

# Summary of Curriculum Changes

Ouachita Baptist University

October 2023

At a faculty meeting on October 17, 2023, the faculty **approved** curriculum changes submitted by the following schools:

- [Hickingbotham School of Business](#)
- [Pruet School of Christian Studies](#)
- [Patterson School of Natural Sciences](#)
- [School of Performing Arts](#)

The **short form** notation indicates informational level curriculum changes submitted on the Curriculum and Academic Standards Committee's short form summary, which addresses course title changes, course time offering changes, and non-substantive changes to course content and/or descriptions. These short form changes will NOT be brought to the faculty for discussion or a vote unless questions are raised before the faculty meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Curriculum and Academic Standards Committee

## Hickingbotham School of Business

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<p><b>ACCOUNTING &amp; FINANCE</b> Minor in Data Analytics</p>	<p><b>Change</b> Add an interdisciplinary Minor in Data Analytics.</p> <p><b>Rationale</b> With the continued growth of technology, data, and cloud-based storage, analyzing data has become easier, and it will soon be vital to all jobs. This minor will allow all students to apply data analytics to their own interests and majors.</p> <p><b>Catalog Entry</b> The minor in data analytics seeks to help students augment their majors for successful careers in any industry or profession. With data availability and software capabilities at all-time highs, the need for data analytics as a skill is increasing in importance everywhere. Offered through the School of Business, this minor is interdisciplinary in nature and open to all non-business majors; however, consult your advisor about the ability to overlap the courses below with courses required in your major.</p> <p><b>Data Analytics Minor (18 hours)</b></p> <p><i>Required (9 Hours):</i> DLIT 1013 Data Fundamentals &amp; Management DLIT 3013 Data Analytics DLIT 4xx3 Analytics Practicum or DLIT 4xx3 Analytics Internship</p> <p><i>Choose 1 course (3 Hours):</i> DLIT 2033 Statistical Analysis MATH 2063 Elementary Statistics MATH 3063 Probability and Statistics PSCI 2023 Philosophy and Methods of Political Science PSYC 2054 Statistics SOC 2034 Statistics in Social Sciences</p> <p><i>Choose 2 courses (6 Hours):</i> ART 4803 Data Visualization &amp; Infographics BIOL 3083 Biostatistics BIOL 3683 Bioinformatics COMM 3203 Media Analytics PSYC 4313 Advanced Statistics PSYC 3073 Psychometrics SOC 3043 Sociology of the Community SOC 3053 Science Research Methods SPTM 4013 Big Data/Data Mining</p>
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<p><b>ACCOUNTING &amp; FINANCE</b> DLIT 4xx3 Analytics Practicum</p>	<p><b>Change</b> Add a new course, DLIT 4xx3 Analytics Practicum.</p> <p><b>Rationale</b> This course is an option in the Minor in Data Analytics. It would give students practical experience with data analytics in their major area of study.</p> <p><b>Catalog Entry</b></p> <p><b>DLIT 4xx3. Analytics Practicum.</b> In-depth experiential learning experience with data analytics. Students will work with a mentor in the field related to the student’s major or area of interest to complete a semester-long research project using analytical tools. Prerequisite: DLIT 3013 Data Analytics. <b>Fall, Spring.</b></p>
<p><b>ACCOUNTING &amp; FINANCE</b> DLIT 4xx3 Analytics Internship</p>	<p><b>Change</b> Add a new course, DLIT 4xx3 Analytics Internship.</p> <p><b>Rationale</b> This course is an option in the Minor in Data Analytics. It would give students internship experience with data analytics in their major area of study.</p> <p><b>Catalog Entry</b></p> <p><b>DLIT 4xx3. Analytics Internship.</b> An applied, integrative experience in analytics where students learn and work under a mentor outside of the university setting. Prerequisite: DLIT 3013 Data Analytics. <b>Fall, Spring, Summer.</b></p>

