to complete the minor within the same time frame allowed for the completion of the baccalaureate degree;
* Provide a program mask showing how students will complete the minor.

Narrative of Minor Program Structure:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| The minor has prerequisites of BIOL-101, 102, 103 and 104 (General Biology I and II and the accompanying labs), or BIOL-121 and 122 (Introductory Biology). Students are required to take BIOL-240 and/or 265, then complete enough elective courses to reach a total of 15 credits, of which at least two courses must be at 300 level or above. | | | | | | | |
| Course Number & Title | SCH | Required | Optional | Fall | Spring | Annual/Biennial | Prerequisites |
| **Prerequisites:** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| BIOL-101 General Biology I | 3 | X |  | X |  | annual |  |
| BIOL-102 General Biology II | 3 | X |  |  | X | annual |  |
| BIOL-103  General Biology Lab I | 1 | X |  | X |  | annual |  |
| BIOL-104  General Biology Lab II | 1 | X |  |  | X | annual |  |
| **OR** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| BIOL-121 Intro Biology I | 4 | X |  | X |  | Annual |  |
| BIOL-122 Intro Biology II | 4 | X |  |  | X | Annual |  |

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Take at least one of the following:** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| BIOL-240 General Ecology | 4 |  | X | X |  | Annual | BIOL 101, 102, 103 and 104; OR BIOL 121 and 122 |
| BIOL-265  Evolutionary Biology | 4 |  | X | X |  | Annual | BIOL 101, 102, 103 and 104; OR BIOL 121 and 122 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Electives** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| BIOL-205 Animal Behavior | 4 |  | X | X |  | Biennial | BIOL 101, 102, 103 and 104; OR BIOL 121 and 122 |
| BIOL-207 Galapagos: Ecology & Evolution | 3 |  | X | X |  | Annual | Permission of instructor |
| BIOL-211  Invertebrate Zoology | 4 |  | X |  | X | Biennial | BIOL 101, 102, 103 and 104; OR BIOL 121 and 122 |
| BIOL-212 Vertebrate Zoology | 3 |  | X | X |  | Biennial | BIOL 101, 102, 103 and 104; OR BIOL 121 and 122 |
| BIOL-218 Biology of Plants | 3 |  | X | X |  | Biennial | BIOL 101, 102, 103 and 104; OR BIOL 121 and 122 |
| BIOL-290 Vertebrate Evolution | 3 |  | X | X |  | Biennial | BIOL 101, 102, 103 and 104; OR BIOL 121 and 122 |
| BIOL-293 Evolution and Creationism | 3 |  | X | X |  | Biennial | BIOL 101, 102, 103 and 104; OR BIOL 121 and 122 |
| BIOL-309 Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy | 4 |  | X |  | X | Biennial | BIOL-265 |
| BIOL-313 Comparative Animal Physiology | 4 |  | X |  | X | Biennial | BIOL-265 |
| BIOL-343 Tropical Ecology | 3 |  | X | X |  | Biennial | BIOL-240 |
| BIOL-365 Population Genetics | 3 |  | X |  | X | Biennial | BIOL-265 |
| BIOL-371  Freshwater Ecology | 4 |  | X |  | X | Biennial | BIOL-240 |
| BIOL-385 Seneca Park Zoo Internship | 4 |  | X |  | X | Annual | BIOL-240 or BIOL-265 |
| BIOL-455 Biogeography | 3 |  | X |  | X | Biennial | BIOL-240 or BIOL-265 |
| BIOL-473  Marine Biology | 3 |  | X | X |  | Biennial | BIOL-240 |
| BIOL-475 Conservation Biology | 3 |  | X |  | X | Annual | BIOL-240 |

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| Total credit hours: 15-17 |  |

**Minor Course Conversion Table: Quarter Calendar and Semester Calendar Comparison**

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| **Directions: The tables on this page will be used by the registrar’s office to aid student’s transitioning from the quarter calendar to the semester calendar.**  **If this minor existed in the quarter calendar and is being converted to the semester calendar please complete the following tables.**  **If this is a new minor that did not exist under the quarter calendar do not complete the following tables.**  Use the following tables to show minor course comparison in quarter and semester calendar formats. Use courses in the (2011-12) minor mask for this table. Display all required and elective minor courses. If necessary clarify how course sequences in the quarter calendar convert to semesters by either bracketing or using some other notation. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Minor in Semester Calendar: |  |
| Name of Minor in Quarter Calendar: |  |
| Name of Certifying Academic Unit: |  |

| **QUARTER: Current Minor Courses** | | | **SEMESTER: Converted Minor Courses** | | |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Course # | Course Title | QCH | Course # | Course Title | SCH | **Comments** |
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Policy Name: **D1.1 MINORS POLICY**

 1. Definition

A minor at RIT is a related set of academic courses consisting of no fewer than 15 semester credit hours leading to a formal designation on a student's baccalaureate transcript.

The purpose of the minor is both to broaden a student's college education and deepen it in an area outside the student’s major program. A minor may be related to and complement a student’s major, or it may be in a completely different academic/professional area.   It is the responsibility of the academic unit proposing a minor and the unit’s curriculum committee to indicate any home programs for which the minor is not a broadening experience.

In most cases, minors shall consist of a minimum of two upper division courses to provide reasonable breadth and depth within the minor.

2. Institutional parameters

1. Minors may be discipline-based or interdisciplinary;
2. Only matriculated students may enroll in a minor;
3. At least nine semester credit hours of the minor must consist of courses not required by the student's home program;
4. Students may pursue multiple minors.  A minimum of nine semester credit hours must be designated towards each minor; these courses may not be counted towards other minors;
5. The residency requirement for a minor is a minimum of nine semester credit hours consisting of RIT courses (excluding "X" graded courses);
6. Posting of the minor on the student's academic transcript requires a minimum GPA of 2.0 in each of the minor courses;
7. Minors may not be added to the student's academic record after the granting of the bachelor's degree.

3. Development/approval/administration processes

* 1. Minors may be developed by faculty at the departmental, inter-departmental, college, or inter-college level. As part of the minor development process:
     1. students ineligible for the proposed minor will be identified;
     2. prerequisites, if any, will be identified;
  2. Minor proposals must be approved by the appropriate academic unit(s) curriculum committee, and college curriculum committee(s), before being sent to the Inter-College Curriculum Committee (ICC) for final consideration and approval.
  3. The academic unit offering the minor (in the case of interdisciplinary minors, the designated college/department) is responsible for the following:
     1. enrolling students in the minor (as space permits);
     2. monitoring students progress toward completion of the minor;
     3. authorizing the recording of the minor's completion on student's academic records;
     4. granting of transfer credit, credit by exam, credit by experience, course substitutions, and advanced placement;
     5. responding to student requests for removal from the minor.
  4. As per New York State requirements, courses within the minor must be offered with sufficient frequency to allow students to complete the minor within the same time frame allowed for the completion of the baccalaureate degree.

4. Procedures for Minor revision

It is the duty of the college curriculum committee(s) involved with a minor to maintain the program’s structure and coherence.  Once a minor is approved by the ICC, changes to the minor that do not have a significant effect on its focus may be completed with the approval of the involved academic unit(s) and the college curriculum committee(s).  Significant changes in the focus of the minor must be approved by the appropriate academic unit(s) curriculum committee(s), the college curriculum committee(s) and be resubmitted to the ICC for final consideration and approval.