

Curriculum Revision Form

Effective Date: FALL 2026

Submission Date:

Department: Biology

College of: Arts & Sciences

Contact Person: Andrew George

Minor Required? No

Revision

Major/Minor/Emphasis/Certification Name:

Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences emphasis

If selection is "Deletion" complete questions 2, 3, & 4, then complete signatures.

Revision to Curriculum – REQUIRES ACADEMIC PLANNING EXCEL ATTACHED.

Used to change program name and/or curriculum, effective the upcoming academic catalog.

Removes Major/Minor/Emphasis/Certificate from upcoming catalog.

1. Describe ALL Changes:

We are restructuring the emphasis for simplicity. Instead of requiring students to select emphasis courses from among four categories (animals, plants, ecology, and management), we are requiring five emphasis courses, and allowing students to select the remainder from among a larger group of electives.

2. Rationale for change, including changes to curriculum objectives:

The primary reason for restructuring is that several courses are no longer offered due to faculty retirements, leaving too few courses in the four emphasis categories (animals, plants, ecology, management).

3. Will this change affect any education majors? *If "yes," this requirement will need approval of the Council for Teacher Education before upload to " College Curriculum Legislation" in SharePoint.*

☐

Yes

☒

No

4. If this change affects any other department on campus, **please attach all email notifications between departments.**

5. Does the revision meet University catalog definitions for majors, minors, emphases, and certificates as appropriate?

☒ Yes ☐ No

6. Will additional resources or costs will be required?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If so, what will be needed?

Definition of an Emphasis

Area of Emphasis is a specific subject area that exists within an approved degree program and major. At Pittsburg State University a minimum of 12 credit hours and no more than 24 credit hours are expected for an area of emphasis in a baccalaureate degree program.

Definition of a Minor

Minors at Pittsburg State University may range from 15 to 24 credit hours. When selected to accompany a degree that requires a minor there must be at least nine unique credit hours in the minor that are not found in the student's major in order to meet graduation requirements. In instances where the major requires a minor (not the degree type), academic departments/schools may specify minors that best achieve the learning objective for their students.

Definition of Certificate Program

A certificate program can be undergraduate or graduate in course content and provides a specific body of knowledge for personal or career development or professional continuing education. Certificates may be taken while also pursuing a degree or independent from any other studies at Pittsburg State University. It is recommended that if the student is only pursuing a certificate and not in conjunction with a degree and wishes to apply for federal financial assistance that they visit with personnel in the Student Financial Assistance office regarding the eligibility for aid for the certificate of interest. At Pittsburg State University a certificate can range from 12 credit hours to 24 credit hours.

Authorization Sign-Off Sheet

Checklist: Check once verified.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Program guide from current catalog.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Academic Planning Excel attached.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	120 Credit hours met.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Course Id's match Course names.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Course hours are correct.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Listed courses are currently active.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Needed Documentation attached.

-Approved: Department Chair/Director

Date: 9-30-2025 Signature: _____

James Lian

-Approved: College Curriculum Committee

Date: 12/2/25 Signature: _____

Christopher Childers

-Approved: Dean of College

Date: 12/2/25 Signature: _____

Christopher Childers

-Approved: Council for Teacher Education (if applicable)

Date: _____ Signature: _____

-Approved: University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee

Date: _____ Signature: _____

-Approved: Faculty Senate

Date: _____ Signature, Recorder Faculty Senate: _____

Following final College Curriculum Committee approval, please apply the appropriate signatures, and send them to your College Administrator.

Originating Department: After completing this form, please upload it to the SharePoint, within the appropriate College folder, "Preliminary Legislation", to allow for review and questions. Any modifications should be saved as "original file name.v2.pdf" and uploaded as well.

Make sure to attach the program guide from current catalog! (For Revised Curriculum)

<https://www.pittstate.edu/registrar/catalog>

Academic Planning Document for 2025-2026

Major/Emphasis/Minor/Certificate - B.S. Biology, Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences Emphasis

Course Prefix	Course Num.	Course Name	Cr. Hr.
		Core Courses -	28
BIOL	106	Ecology and Field Biology Orientation	1
BIOL	211	Principles of Biology I	4
BIOL	212	Principles of Biology II	4
BIOL	313	Principles of Conservation	3
BIOL	322	Genetics	3
	and		
BIOL	323	Genetics Laboratory	2
BIOL	330	Principles of Ecology	3
BIOL	405	Taxonomy of Vascular Plants	4
BIOL	529	Evolution	3
BIOL	699	Senior Seminar	1
		Support Courses -	20
CHEM	215	General Chemistry I	3
	And		
CHEM	216	General Chemistry I Laboratory	2
CHEM	320	Introduction to Organic Chemistry	3
	And		
CHEM	326	Organic Chemistry I Laboratory	2
GEOG	303	Geographic Information Systems	4
		Plus two of the following of approved courses (6-8 hrs)	6
BIOL	603	Biometry (3 hrs)	
COMM	450	Small Group Communication (3 hrs)	
GEOG	403	Geographic Information Systems II (4 hrs)	
MATH	343	Introductory Applied Statistics (3 hrs)	
PHYS	160	Physical Geology (3 hrs)	
	AND		
PHYS	165	Physical Geology Laboratory (1 hr)	
POLS	512	Environmental Politics (3 hrs)	
		Emphasis Courses -	20
BIOL	515	Stream Ecology	4
BIOL	533	Ichthyology	4
BIOL	538	Wetland Plants	4
BIOL	607	Marine Biology	3
BIOL	634	Fisheries Management	5
		Elective Courses -	18
BIOL	303	Regional Natural History	3
BIOL	371	General Microbiology	
	AND		5
BIOL	372	General Microbiology Laboratory	

