A meeting of the Educational Policies Committee was held on 1 September 2016 at 3:00 pm in Old Main 136 (Champ Hall Conference Room)

Present: Vijay Kannan for Larry Smith, Chair
Michele Hillard, Secretary
Dick Mueller, College of Science
Fran Hopkin, Registrar’s Office
Lee Rickords, General Education Subcommittee Chair
Kacy Lundstrom, Libraries
Jessica Hanser, Academic and Instructional Services
Vijay Kannan, Curriculum Subcommittee Chair, Huntsman School of Business
Eddy Berry, Humanities and Social Sciences
Leslie Brott, Caine College of the Arts
Jared Schultz, Education and Human Services
Brian Warnick, College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences
Claudia Radel, Quinney College of Natural Resources

Absent: Ty Aller, Graduate Studies Senator
Janet Anderson, Provost’s Office
Melanie Nelson, USU-Eastern
Thomas Fronk, Engineering
Ashley Waddoups, USUSA President
Nathan Straight, Regional Campuses
Nick Flann, Graduate Council
Scott Bates, Academic Standards Subcommittee Chair
Heidi Kesler, Registrar’s Office

Visitors: N/A

I. Approval of the minutes of the 7 April 2016 meeting
https://usu.box.com/s/vipv16x3fa31bzof4p9y09xep2mu3qd9

Motion to approve the minutes of the 7 April 2016 EPC meeting made by Eddy Berry.
Seconded by Dick Mueller. Minutes approved.

II. Subcommittee Reports

a. Curriculum Subcommittee (Vijay Kannan)

Motion to approve the report of the Curriculum Subcommittee made by Dick Mueller.
Seconded by Eddy Berry. Report approved.
Course Approvals

Program Proposals
Request from the Department of Applied Economics in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences to change the name from Agricultural Economics to Applied Economics. https://usu.box.com/s/4pk2gstjikkw0grlbbuh6930gmkmlhil

Request from the Department of Plants, Soils and Climate in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences to offer a Minor in Residential Landscape Design. https://usu.box.com/s/bxohbq2x54lguyvksqq0xw46b490q33q

Request from the Department of Wildland Resources in the S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources to add a Forest Ecology Specialization to the MS and PhD programs. https://usu.box.com/s/ip09wipwaq7y0r6hc3xwpizxs8f8b4sc

b. Academic Standards Subcommittee (Scott Bates)
   No report – April & August will be reported at the October meeting.

c. General Education Subcommittee (Lee Rickords)
   https://usu.box.com/s/2zbxmcikv5oelcst2wuz8k7ym3jrqsrr
   Motion to approve the report of the General Education Subcommittee made by Jared Schultz. Seconded by Dick Mueller. Report approved.

III. Other Business
   N/A

   Adjourned: 3:15 pm
A meeting of the Educational Policies Committee was held on 7 April 2016 at 3:00 pm in Old Main 136 (Champ Hall Conference Room)

Present: Michele Hillard, Secretary  
Dick Mueller for Dan Coster, College of Science  
Roland Squire, Registrar’s Office  
Melanie Nelson, USU-Eastern  
Mike Lyons, General Education Subcommittee Chair  
Thomas Fronk, Engineering  
Kacy Lundstrom, Libraries  
Jessica Hansen, Academic and Instructional Services  
Kelly Fadel, Huntsman School of Business  
Trevor Olsen, USUSA President  
Ed Reeve, Curriculum Subcommittee Chair  
Nathan Straight, Regional Campuses  
Larry Smith, Chair  
Eddy Berry, Humanities and Social Sciences  
Nick Flann, Graduate Council  
Scott Bates, Academic Standards Subcommittee Chair  
Nicholas Morrison, Caine College of the Arts  
Heidi Kesler for Marci Smith, Registrar’s Office  
Jared Schultz, Education and Human Services

Absent: Ty Aller, Graduate Studies Senator  
Karen Mock, Quinney College of Natural Resources  
Janet Anderson, Provost’s Office

Visitors: N/A

I. Approval of the minutes of the 3 March 2016 meeting  
https://usu.box.com/s/7rb34w8vjqjw78c23m39eriph5sk30db  
Approved

II. Subcommittee Reports

a. Curriculum Subcommittee (Ed Reeve)  
Motion to approve the Curriculum Subcommittee report made by Trevor Olsen. Seconded by Dick Mueller. Report approved.

