

ANNUAL PROGRAM REVIEW SUMMARY for NATURAL HISTORY 2008-2009

Full Review Due: 09-10

| MISSION: Does program meet the District's mission and established core competencies? Does program reflect the District's diversity? | Status | | | | | |
|---|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 | 08-09 | 09-10 |
| Current Recommendations | | | | | | |
| a) Some elements of existing courses in the series should be evaluated for possible inclusion in the Study Abroad program or, possibly, some new courses could be developed. | | | | | C | |
| b) This program incorporates a cross-discipline approach to learning using field- centered instruction, but could be enhanced by inclusion of course content from areas outside of the natural sciences, areas such as photography and fine arts. | | | | | N/A | |
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| New Recommendations | | | | | | |
| a) Consider incorporating more Natural History courses into the Study Abroad Program. Potential Natural History classes offered as a part of the Study Abroad Program include the Galapagos Islands, Peru, and Belize. | | | | | | |
| b) Consider the purchase of equipment to enhance the experience of students in the field. | | | | | | |
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| NEED: How is program addressing needs based on labor market data, enrollment, articulation, advisory committee, regional agreements, etc.? | Status | | | | | |
|---|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 | 08-09 | 09-10 |
| Current Recommendations | | | | | | |
| a) The science faculty should be encouraged to link these courses to appropriate courses in biology, forestry, astronomy, GIS and geology in order to offer students an opportunity to participate in a discipline-specific field experience. | | | | | C | |
| b) An advisory committee that reflects the breadth of occupational opportunities should be created to give input on the need for a Natural History certificate program. | | | | | I | |
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| New Recommendations | | | | | | |
| a) Explore the possibility of establishing a certificate of achievement in Natural History and the creation of an Advisory Committee. | | | | | | |
| b) A new budget account needs to be established for the Natural History Program. Currently, the program is funded directly from the Biology budget. | | | | | | |
| c) Evaluate the labor market data available on the Chancellor's Office website for market trends in Natural History. | | | | | | |
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| <p>QUALITY: Are lec/lab unit values appropriate? Have the course outlines been reviewed/updated regularly? Are disciplines appropriate? Is faculty development adequate? Does program support State and District emphasis on critical thinking, problem solving and written expression? Does program meet stated objectives in the form of SLOs? Are course pre-requisites and co-requisites validated?</p> | Status | | | | | |
|--|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 | 08-09 | 09-10 |
| Current Recommendations | | | | | | |
| a) A survey of the surrounding school districts should be conducted to explore the idea of these courses being offered as continuing education courses. Recommendation in 1997-98 Program Review. In light of the changes in the statewide teacher credentialing procedures, this should remain a recommendation. | | | | | P | |
| b) Contact should be established with the Los Angeles County Office of Education to determine if the program might be an asset to train outdoor education specialists. | | | | | N/A | |
| New Recommendations | | | | | | |
| a) Enhance the experience of Natural History students by offering classes in locations not typically utilized in recent years. These locations include Alaska, Colorado Plateau, Hawaii, and other regions in the southwestern portion of the United States. | | | | | | |
| b) Ensure that transportation vehicles are available and safe for student travel and use. | | | | | | |
| c) Consider the purchase of camping and other field equipment to enhance the experience and ensure the safety of class participants. | | | | | | |
| d) Faculty in the program should consider the utilization of the campus Blackboard platform for Natural History courses. | | | | | | |

| FEASIBILITY: Are facilities, equipment, and library resources adequate? Are evening programs and services adequate? Are course offerings frequent enough for students to make adequate progress in both day and evening programs? Does the program have adequate communication with & support from Counseling? | Status | | | | | |
|--|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 | 08-09 | 09-10 |
| Current Recommendations | | | | | | |
| a) The science faculty should explore the feasibility of adding a basic field Natural History course that would serve as a techniques prerequisite to be taken before enrolling in specific Natural History courses. | | | | | C | |
| b) The science faculty should explore the feasibility of adding a course designed for students that are seeking to fulfill teacher credentialing breadth prior to taking the new CSET credentialing exam. | | | | | C | |
| c) The science faculty should explore the feasibility of offering a Natural History Certificate with completion of 18-20 units of both Life Science and Physical Science courses. A defined audience for the certificate must first be identified. | | | | | I | |
| d) Faculty should consider creating a field techniques/principles course as a capstone for the program if a certificate is offered. | | | | | C | |
| e) Because the program is not a part of the core transfer curriculum in the sciences, courses have not been offered during the State budget crisis. When funding returns to normal levels, the courses should be reinstated. | | | | | C | |
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| New Recommendations | | | | | | |
| a) Evaluate the need to offer Natural History courses during the summer session. | | | | | | |
| b) Consider incorporating Natural History courses into the summer Study Abroad Program. | | | | | | |
| c) Explore the inclusion of Natural History courses into the proposed A.S. in Wildland Resources and Forestry. | | | | | | |

| COMPLIANCE: Do course requisites meet Federal, State & District requirements? Do the course outlines meet state, district & federal regulations for content? Do vocational programs have regular advisory meetings? | Status | | | | | |
|---|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 04-05 | 05-06 | 06-07 | 07-08 | 08-09 | 09-10 |
| Current Recommendations | | | | | | |
| a) none | | | | | | |
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| New Recommendations | | | | | | |
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and climatological processes using scientific terminology for the purpose of understanding human's role in the region.

ization and protection of the natural environment and formulate scientific hypotheses to distinguish between scientific and non-scientific questions and

organisms within the region to understand their role within the physical environment.

l species to understand natural selection and evolution.

isms in a variety of ecosystems within the region.

ve changes in the environment to better understand and discuss past, current, and future environmental issues through classroom and field trip discus