## Pruet School of Christian Studies

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<p><b>CHRISTIAN MINISTRY</b> CHMN 4xx3 Church Planting Practicum</p>	<p><b>Change</b> Add a new course, CHMN 4xx3 Church Planting Practicum.</p> <p><b>Rationale</b> This practicum will give students an opportunity to work with Arkansas Baptist church planters to gain a semester-long experience in church planting. An internship component is already a requirement for all Pruet School of Christian Studies degrees, and this practicum will fulfill that requirement. Initially, only two students per semester will be eligible to enroll in the practicum course. The CHMN Internship Director will assume faculty supervision over the students and the course and serve as the liaison with the ABSC Church Planting Team.</p> <p>This practicum will bear similar objectives and requirements already in place in our existing internship courses, but it is distinct enough that it merits its own course title. Distinguishing this course with its own identity should also make the course more marketable to students as the unique opportunity that it is.</p> <p>This practicum idea was initiated from the ABSC Church Planting Team who desired to provide a positive experience in church planting for students who will work under the supervision of established and approved church planters in Arkansas. Students could earn their internship credit through working with church planters not associated with the ABSC and this program, but they would not be eligible for the practicum course.</p> <p><b>Catalog Entry</b></p> <p><b>CHMN 4xx3 Church Planting Practicum.</b> Students in this practicum course will work with an Arkansas Baptist church plant directly under the supervision of a church planter approved for supervision by the Arkansas Baptist State Convention Church Planting Team. Students must apply and interview with appropriate ABSC staff and church planter and be approved in order to be eligible to enroll in the course. Students in this course will gain practical experience in the unique dynamics of church planting and will also reflect on and evaluate their experience. <b>Fall, Spring, Summer.</b></p>
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## Patterson School of Natural Sciences

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<p><b>BIOLOGY</b> B.A. in Biology (Wildlife &amp; Conservation Emphasis)</p>	<p><b>Change</b> Change the B.A. in Biology (Field Emphasis) to the B.A. in Biology (Wildlife &amp; Conservation Emphasis) and revise the degree requirements accordingly.</p> <p><b>Rationale</b> The goal of this change is to increase enrollment and marketability of the biology program to prospective students and make students more competitive for positions in wildlife biology and graduate school in wildlife and conservation biology related areas.</p> <p>Why change the name? The field emphasis was originally developed in the early 2000s to appeal to students interested in the “field” related biological disciplines such as wildlife biology, conservation biology, and wildlife management. However, the term “field” is not typically used to describe wildlife related programs at most universities (e.g., SAU – Wildlife &amp; Conservation Biology; ATU – Fisheries and Wildlife; ASU – Wildlife, Fisheries, Conservation; College of Ozarks – Conservation &amp; Wildlife Management). Quite often, prospective students interested in wildlife management and conservation are not aware that we offer such a program. Therefore, the new name clearly identifies the emphasis.</p> <p>Why change the degree requirements? Students who fulfill the current Field Emphasis major do not have the coursework necessary to apply for many entry-level jobs in wildlife biology as prescribed by the <a href="#">U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Wildlife Biology Series 0486</a>. By changing the degree requirements to align with US OPM basic requirements, students will have the necessary coursework and experiences to apply for entry-level positions with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, USDA Forest Service, U.S. Park Service, and other federal and state wildlife agencies.</p> <p><b>Catalog Entry</b></p> <p><b>B.A. degree (Wildlife &amp; Conservation Emphasis):</b> BIOL 1014, 1024, 3034, 3083, 3663, 3802, 3861, two courses from BIOL 3343, 3863, 3xx3 or 3873, one course from BIOL 3014, 4054, or 4064, one course from BIOL 4601, 4501-2, 4002, one 4 credit hour BIOL elective. CHEM 1004, 1014, plus one additional CHEM, MATH, or PHYS course, CORE 2053 or ENGL 3013. A minor of at least 18 hours is required.</p>
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<p><b>BIOLOGY</b> B.S. in Biology (Wildlife &amp; Conservation Emphasis)</p>	<p><b>Change</b> Add a B.S. in Biology (Wildlife &amp; Conservation Emphasis).</p> <p><b>Rationale</b> While the B.A. in Biology (Wildlife &amp; Conservation Emphasis) will allow graduates to meet the curricular requirements to apply for wildlife biology jobs, offering a B.S. in Biology (Wildlife &amp; Conservation Emphasis) will serve students interested in graduate school and research careers in wildlife related fields. By requiring two courses with course-based undergraduate research experience (CURE) laboratories (two from BIOL 3014, 4054, or 4064) and BIOL 4002 Research Capstone as well as a minor in a science field, this B.S. degree will prepare students for graduate school and research positions. Having undergraduate research experience and a rigorous degree program is often the key to finding research assistantships and careers in wildlife and conservation biology (see <a href="https://wildlife.org/paths-to-becoming-a-wildlifer/">https://wildlife.org/paths-to-becoming-a-wildlifer/</a>).</p> <p><b>Catalog Entry</b></p> <p><b>B.S. degree (Wildlife &amp; Conservation Emphasis):</b> BIOL 1014, 1024, 3034, 3083, 3663, 3802, 3861, two courses from BIOL 3343, 3863, 3xx3, or 3873, two courses from BIOL 3014, 4054, or 4064, BIOL 4002 or 4501-2. Eight hours of chemistry, one additional CHEM, MATH, or PHYS course, CORE 2053 or ENGL 3013. A minor of at least 18 hours must be completed in Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics, Physics or Psychology.</p>
<p><b>BIOLOGY</b> BIOL 3xx3 Ornithology</p>	<p><b>Change</b> Add a new course, BIOL 3xx3 Ornithology, and co-list it with CORE 3023 Scientific Connections.</p> <p><b>Rationale</b> This course would be a requirement in the B.A. and B.S. in Biology (Wildlife &amp; Conservation Emphasis). It is needed to fulfill the 9 hours of required wildlife related courses prescribed by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, which may include mammalogy, ornithology, animal ecology, wildlife management, or research courses in the field of wildlife biology. Current faculty expertise includes ornithology.</p> <p>To ensure that the course has substantial enrollments as the wildlife programs grows, we propose that it be co-listed as a Scientific Connections course as others have been (e.g., BIOL 3873/CORE 3873 Southwest Ecology; BIOL 3023/CORE 3023 Environmental Science). This is a win-win situation in that the course will be consistently taught for wildlife students and will provide an additional Scientific Connections option. This course will be taught on a rotation with other Scientific Connections course offerings as well as wildlife conservation/management course offerings.</p>