Course Approvals

Program Proposals
Request from the Department of English in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences to offer an English Teaching Composite Baccalaureate degree.
https://usu.box.com/s/7rb34w8vjqjw78c23m39eriph5sk30db

Request from the Department of Plants, Soils and Climate in the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences to offer a Bachelor of Science degree in Climate Science.
https://usu.box.com/s/7rb34w8vjqjw78c23m39eriph5sk30db

Request from the Department of Watershed Sciences in the S.J. & Jessie E. Quinney College of Natural Resources to change the title in the current BS in Watershed and Earth Systems to BS in Management and Restoration of Aquatic Ecosystems.
https://usu.box.com/s/7rb34w8vjqjw78c23m39eriph5sk30db

b. Academic Standards Subcommittee (Scott Bates)
https://usu.box.com/s/7rb34w8vjqjw78c23m39eriph5sk30db
Motion to approve the Academic Standards Subcommittee made by Dick Mueller. Seconded by Ed Reeve. Report approved.

c. General Education Subcommittee (Dawn Kirby)
No March meeting was held.

III. Other Business
N/A

Adjourned: 3:28 pm
Institution Submitting Request: Utah State University

Program Title: Current | Proposed (if applicable)  
--- |  
Agricultural Economics | Applied Economics  
Sponsoring School, College, or Division: College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences

Sponsoring Academic Department(s) or Unit(s): Applied Economics

Classification of Instruction Program Code\(^1\):  
Current | Proposed
--- | ---
01.0103 | 45.0602

Min/Max Credit Hours for Full Program Required:  
Current | Proposed (if applicable)  
120 | 120 / Max Cr Hr

Proposed Effective Term for Program Change\(^2\): Fall 2017

Institutional Board of Trustees’ Approval Date:

Award Type: BS

Program Change Type (check all that apply):

- [x] Name Change of Existing Program
- [ ] Program Restructure with or without Consolidation
- [ ] Program Transfer to a new academic department or unit
- [ ] Program Suspension
- [ ] Program Discontinuation
- [ ] Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Program
- [ ] Out of Service Area Delivery Program

Chief Academic Officer (or Designee) Signature:
I, the Chief Academic Officer or Designee, certify that all required institutional approvals have been obtained prior to submitting this request to the Office of the Commissioner.

Please type your first and last name ___________________________ Date:

[ ] I understand that checking this box constitutes my legal signature.

---

2 "Proposed Effective Term" refers to term when change to program is published. For Suspensions and Discontinuations, "effective term" refers to the term the program will suspend admissions.
Program Change Description - Abbreviated Template

Section I: The Request

Utah State University requests approval to change name from Agricultural Economics to Applied Economics effective Fall 2017. This action was approved by the institutional Board of Trustees on ___.

Section II: Program Proposal

Program Change Description/Rationale
Agricultural Economics degrees have traditionally been the more science based degrees in many agricultural economics departments. In more recent times, many departments have broadened their programs and many traditional agricultural economics departments have changed their names to applied economics. Utah State University has followed this national trend with the department of Applied Economics name change in 2008. The Applied Economics department is requesting the name change for the B.S. degree from Agricultural Economics to Applied Economics to be more reflective of the breadth of the degree and to be more in line with the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association trends.

Consistency with Institutional Mission/Institutional Impact
This proposed B.S. major name change is consistent with the USU mission of being a student-centered land grant university. The new name is more reflective of the student’s interests and likely helps them be marketable to a broader set of opportunities.