BIOL	382	Plant Diversity	3
BIOL	502	Topics in Environmental Biology (1-3 hrs)	1
BIOL	525	Urban Ecology	3
BIOL	534	Herpetology	4
BIOL	535	Ornithology	4
BIOL	536	Mammalogy	3
BIOL	561	General Entomology	3
BIOL	575	Animal Behavior	3
BIOL	576	Human Dimensions of Natural Resource Management	3
BIOL	602	Topics in Biology (1-3 hrs)	
BIOL	612	Internship in Biology (1-3 hrs)	
BIOL	617	Environmental Health	3
BIOL	635	Wildlife Ecology and Management	4
BIOL	636	Invasive Species Management	3
BIOL	639	Terrestrial Field Ecology	4
BIOL	641	Identification of Woody Plants	3
BIOL	642	Grass Taxonomy	4
Total Credit Hours -			86
Minor -			0
General Education, 34-35 hours -			34
Total Credit Hours:			120

Be sure all information is correct and courses are active before submitting.

Curriculum Revisions **REQUIRE** a program guide from the current catalog, 24/25.

Your legislation will be returned if either is found.

DO NOT SAVE AS PDF, Leave in Excel worksheet format!

Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences Emphasis

Degree: Bachelor of Science

Major: Biology

Emphasis: Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences

General Education Requirements

General Education requirements consist of 34-35 credit hours of course work.

Required Math Gateway Course, seek advisement.

MATH-113 College Algebra

Or

Math-110 College Algebra with Review

Core Requirements, 27 hours

- ___ BIOL-106 Ecology and Field Biology Orientation (1 hour)
- ___ BIOL-211 Principles of Biology I (4 hours)
- ___ BIOL-212 Principles of Biology II (4 hours)
- ___ BIOL-313 Principles of Conservation (3 hours)
- ___ BIOL-322 Genetics (3 hours)
- and ___ BIOL-323 Genetics Laboratory (2 hours)
- ___ BIOL-330 Principles of Ecology (3 hours)
- ___ BIOL-405 Taxonomy of Vascular Plants (4 hours)
- ___ BIOL-529 Evolution (3 hours)
- ___ BIOL-699 Senior Seminar and Assessment (1 hour)

Specific Requirements - Select 28 hours from the groups below, but must include at least one course each from Groups 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Group 1 - Animal Biology

- ___ BIOL-533 Ichthyology (4 hours)
- ___ BIOL-534 Herpetology (4 hours)

Group 2 - Plant Biology

- ___ BIOL-538 Wetland Plants (4 hours)

Group 3 - Management

- ___ BIOL-576 Human Dimensions of Natural Resource Management (3 hours)
- ___ BIOL-634 Fisheries Management (5 hours)
- ___ BIOL-636 Invasive Species Management (3 hours)

Group 4 - Ecology

- ___ BIOL-515 Stream Ecology (4 hours)
- ___ BIOL-607 Marine Biology (3 hours)

Group 5 - Other Courses

- ___ BIOL-303 Regional Natural History (3 hours)
- ___ BIOL-371 General Microbiology (3 hours)
- and ___ BIOL-372 General Microbiology Laboratory (2 hours)
- ___ BIOL-382 Plant Diversity (3 hours)
- ___ BIOL-502 Topics in Environmental Biology (___) (1-3 hours)
- ___ BIOL-525 Urban Ecology (3 hours)
- ___ BIOL-535 Ornithology (4 hours)
- ___ BIOL-536 Mammalogy (3 hours)
- ___ BIOL-561 General Entomology (3 hours)
- ___ BIOL-575 Animal Behavior (3 hours)
- ___ BIOL-602 Topics in Biology (___) (1-3 hours)
- ___ BIOL-612 Internship in Biology (1-3 hours)
- ___ BIOL-617 Environmental Health (3 hours)
- ___ BIOL-635 Wildlife Ecology and Management (4 hours)
- ___ BIOL-639 Terrestrial Field Ecology (4 hours)
- ___ BIOL-641 Identification of Woody Plants (3 hours)
- ___ BIOL-642 Grass Taxonomy (4 hours)

Other Requirements (20-22 hours)

See notes *1

- ___ CHEM-215 General Chemistry I (3 hours)
- and ___ CHEM-216 General Chemistry I Laboratory (2 hours)
- ___ CHEM-320 Introductory Organic Chemistry (3 hours)
- and ___ CHEM-326 Organic Chemistry I Laboratory (2 hours)
- ___ GEOG-303 Geographic Information Systems I (4 hours)

Choose two courses from:

- ___ BIOL-603 Biometry (3 hours)
- ___ COMM-450 Small Group Communication (3 hours)
- ___ GEOG-403 Geographic Information Systems II (4 hours)
- ___ MATH-343 Introductory Applied Statistics (3 hours)
- ___ PHYS-160 Physical Geology (3 hours)
- and ___ PHYS-165 Physical Geology Laboratory (1 hour)
- ___ POLS-512 Environmental Politics (___) (3 hours)

*Notes *1: Plus 0-7 hours to meet 120 hours.*

Revised: 08/20/2025