	<p><b>Catalog Entry</b></p> <p><b>BIOL 3xx3 Ornithology.</b> An introduction to the ecology, evolution, conservation, and anatomy and physiology of birds. The course will also explore the historical and current connections between birds and human societies including associations with religious beliefs, folklore, music, and arts. Biology majors or minors taking this course must co-enroll in BIOL 3861 and participate in one or multiple field trips; trip may incur an additional travel cost. This course will satisfy the Scientific Connections requirement. <b>On Demand.</b></p>
<p><b>BIOLOGY</b> B.A. in Environmental Studies</p>	<p><b>Change</b> Modify the degree requirements for the B.A. in Environmental Studies as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include BIOL 4002 Research Capstone, SOCI 2063 Geospatial Data Analysis, and BIOL 3802 Internship to address student interest in wildlife sciences and research.</li> <li>• Include CJUS 1003 Introduction to Criminal Justice and BUAD 3003 Legal Environment of Business to address student interest in wildlife law.</li> <li>• Change PSCI 4003 or PSCI 4043 to any Junior/Senior three-credit-hour PSCI course.</li> <li>• Change ENGL 3013 to ENGL 3013 or CORE 2053, which aligns with course requirements for the BA in Biology.</li> <li>• Remove “recommended electives” from degree summary sheet, because sometimes they have been interpreted as requirements.</li> </ul> <p><b>Rationale</b> These adjustments will give students greater flexibility in degree planning, allow students to focus on special areas of interest, and clarify the degree requirements.</p> <p><b>Catalog Entry</b></p> <p><b>Requirements for a major in Environmental Studies:</b> BIOL 1014, 1024, 3023, and 3663; 3014 or 4054, 3021, one course from 4601, 4501-2, or BIOL 4002; CHEM 1004 &amp; 1014 or 1024 &amp; 1034; BIOL 3083 or MATH 2063, SOCI 1003, 2063 or 3043; PSCI 2013 and any Jr/Sr-level three credit hour PSCI course; ENGL 3013 or CORE 2053; FINN 2003, 4043; ECON 2023; CJUS 1003 or MGMT 3043; BUAD 3003; PHIL 1003 or 1023; KIN 3013 or BIOL 3802.</p>

