CHANGE COURSE (MAJOR) and DROP COURSE PROPOSAL

Submitted by:

Department: Geology and Geophysics
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College/School: CNSM
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1. COURSE IDENTIFICATION:

Dept: GEOS Course #: 434 / 634 No. of Credits: 4

COURSE TITLE: Remote Sensing of Cryosphere

2. ACTION DESIRED:

Change Course [ ] If Change, indicate below what change. Drop Course [X]

NUMBER [ ] TITLES [ ] DESCRIPTION [ ]

PREREQUISITES [ ]
CREDITS (including credit distribution) [ ]
CROSS-LISTED [ ]
STACKED (400/600) [ ]
Include syllabi.
OTHER (please specify)

3. COURSE FORMAT

NOTE: Course hours may not be compressed into fewer than three days per credit. Any course compressed into fewer than six weeks must be approved by the college or school's curriculum council. Furthermore, any core course compressed to less than six weeks must be approved by the core review committee.

COURSE FORMAT: (check all that apply)

OTHER FORMAT (specify all that apply)
Mode of delivery (specify lecture, field trips, labs, etc)

4. COURSE CLASSIFICATIONS:

(undergraduate courses only. Use approved criteria found on Page 10 & 17 of the manual. If justification is needed, attach on separate sheet.)

H = Humanities [ ] S = Social Sciences [ ]

Will this course be used to fulfill a requirement for the baccalaureate core? YES [ ] NO [ ]

IF YES, check which core requirements it could be used to fulfill:

0 = Oral Intensive, W = Writing Intensive, Natural Science,
Format 6 also submitted [ ] Format 7 submitted [ ] Format 8 submitted [ ]

5. COURSE REPEATABILITY:

Is this course repeatable for credit? YES [ ] NO [ ]

Justification: Indicate why the course can be repeated (for example, the course follows a different theme each time).

How many times may the course be repeated for credit?

If the course can be repeated with variable credit, what is the maximum number of credit hours that may be earned for this course?
6. CURRENT CATALOG DESCRIPTION AS IT APPEARS IN THE CATALOG: including dept., number, title and credits

GEOS F434 Remote Sensing of the Cryosphere (n)
4 Credits
Offered Spring Odd-numbered Years

Survey of remote sensing methods for mapping and monitoring the various components of the cryosphere. Focus is on the application of optical and microwave satellite data for the study of snow, lake ice and frozen ground. Demonstration and use of field techniques and image analysis software. Prerequisites: GEOS F422 or equivalent. Stacked with GEOS F634. (3+3)

GEOS F634 Remote Sensing of the Cryosphere
4 Credits
Offered Spring Odd-numbered Years

Survey of remote sensing methods for mapping and monitoring the various components of the cryosphere. Focus is on the application of optical and microwave satellite data for the study of snow, lake ice and frozen ground. Demonstration and use of field techniques and image analysis software. Prerequisites: Graduate standing or permission of instructor. Stacked with GEOS F434. (3+3)

7. COMPLETE CATALOG DESCRIPTION AS IT WILL APPEAR WITH THESE CHANGES: (Underline new wording strike-through-old-wording and use complete catalog format including dept., number, title, credits and cross-listed and stacked.) PLEASE SUBMIT NEW COURSE SYLLABUS. For stacked courses the syllabus must clearly indicate differences in required work and evaluation for students at different levels.

Remove both the 434 and 634 course from catalog

8. IS THIS COURSE CURRENTLY CROSS-LISTED?

YES/NO No If Yes, DEPT __________ NUMBER __________

(Requires written notification of each department and dean involved. Attach a copy of written notification.)

9. GRADING SYSTEM: Specify only one

LETTER: X PASS/FAIL: 

10. ESTIMATED IMPACT

WHAT IMPACT, IF ANY, WILL THIS HAVE ON BUDGET, FACILITIES/SPACE, FACULTY, ETC.

GEOS 434 and 634 were elective courses for students pursuing a degree with emphasis in remote sensing. Deleting this course will reduce the number of electives available, but does not hamper our ability to offer the emphasis.

11. LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

Have you contacted the library collection development officer (kljensen@alaska.edu, 474-6695) with regard to the adequacy of library/media collections, equipment, and services available for the proposed course? If so, give date of contact and resolution. If not, explain why not.

No _____ Yes _____

12. IMPACTS ON PROGRAMS/DEPTS:

What programs/departments will be affected by this proposed action? Include information on the programs/departments contacted (e.g., email, memo).

GEOS 434 and 634 were elective courses for students pursuing a degree with emphasis in remote sensing. Deleting this course will reduce the number of electives available, but does not hamper our ability to offer the emphasis.

13. POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE IMPACTS

Please specify positive and negative impacts on other courses, programs and departments resulting from the proposed action.

Geos 634 has been included in the catalog but has been seldom offered because the faculty member who taught this class left UAF. Since his departure we have not had another faculty member in the Department who could continue teaching this course.

As this was only an elective course, cancelling this course has no major negative impact. The positive impact is that the catalog will have listings of only those courses that can realistically be taught.
JUSTIFICATION FOR ACTION REQUESTED

The purpose of the department and campus-wide curriculum committees is to scrutinize course change and new course applications to make sure that the quality of UAF education is not lowered as a result of the proposed change. Please address this in your response. This section needs to be self-explanatory. If you ask for a change in # of credits, explain why; are you increasing the amount of material covered in the class? If you drop a prerequisite, is it because the material is covered elsewhere? If course is changing to stacked (400/600), explain higher level of effort and performance required on part of students earning graduate credit. Use as much space as needed to fully justify the proposed change and explain what has been done to ensure that the quality of the course is not compromised as a result.

Geos 634 has been included in the catalog but has been seldom offered because the faculty member who taught this class left UAF. Since his departure we have not had another faculty member in the Department who could continue teaching this course. We did not remove it from the catalog in hope that there would be someone to teach this course but we do not see that as a possibility in the near future. We would like the current catalog to list only those courses that are being actively taught or are highly likely to be taught.

APPROVALS:

Signature, Chair,  
Program/Department of:  
Geology & Geophysics  
Date  9/23/11

Signature, Chair, College/School Curriculum  
Council for:  
CNSM  
Date  9/30/11

Signature, Dean, College/School of:  
CNSM  
Date

Signature of Provost (if applicable)  
Offerings above the level of approved programs must be approved in advance by the Provost.

ALL SIGNATURES MUST BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO THE GOVERNANCE OFFICE.

Signature, Chair, UAF Faculty Senate Curriculum Review Committee  
Date

ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES: (As needed for cross-listing and/or stacking)  NOT REG

Signature, Chair,  
Program/Department of:  
Geology & Geophysics  
Date  9/23/11

Signature, Chair, College/School Curriculum  
Council for:  
Date

Signature, Dean, College/School of:  
Date