

UMBC UGC Change in Existing Course: PHIL 394: Philosophy of Biology

Date Submitted: 11/07/2015

Proposed Effective Date: immediately

| | Name | Email | Phone | Dept |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------|------------|
| Dept Chair or UPD | Steve Yalowitz | yalowitz@umbc.edu | 5-2108 | Philosophy |
| Other Contact | Nafi Shahegh | shahegh@umbc.edu | 5-2103 | Philosophy |

COURSE INFORMATION: (please provide all information in the "current" column, and only the information changing in the "proposed" column)

| change | | current | proposed |
|----------------------------|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Course Number(s) | 394 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Formal Title | Philosophy of Biology | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Transcript Title (≤30c) | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Recommended Course Preparation | | |
| X <input type="checkbox"/> | Prerequisite NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a "D" or better. | You must have taken (1) PHIL course and received a grade of "C" or better before taking this course. | One course in Philosophy with a grade of C or better |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Credits | 3 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Repeatable? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> NoX | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Max. Total Credits | | Max. Total Credits: This should be equal to the number of credits for courses that cannot be repeated for credit. For courses that may be repeated for credit, enter the maximum total number of credits a student can receive from this course. E.g., enter 6 credits for a 3 credit course that may be taken a second time for credit, but not for a third time. Please note that this does NOT refer to how many times a class may be retaken for a higher grade. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Grading Method(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail | <input type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail |

CURRENT CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

An examination of biology from a philosophical point of view. Some of the philosophical problems considered are the tautological character of the principle of natural selection, genic vs. group selection, the definition of fitness, the nature of biological species, the statistical character of evolutionary theory, and the reduction of biological laws to laws in physics and chemistry.

PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION (no longer than 75 words): leave blank if no changes are being proposed to the catalog description. NOTE: information about prerequisites should NOT appear in the catalog description.)

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE:

We are making the wording for the prerequisites for all of our 300 level courses uniform.