Finances
This change will have no financial impact as it is only a name change to an existing degree.
Utah System of Higher Education  
New Academic Program Proposal  
Cover/Signature Page - Abbreviated Template

Institution Submitting Request: Utah State University

Proposed or Current Program Title: Minor in Residential Landscape Design

Sponsoring School, College, or Division: College of Agriculture & Applied Sciences

Sponsoring Academic Department(s) or Unit(s): Plant, Soils & Climate

Classification of Instructional Program Code1: 01.0601

Min/Max Credit Hours Required of Full Program: 16 Cr Hr / 17 Cr Hr

Proposed Beginning Term2: Spring 2017

Institutional Board of Trustees' Approval Date:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certificate of Proficiency</th>
<th>Entry-level CTE CP</th>
<th>Mid-level CP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of Completion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X Minor</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Certificate</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-12 Endorsement Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW Emphasis for Regent-Approved Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out of Service Area Delivery Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Chief Academic Officer (or Designee) Signature:

I, the Chief Academic Officer or Designee, certify that all required institutional approvals have been obtained prior to submitting this request to the Office of the Commissioner.

__________________________________________  Date:

☐ I understand that checking this box constitutes my legal signature.

---


2 “Proposed Beginning Term” refers to first term after Regent approval that students may declare this program.
Program Description - Abbreviated Template

Section I: The Request

Over the past several years, the Plants, Soils, and Climate Department (PSC) has offered a Bachelors degree in Residential Landscape Design & Construction. We are proposing a minor in Residential Landscape Design as a compliment to students majoring in Plant Science or Horticulture as well as students in other disciplines. In regards to the approval of the minor, it is important to realize that the faculty, facilities & funding will remain unchanged.

Section II: Program

Proposal/Needs Assessment Program Description/Rationale

Over the past several years, the Plants, Soils, and Climate Department (PSC) has offered a Bachelors degree in Residential Landscape Design & Construction. We are proposing a minor in Residential Landscape Design as a compliment to students majoring in Plant Science or Horticulture as well as students in other disciplines. In regards to the approval of the minor, it is important to realize that the faculty, facilities & funding will remain unchanged.

Labor Market Demand

This program is valuable and will provide skills for students interested in starting a landscape business or progressing to higher positions in organizations that provide landscape services. The continued urbanization and population growth of Utah make it highly likely that there will continue to be strong labor market demand for graduates in horticulture focused on urban needs. The Utah Department of Workforce Services describes the positions relating to First-Line Supervisors of Landscaping, Lawn Service, and Grounds keeping Workers as having a good employment outlook and relatively high wages. The department also describes the field as having faster than average employment growth with a high volume of annual job openings. Business expansion, as opposed to the need for replacements, will provide the majority of job openings in the coming decade. This is likely due to the expectations of 1.6 million new residents in Utah by 2040 and 80% of these located along the Wasatch Front (Utah Legislature Briefing paper, Feb. 2014). As a result, it is expected that long term trends will be consistent or more likely grow for this degree with the increased demands on urban landscapes.

Students especially those in Plant Science or Horticulture that will work in an urban setting will have more tools to make them marketable if they have the working knowledge not only in plants, production, maintenance & care, but in residential landscape design as well. Currently we have students who major in RLDC and minor in Horticulture. This minor will allow students who choose to have their degree with more emphasis in plants & the sciences to be able to add that design component to their skill set.

This proposed minor is different from the minor in Landscape Architecture & all classes would be available on the Logan Campus & for students in RC along the Wasatch Front.

Consistency with Institutional Mission/Impact on Other USHE Institutions

We do not foresee the new minor affecting resources in a significant way. The faculty, staff and facilities are already in place and teaching the classes used in this proposed minor, nor will there be a change in existing administrative structures. The classes are all currently being taught for the BS in RLDC that is in Logan & in RC along the Wasatch Front.
Finances
Funding for the program is already in place and additional funds are not required. The new minor would increase students somewhat generating additional tuition income.

