

UMBC UGC New Course Request: BTEC 490

Date Submitted:

Proposed Effective Date: 8/1/21

	Name	Email	Phone	Dept
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COURSE INFORMATION:

Course Number(s)	490
Formal Title	Special Topics in Translational Life Science Technology
Transcript Title (≤30c)	Special Topics in TLST
Recommended Course Preparation	
Prerequisite NOTE: Unless otherwise indicated, a prerequisite is assumed to be passed with a "D" or better.	BTEC 300 and approval by the TLST Program Director
# of Credits Must adhere to the UMBC Credit Hour Policy	1-3
Repeatable for additional credit?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Max. Total Credits	6 <small>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.</small>
Grading Method(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reg (A-F) <input type="checkbox"/> Audit <input type="checkbox"/> Pass-Fail

PROPOSED CATALOG DESCRIPTION (Approximately 75 words in length. Please use full sentences.):

This course allows specialized courses to be taught in the area of translational science not covered in the TLST curriculum on an ad hoc basis. Topics will be published in the Schedule of Classes. This course is repeatable for credit with different topic. Students may complete a maximum of 6 credits.

RATIONALE FOR NEW COURSE:

This course is needed to provide flexibility in the TLST program by allowing specialized courses to be taught outside of the usual curriculum, either by TLST faculty or by industry representatives on an ad hoc basis. It will be taught occasionally, depending upon availability of instructors and interest. This course is intended for TLST majors who have already completed some TLST coursework or other junior or senior interested students with suitable background. BTEC 300 is identified as a recommended course preparation because the course is designed for students admitted to the TLST program with some of the coursework completed. The course is listed as regular grading. The credit hours will be dependent upon the topic. The course is repeatable for different topics for up to 6 credit hours.

ATTACH COURSE SYLLABUS (mandatory):

BTEC 490 Special Topics in TLST

Instructor: Elizabeth Friar, Ph.D.

Office: BSE 3104

Phone: 240-665-6461

Email: efriar1@umbc.edu

Office Hours: by appointment. Email to arrange a time.

Course Description: This course allows specialized courses to be taught in the area of translational science not covered in the TLST curriculum on an ad hoc basis. Topics will be published in the Schedule of Classes. This course is repeatable for credit with different topic. Students may complete a maximum of 6 credits.

Course Objectives: The goal of this course is to allow TLST majors (and potentially other interested students) the opportunity to study different specialized areas within translational science that are not otherwise covered in the TLST curriculum. Students in this course will (1) complete specialized readings and assignments associated with the special topic as assigned by the instructor; (2) write an integrative paper on some aspect of the special topic; and (3) present their findings in a short presentation in class.

Learning Outcomes: Students who complete the BTEC 490 Special Topics in TLST will have achieved the following:

- Develop an in-depth understanding of an area of translational science that is not covered in the regular curriculum
- The ability to set goals for themselves and work, with the assistance of a supervisor, towards those goals
- The ability to write an in-depth paper for an area of translational science and prepare a presentation on that topic
- A chance to explore a novel area of translational science

Prerequisites: You must complete BTEC 300 with a C or better, and have permission of the Program Director and the supervising faculty member.

Difference between BTEC 399 and BTEC 490: They are similar. BTEC 399 is designed to be student-driven to allow a senior TLST major explore a topic in translational chosen by the student science one-on-one with a supervising faculty member. BTEC 490 is designed to allow an instructor to teach a specialized course in their area of interest in translational science or allow team study of a specialized topic. This course would be open to TLST majors and potentially other interested students.

Course formats:

Special Topics courses provide opportunities for upper level students that are unique from a regularly offered course and can be of three formats:

1) independent or team study that includes a common research project, which may provide research experience but is not required to be original research;

- 2) independent or team study of a topic not covered in a regular course; or
- 3) a course organized by the instructor and (usually) only offered once. In this case the course will appear in the timetable as Special Topics: (name of the course).

Supervisors can be full-time or adjunct UMBC faculty or individuals brought in to teach a single course. The finalized proposal is then submitted to the TLST Program Director. The proposal is then reviewed and approved or not, or approved after modification.

The proposal should be written by the supervisor or a combination of the supervisor and student, this should be approximately two or more pages long and include the outline of the course. This should also include a statement of how the students and professor will interact, (e.g. lectures, seminars, one or two-hour weekly lab meetings). The proposal should also include details of assessment. This is a description of how the student will be evaluated, including deadlines for submission of course assignments and the value for each part being assessed. The proposal should be submitted to the TLST Program Director before the deadline to list classes for the following semester.

Course Requirements:

1. The student must complete the agreed-upon reading material and all writing assignments prior to the end of the grading period.
2. Assignments/meetings may include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Article reviews and/or an annotated bibliography of readings
 - i. For this course, you are expected to provide a brief write-up for each reading. At minimum, the write-up should be typed clearly, using proper grammar and spelling, and all referenced material must be accurately referenced. These write-ups should be submitted to Blackboard.
 - b. Weekly meetings with the supervising faculty member.
 - c. Schedule/Timeline – see above item. Some structure may be imposed by the course instructor.
 - d. Final paper. Details will vary depending on the number of credits and the goals and objectives of the students.
 - i. Be careful to correctly cite all information from cited works. Do not quote, but rephrase all information in your own words. Papers may be checked using plagiarism-detecting software.
 - e. Final presentation. Each student will be expected to present a short presentation on their topic of interest to the class.

Grading: Grading for this course is Regular. Grading is based on the completion of article reviews, attending class meetings with the instructor, completion of the final paper and presentation, and quality of all of the written and presented material. It is expected that the article reviews will represent 30% of the final grade, the final paper 30%, the final presentation 30%, and participation in weekly meetings 10%.

Due Dates: All assignments are to be handed in by the due date to Blackboard, as agreed upon between the student and instructor. If an assignment is late, the instructor has the right to subtract up to 1 letter grade per day late. The final paper and presentation are due one week prior to the

last scheduled day of classes. If some situation beyond your control will make it (or any of the individual Article Reviews) late, you must get the instructor's permission to extend the date.

Please see the document, “UMBC Policies and Resources during COVID” for information on Technology Support, Safety, Academic Integrity, Disability Accommodations, and a variety of other topics.