

## UMBC UGC Instructions for Change in Existing Course Form (Revised 2/2015)

**Course number & title:** Enter the current course number and title of the course at the top of the page.

**Date submitted:** The date that the form will be submitted to the UGC.

**Effective date:** The semester that the change will be effective, if approved.

**Contact information:** Provide the contact information of the Chair or UPD of the department housing the course. If the course is not housed in a department or program, then provide the same information for the head of the appropriate academic unit. (See UGC Procedures.) If another faculty member should also be contacted for questions about the request and be notified about UGC actions on the request, include that person's contact information on the second line.

**Course information:** Provide all of the current information for this course. Check the "change" column for aspects of the course that will be changed by this proposal and provide the specific changes. Unchanged fields may be left blank under the "proposed" column. *Note: all 300- and 400-level courses must have prerequisites or recommended preparation.*

**Course number:** For cross-listed courses, provide all the numbers for the course.

**Transcript title:** Limited to 30 characters, including spaces. Leave the current transcript title blank if this is not known.

**Recommended Course Preparation:** *Please note that all 300 and 400 level courses should have either recommended course preparation(s) or prerequisite(s) and that 100 or 200 level courses may have them.*

Here fill in what previous course(s) a student should have taken to succeed in the course. These recommendations will NOT be enforced by the registration system. Please explain your choices in the "rationale" (discussed below).

**Prerequisite:** *Please note that all 300 and 400 level courses should have either recommended course preparation(s) or prerequisite(s)* Here fill in course(s) students need to have taken before they enroll in this course. These prerequisites will be enforced through the registration system. Please explain your choices in the "rationale" (discussed below).

**NOTE:** Please use the words "AND" and "OR", along with parentheses as appropriate, in the lists of prerequisites and recommended preparation so that the requirements specified will be interpreted unambiguously.

**NOTE:** Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a "D" or better.

**Maximum 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.

**Grading method(s):** Check all that apply.

**Current catalog description:** Provide the course description as it appears in the current undergraduate catalog or since the last UGC-approved change.

**Proposed catalog description:** If this proposal involves a change in the course description, provide the exact wording of the course description as it will appear in the next undergraduate catalog. Course descriptions should be a) no longer than 75 words, b) stated in complete sentences, and c) avoid reference to specific details that may not always pertain (e.g., dates, events, etc.). Leave blank if this proposal does not change the course description. Course descriptions should not repeat information about prerequisites (which are always listed alongside the course description).

**Rationale:** Provide a brief explanation for the need for the proposed changes.

**Cross-listed courses:** Requests to change cross-listed courses must be accompanied by letters of support via email from all involved department chairs. Proposals for the addition of a cross-listing to an existing course must include as a part of the rationale the specific reason why cross-listing is appropriate. Email from all involved department chairs is also required when cross-listing is removed and when a cross-listed course is discontinued. Please note that Special Topics cannot be cross-listed.

*Note: the UGC form is a Microsoft Word form. You should be able to enter most of the information by tabbing through the fields. The document is protected. In the rare case that you need to unprotect the document, use the password 'ugcform'. Beware that you will lose all the data entered in the form's fields if you unlock and lock the document.*

## UMBC UGC Change in Existing Course: BIOL 300L: Experimental Biology Laboratory

Date Submitted: 10/4/2017

Proposed Effective Date: Summer 2018

	Name	Email	Phone	Dept
Dept Chair or UPD	Philip Farabaugh	<a href="mailto:farabaug@umbc.edu">farabaug@umbc.edu</a>	53018	BIOL
Other Contact	David Eisenmann	<a href="mailto:eisenman@umbc.edu">eisenman@umbc.edu</a>	52256	BIOL
Other	Nichole Zang Do	<a href="mailto:Zang.do@umbc.edu">Zang.do@umbc.edu</a>	58071	BIOL

**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)	BIOL 300L	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Formal Title	Experimental Biology Laboratory	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transcript Title (≤30c)	Experimental Biology Lab	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Recommended Course Preparation		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Prerequisite <b>NOTE:</b> Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a “D” or better.	You must have completed CHEM102 or CHEM102H, and CHEM 102L, and BIOL 302. You must have completed either MATH 150 or MATH 151 or MATH 155, or have equivalent AP credit, or have Math test placement into MATH 151. All prerequisites must have a C or better	You must have completed [BIOL 141 or BIOL 141H], and BIOL 142, and [CHEM102 or CHEM102H], and CHEM 102L, and BIOL 302. You must have completed either MATH 150 or MATH 151 or MATH 155, or have equivalent AP credit, or have Math test placement into MATH 151. All prerequisites must have a C or better
<input type="checkbox"/>	Credits	2.00	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Repeatable?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<input type="checkbox"/>	Max. Total Credits	2.00	<b>Max. Total Credits:</b> 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 checked="" 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 upper level course of experiments designed to give students the essential laboratory and critical thinking skills in experimental design, implementation and analysis that every biologist should know. This knowledge base is required for succeeding in further BIOL laboratory courses and for working in a research laboratory. Required of all BIOL majors and a prerequisite for all upper level BIOL laboratory courses.

**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:

The BIOL core courses are in the series BIOL 141 → BIOL 142 → BIOL 302 → BIOL 303 and BIOL 300L. BIOL 141/142 is a two-semester Introductory Biology sequence. BIOL 302 is a Genetics course, BIOL 303 is a Cell Biology course, and both build on information from BIOL 141/142. BIOL 300L is Experimental biology Lab, the

first laboratory course that BIOL majors take, and the content pulls from the three lecture courses before it in the sequence.

The pre-requisite for BIOL 302 is BIOL 141 and BIOL 142. Previously we had the prerequisite for BIOL 300L set as only BIOL 302. However, recently we have been finding transfer students transferring in from community colleges with the equivalent of a BIOL 302 course, but without having passed two semesters of Introductory Biology. Under the current prerequisites, these students can enter BIOL 300L, a course for which they are not adequately prepared. To more accurately reflect the material we expect students to have mastered before registering for BIOL 300L, we wish to change the prerequisites to explicitly require passing BIOL 141 and BIOL 142 (as well as BIOL 302).