Section III: Curriculum

Program Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Number</th>
<th>NEW Course</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>General Education Courses (list specific courses if recommended for this program on Degree Map)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>General Education Credit Hour Sub-Total</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Required Courses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td>Prerequisite</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td>PSC</td>
<td>2600 Herbaceous Plant Materials</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td>PSC</td>
<td>2620 Woody Plant Materials</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td>Required Courses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td>LAEP</td>
<td>1200 2 D Graphics Representation</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td>PSC</td>
<td>3300 Residential Landscape Design</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td>PSC</td>
<td>4301 Computer Aided Residential Landscape Design</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td>PSC</td>
<td>4302 Advanced Computer Aided Residential Landscape Design</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td>PSC</td>
<td>5090 Sustainable Low Water Use Landscapes</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sub-Total</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Add A Group of Courses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td>Elective Courses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td>Choose one course</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td>PSC</td>
<td>3430 Landscape Construction Methods</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td>PSC</td>
<td>3440 Landscape Business Practices</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+ -</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Add A Group of Courses</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Elective Credit Hour Sub-Total</td>
<td>2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Core Curriculum Credit Hour Sub-Total</td>
<td>16-17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Program Curriculum Narrative

Degree Map
Degree maps pertain to undergraduate programs ONLY. Provide a degree map for proposed program. Degree Maps were approved by the State Board of Regents on July 17, 2014 as a degree completion measure. Degree maps or graduation plans are a suggested semester-by-semester class schedule that includes prefix, number, title, and semester hours. For more details see [http://higheredutah.org/pdf/agendas/201407/TAB%20A%202014-7-18.pdf](http://higheredutah.org/pdf/agendas/201407/TAB%20A%202014-7-18.pdf) (Item #3).

Program Schedule for Logan students: must have pre requisite classes PSC 2600 & PSC 2620

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall or any semester prior to PSC 3300</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Summer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAEP 1200 (4) 2 D Graphics Representation</td>
<td>PSC 3300 (3) Residential Landscape Design</td>
<td>PSC 5090 (3) Sustainable Low Water Use Landscapes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Program Schedule for RC students: must have pre requisite classes PSC 2600 & PSC 2620

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall odd years or any semester prior to PSC 3300</th>
<th>Spring even years</th>
<th>Summer odd years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAEP 1200 (4) 2 D Graphics Representation</td>
<td>PSC 3300 (3) Residential Landscape Design</td>
<td>PSC 5090 (3) Sustainable Low Water Use Landscapes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Institution Submitting Request: Utah State University
Proposed Title: Forest Ecology specialization within the M.S. and Ph.D. Ecology degrees
Currently Approved Title: n/a
School or Division or Location: Quinney College of Natural Resources, USU Logan campus
Department(s) or Area(s) Location: Wildland Resources
Recommended Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code\(^1\) (for new programs): 03.0502
Current Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code (for existing programs): n/a
Proposed Beginning Date (for new programs): 01/07/2017
Institutional Board of Trustees’ Approval Date:

Proposal Type (check all that apply):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SECTION NO.</th>
<th>ITEM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.1.1</td>
<td>Minor*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.1.2</td>
<td>Emphasis* (Forest Ecology Specialization)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2.1</td>
<td>(CER P) Certificate of Proficiency*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2.3</td>
<td>(GCR) Graduate Certificate*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 5.4.1       | New Administrative Unit  
|             | Administrative Unit Transfer  
|             | Administrative Unit Restructure  
|             | Administrative Unit Consolidation |
| 5.4.2       | Conditional Three-Year Approval for New Centers, Institutes, or Bureaus |
| 5.4.3       | New Center  
|             | New Institute  
|             | New Bureau |
| 5.5.1       | Out-of-Service Area Delivery of Programs |
| 5.5.2       | Program Transfer  
|             | Program Restructure  
|             | Program Consolidation |
| 5.5.3       | Name Change of Existing Programs |
| 5.5.4       | Program Discontinuation  
|             | Program Suspension |
| 5.5.5       | Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Program  
|             | Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Administrative Unit |

*Requires “Section V: Program Curriculum” of Abbreviated Template

Chief Academic Officer (or Designee) Signature:
I certify that all required institutional approvals have been obtained prior to submitting this request to the Office of the Commissioner.

