We are proposing making two modifications to the Environmental Biology Minor prerequisite requirements, and course requirements.

1. Eliminate the majors’ chemistry (FCH150/151/152/153) pre-requisite requirement. This prerequisite may be leading to low number of students in departments such as SRM, LA, and EST enrolling in the program. By the time students develop an understanding and interest in the minor, they likely are beyond their first year of instruction, and for students in the departments that require non-majors Chemistry, the need to take two more semesters of chemistry may deter their participation in the minor. There are several courses that can be completed in the EB curriculum that we believe students can be successful without the majors’ chemistry sequence.
2. Reduce the number of courses that can be used to double-count toward the major and minor. We noted that students enrolled in the major from outside the EB are required to take up to the full 18 credits of the minor to earn the credential, while many from within the department (BTC majors) needed to take far fewer credits. It is our intention with this change to reduce this disparity in effort to achieve the minor credential and to ensure adequate engagement in study outside the BTC program to justify the credential.

2. Institutional Impact:

Changes from existing condition:

Anticipated Enrollment or Enrollment Change: none

Faculty or Staffing Requirements: no change

Technology, Computing Resources, and Classroom Resource Demands: no change

Change in Accreditation Requirements: none

Changes to Assessment Plan: none

Library Resource Requirements: no change

3. Catalog Narrative:

Please attach to this proposal form a copy of the current catalog description in MS Word format, with revisions shown in "track changes".

This minor provides students the opportunity to explore fundamentals of molecular, cellular and organismal biology and ecology, and to develop laboratory and field proficiencies in the discipline. The minor is open all ESF undergraduate students who maintain a GPA of at least 2.70 after completing at least one semester at ESF and who have completed EFB 101/102 & 103/104 General Biology (8 cr) or their equivalents, and one semester of introductory chemistry with laboratory (4 cr). Eighteen credit hours of biology courses are required to satisfy the minor, including:

- EFB320 General Ecology (4 cr);
- EFB307/308 Principles of Genetics w/ laboratory (4 cr);
- EFB311 Principles of Evolution (3 cr);
- 7 cr of directed biology electives that may include:
  - EFB202, either EFB 210 or 211, and
  - any 300+ level EFB course except EFB420, 495, 498. A maximum 6 of 18 credits may count toward both major and minor degree requirements, including directed electives; overlap in excess of 6 credits must be offset by taking additional 300+ biology courses.
4. **Curriculum Transition Plan:**

Please provide a narrative description of your plan for transitioning from your existing curriculum to the proposed new curriculum. Please provide specific dates for implementing curriculum changes, overlap periods where old and new curricula may exist simultaneously, and final phase out of old curricula. Please also include impacts and mitigating considerations for transfer students and students in mid-program during implementation, impacts of changes in semester delivery of existing courses, addition of new courses within a particular semester, etc.

Changes are intended to take effect beginning in the 2021-22 academic year. Students who have enrolled prior to the 21-22 academic year will be grandfathered under prior requirements.

5. **Approval Signatures:**

Signatures below, or attached letters, indicate that the affected departments, programs or units have been notified of this proposal and have had an opportunity to assess the impact of the proposal on their respective units. If departments did not respond to your notification, you may wish to document your effort to contact them.

**Affected Academic Department(s) or Program(s):**

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<th>Name of Chair/Program Director</th>
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(If more/less than three Departments/Programs, please add/delete lines as appropriate.

**Other Units**

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Or letter attached
Office of the Provost

Signature below, or attached letter, indicates that the Provost either a) agrees that there is no need for additional resources from the College; or b) indicates willingness to provide the extra support to the department.

Provost Signature

Or letter attached
6. Proposer Information and Department Chair Affirmation:

Contact Person: Gregory McGee
Name: Gregory McGee
Department: Environmental Biology
Email: ggmcghee@esf.edu
Phone: x6792

This proposal has been reviewed and approved by the sponsoring Department. Affected departments have been notified and given the opportunity to provide feedback. Department resources are or will be made available to support this curriculum revision, or a plan is in place to meet the resource needs as identified in the Institutional Impacts section of this proposal (see Section 2, above).

Name: Melissa Fierke
Department Chair (or designated curriculum representative)  Date: 2/26/21
Signature: Melissa Fierke  Digitally signed by Melissa Fierke  Date: 2021.02.26 16:30:09 -05'00'  Or letter attached

7. Final Approvals:

Curriculum Committee  Date

Faculty Governance  Date

Provost  Date