<p><b>BIOLOGY</b> BIOL 3863 Tropical Plant Biology</p> <p><b>Short Form</b></p>	<p><b>Change</b> Change BIOL 3863 Tropical Ecology Hawaii to BIOL 3863 Tropical Plant Biology and adjust the course description accordingly.</p> <p><b>Rationale</b> By refocusing the course to have an explicit plant science focus it will fulfill the requirements by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management for wildlife biology positions. In addition, the course includes a field trip portion that requires that biology students, and any interested Scientific Connections students, go on a trip to Hawaii. At times, the field trip portion of the class did not have enough students and so the trip was cancelled. Travel courses that are more likely to have enough students are less expensive (e.g., Southwest Ecology). By changing the course to be a more general tropical plant course, the trip could go to any tropical location including less expensive options like Florida or Puerto Rico but would not rule out a trip to Hawaii.</p> <p><b>Catalog Entry</b></p> <p><b>BIOL 3863 Tropical Plant Biology.</b> This elective advanced topic course will expose students to the biology and ecology of tropical plants and the indigenous cultures that use these plants. Biology majors or minors taking this course must co-enroll in BIOL 3861 and participate in a field trip to a tropical location; this trip will incur an additional travel cost. This course will satisfy the Scientific Connections requirement. <b>On Demand.</b></p>
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## School of Performing Arts

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<p><b>THEATRE ARTS</b> Minor in Dance</p>	<p><b>Change</b> Add a Minor in Dance.</p> <p><b>Rationale</b> Offering a minor in Dance relates to Ouachita’s Vision, Mission, and Values, because it is an opportunity for a creative and scholarly expression of faith, character, and community.</p> <p>Research and anecdotal evidence indicate that dance education contributes to students' physical, emotional, and social well-being by providing a method of physical awareness and fitness, an outlet for creativity and personal expression, and a means to develop social-emotional skills, such as self-management, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making. According to the National Dance Education Organization, studying dance cultivates skills such as collaboration, communication, and creativity, and dance has been shown to positively affect students' attitudes, perceptions, and values.</p> <p>The Arkansas Department of Education is currently developing a pathway to certification in K-12 dance. Jennifer Maddox, Ouachita’s adjunct instructor of dance, has served on the ADE working group for this certification. Offering the Dance Minor would also put a framework in place for the education major to develop the competencies necessary to prepare for the Praxis test content area in dance.</p> <p>Regardless of students’ career interests or majors, the Dance Minor would be beneficial in recruiting individuals with an interest or background in dance.</p> <p><b>Catalog Entry</b></p> <p><b>Dance Minor (18 hours)</b></p> <p><i>Required (12 hours):</i>          THDA 1001 Introduction to Ballet*          THDA 1011 Jazz 1*          THDA 1021 Jazz 2*          THDA 2001 Modern Dance 1*          THDA 2011 Modern Dance 2*          THDA 2021 Tap 1*          THDA 2031 Tap 2*          THDA 3002 Musical Theatre Choreography          THEA 3173 History and Literature of Musical Theatre</p> <p>*Dance courses may be taken in any order.</p>
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	<p><i>Flexible (Choose 6 hours.):</i></p> <p>ELED 2223 Art, Drama, Movement, Music Integrated in the Elementary Classroom</p> <p>KIN 1003 Foundations of Kinesiology</p> <p>KIN 1113 Fundamental Motor Development</p> <p>KIN 2093 Structural Basis of Human Movement</p> <p>KIN 2182 Methods of Rhythm Games, Gymnastics, and Playground Activities</p> <p>KIN 2903 Methods of Strength Training and Conditioning</p> <p>KIN 3013 Care and Prevention of Injuries</p> <p>MUEN 1101 Musical Theatre Workshop**</p> <p>THEA 3033 Stage Lighting and Sound</p> <p>THEA 3053 Stage Makeup</p> <p>THEA 3073 Costuming</p> <p><b>**MUEN 1101 may be repeated for credit.</b></p>
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