____________________________________
Signature
Date:
Printed Name:

Program Request - Abbreviated Template
Utah State University
Specialization in Forest Ecology, MS or PhD in Ecology

Section I: Request

Utah State University offers MS and PhD degrees in Ecology through multiple Departments and Colleges at Utah State University. Two specializations exist for this degree: the Aquatic Ecology specialization (offered through the Watershed Sciences Department) and the Wildlife Ecology specialization (offered through the Wildland Resources Department). The Wildland Resources Department (WILD) proposes to add a Forest Ecology specialization at the MS and PhD levels. This would be a specialization conferred only by the Wildland Resources Department, which is the home to the majority of courses involved in the proposal, and is also home to the majority of USU faculty with expertise in Forestry.

In the past, Departments offered a variety of different types of ecology-related graduate degrees, but several years ago most of these (including Forest Ecology) were collapsed into a single degree in Ecology (MS or PhD) with a set of core requirements. Some of these original degrees were retained as specializations, including Aquatic Ecology and Wildlife Ecology. Forest Ecology was not retained as a specialization at that time by WILD.

Section II: Need

The forestry profession is increasingly incorporating ecological principles, with sustainability, wildlife and fisheries habitat conservation, water quality issues, and carbon sequestration become management priorities. Similarly, forestry-related employers increasingly value ecological experience and expertise in students, and students are increasingly interested in ecological perspectives. For example, beginning in 2012, the USDA Forest Service is required to include substantive assessment of “ecological integrity” of forest ecosystems in their management plans. The Utah State University Wildland Resources Department offers a degree in Forestry, but this degree is not explicitly focused on forest ecology. Students with specific interest in forest ecology careers must choose between having a degree called “Forestry” but enjoying none of the benefits of Ecology Center affiliation, or having a degree called “Ecology” and relying on future employers to notice forestry-related coursework on their transcripts. A Forest Ecology specialization transcript designation would make it simpler for both students and future employers to understand the degree focus and content. Through informal discussions among faculty and graduate students in WILD, both of these advantages have become apparent. As an example, of the 26 graduate students completing Ecology degrees in WILD since 2012, 5 would likely have opted for the Forest Ecology specialization had it existed, according to their advisors. There are at least 4 graduate students currently enrolled in WILD Forestry and Ecology degree programs who would also prefer a Forest Ecology specialization designation.

Section III: Institutional Impact

No significant institutional impact is anticipated. Two of the courses required for this specialization (WILD 6350 and WILD 6730) are already options in the Ecology degree course menus so students choosing a specialization would simply choose those courses. The proposed specialization will also require one additional course for MS students (2 for PhD students) to come from a menu of 5 WILD courses which are
already being offered. The enrollment in all of these courses is currently quite small, and additional students can easily be accommodated without adding sections, instructors, or teaching assistants. Graduate students in forest ecology research are typically in WILD and typically take these courses anyway, so the specialization is a way to formalize and recognize this emphasis.

Section IV: Finances

No budgetary impacts are anticipated.

Section V: Program Curriculum

The Forest Ecology specialization within the Ecology degree would meet existing requirements within WILD as well as the existing requirements for the Ecology graduate degree (MS or PhD). The proposed Forest Ecology specialization would require the following elements:

1) Both MS and PhD students are required to take:
   WILD 6350 Wildland Soils (Spring, 3 cr.; satisfies existing Biophysical Ecology block requirement in Ecology degree)
2) Both MS and PhD students are required to take:
   WILD 6730 Forest Community Ecology (Spring, offered in odd numbered years, 3 cr.; satisfies existing Organismic, Population & Evolutionary Ecology block requirement in Ecology degree)
3) For PhD students: one course from any of the other remaining Ecology blocks (an existing requirement for the Ecology degree)
4) One of the following courses for MS students, two for PhD students:
   WILD 5710 Forest Vegetation Disturbance Ecology and Management (Fall, 3 cr.)
   WILD 6570 Forest Ecology of the Sierra Nevada and White Mountains (Summer, 3 cr.)
   WILD 5700 Forest Assessment and Management (Spring, 3 cr.)
   WILD 7200 Plant Physiological Ecology (Fall, 3 cr.)
   WILD 7400 Plant Population Ecology (Fall, 3 cr.)
5) WILD 6800/7800 Wildland Resources Department seminar (Fall & Spring, 1 cr., an existing requirement for all WILD graduate students)
6) WILD 6780 Ecology seminar (Fall, Spring, 1 cr., an existing requirement for the Ecology degree)
   MS students must register for this seminar once in each of the two years of their programs; PhD students must register for this seminar once in each of three years of their programs.
7) The remaining credit hours for the MS or PhD degree would be determined by the student and his/her committee and following the remaining requirements of the Ecology degree.

The existing Ecology degree core requirements (MS and PhD) are described below. Courses designated in the proposed Forest Ecology specialization which are also in the Ecology degree course menus (blocks) are in bold font. The Ecology graduate degree requirements are few and flexible. Students must meet these requirements, as well as any additional ones specified by their home departments. Specific courses are chosen in consultation with the student’s Graduate Advisory Committee. There are no additional requirements in WILD Ecology degrees.
1) The degree is research-based and requires a thesis or dissertation.

2) Regular participation in the Ecology Center Seminar Series and associated events is expected.
   MS students must register for the Ecology Seminar in each of two years during their program of study.
   PhD students must register for Ecology Seminar in each of three years during their program of study.

3) The degree requires some demonstrated breadth of knowledge in Ecology, most often satisfied with courses from the topical Blocks listed below.

   MS students must take three credits each from two of the Blocks.
   PhD students must take three credits each from three of the Blocks.
   Students may substitute other courses from the same topical area by request of the graduate supervisory committee to the Ecology Center Director.

**Block #1: Biophysical Ecology**

- CEE 6740 Environmental Quality Modeling/Surface Water Quality Modeling
- GEO/ PSC/WATS 6680 Paleoclimatology
- GEO/WATS 6150 Fluvial Geomorphology
- PSC 6130 Soil Genesis, Morphology, and Classification
- PSC 6500 Environmental Physics of Land Ecosystems and Climate
- PSC 6820 Environmental Biophysics
- WATS 6900 Fluvial Hydraulics & Ecohydraulics
- WILD/PSC 5350/6350 Wildland Soils

**Block #2: Organismic, Population, and Evolutionary Ecology**

- BIOL 6240 Physiological Ecology of Vertebrates
- BIOL 6260 Behavioral Ecology
- BIOL 6380 Evolutionary Genetics
- BIOL 6600 Comparative Animal Physiology
- WATS 6230/7230 Fish Ecology
- WILD 6401 Population State Variables
- WILD 6402 Demographic Vital Rates
- WILD 6403 Dynamics of Structured Populations
- WILD 6720/7720 Advanced Conservation Biology
- WILD 6730 Forest Community Ecology
- WILD 7200 Plant Physiological Ecology
- WILD 7400 Plant Population Ecology

**Block #3: Community, Ecosystem, and Landscape Ecology**

- BIOL 6010 Biogeography
- BIOL/PSC/WILD 6200 Biogeochemistry of Terrestrial Ecosystems
- BIOL 6590 Animal Community Ecology
WATS 6310 Wetland Ecology and Management
WATS/WILD 6700 Restoration Ecology
WATS 6820/7820 Stream Ecology
WILD 6710/7710 Landscape Ecology
WILD 6770 Plant Community Ecology
WILD 6900 Invasion Ecology
WILD 7000 Wildland Ecosystem Management

Block #4: Quantitative Ecology

BIOL/MATH 6820 Applied Math in Biology (Powell)
BIOL 6750 Introduction to Programming and Database Management for Biologists
BIOL 6750 Advanced Programming and Database Management for Biologists
STAT 5120 Categorical Data Analysis
STAT 5570/6570 Statistical Bioinformatics
STAT 5600 Applied Multivariate Statistics
STAT 6200 Analysis of Unbalanced Data and Complex Experimental Designs
WATS 6900 Hydrologic Modeling for Watershed Sciences
WATS 6920 Geographic Information Systems
WILD 6510 Topics in Spatial Ecology

Block #5: Human Ecology

ASTE 5260/6260 Environmental Aspects of Agricultural Systems
ENVS 6150 Conservation Policy for Private Lands
ENVS 6320 Water Law and Policy in the United States
ENVS 6900 Introduction to Environmental Law and Policy
ENVS 6400 Ecological Aspects of Wildland Recreation
ENVS 6580 Sustainable Nature-Based Tourism
ENVS 6200 Bioregional Analysis and Planning
LAEP 6110 Landscape Planning for Wildlife
LAEP 6270 Site Analysis: Social, Behavioral, and Biophysical Dimensions
ENVS 6900 Translational Ecology
APEC 5560 Natural Resource and Environmental Economics
ENVS 5550/6550 Sustainability: Concepts and Measurement
ANTH 5340/6340 Archaeology of the Desert West
ENVS 6300/7300 Social and Environmental Psychology of Natural Resources
HIST 6460 Environmental History (Conte)
SOC 5640/6640 Conflict Management in Natural Resources
SOC 6620 Environment, Technology, and Social Change
SOC 6630 Natural Resources and Social Development
Call to Order – Lee Rickords

Approval of Minutes – April 19, 2016
https://usu.box.com/s/6f3nefon3ae6hta2pupwo3adzyv56zc0e
Motion to approve the minutes from April 19, 2016 made by Dean Adams. Seconded by Brian McCuskey. Minutes approved.
HIST 3060 (DHA) APPROVED ................................................................. Brian McCuskey
Motion to approve designation made by Shelley Lindauer. Seconded by Eddy Berry. Designation approved.

HONR 4900 (CI) APPROVED ................................................................. Brock Dethier
Motion to approve designation made by Kris Miller. Seconded by Dean Adams. Designation approved.

Business
Accreditation review of Gen Ed................................................................................................ Michael Torrens
Michael provided a briefing on the accreditation process. There are concerns that we need to work on for our General Education requirements. Defining learning outcomes and mapping are among those concerns. These will be addressed as the process continues and it will be an ongoing process that will include developing a program with course embedded assessment; being able to show student level of accomplishment and putting a program/plan in place for target opportunities in General Education. Michael will continue meeting with individuals regarding course embedded objectives.

Concerns with Student Written Communication Skills........................................................ Lee Rickord
Lee brought forward a concern that high school students are not well equipped in written communication skills. Committee members expressed their concern as well, including the problem with professional communication. Employers are not hiring by degree/resume/experience alone. They are hiring those individuals who have good written and oral communication skills. Some departments on campus (Engineering) have communication courses that assist students in these areas, especially pertaining to their field of study. College of Science is initiating a writing lab for science majors starting this fall. It is felt that the institution needs to make this a priority. At the next meeting committee members will decide possible modes of collecting data.

September and October meetings moved from 8:30 to 9:30 am.
Everyone was reminded that the September and October meetings will begin at 9:30 am instead of 8:30 am.

Adjourned: 9:40 am