

UC 11726 11F

RECEIVED FEB 22 2012

**Memorandum**

To: Jeannette Morales

From: Ian Evans, Associate Dean, NSM

Subject: Catalog changes for the Geophysics Major

Date: 20 February 2012.

The Curriculum Committee has reviewed and approved a minor change to the Geophysics degree. I have attached a copy of the changes with the adjusted catalog language.

**YOU ARE THE PRIDE**

## Proposed Changes in the BS Geophysics Requirements

The Geophysics faculty would like to propose the following change to the requirements for the BS in Geophysics.

1) Add GEOL 4355 (Geophysical Field Camp\* - presently offered every summer) as a required course for geophysics majors.

2) In order to keep the total number of course hours unchanged (at 120), we reduce the advanced geoscience electives from 6 hours to 3 hours.

We are motivated to introduce a required Field Camp component to our geophysics program because designing field surveys and making actual measurements is fundamental to geoscientific understanding and professional practice. This experiential or "hands-on" course is essential in developing geophysical insight, motivating students, and enhancing classroom education. Assessing the acquired data for its quality, completeness, and utility provides a more rounded and integrated learning experience. We believe that these changes produce a more coherent and consistent core program and a stronger foundation for geophysical education and advancement. We also recognize that requiring a course offered only in the summer (and presently out-of-state) might prove unduly burdensome for a few students, so we are also considering developing a geoscience field course offered in the Houston region.

Change geophysics major requirements in the undergraduate catalog

<http://www.uh.edu/academics/catalog/colleges/nsm/majors/geophysics/index.php>

from:

Courses	Hours
....: <a href="#">GEOL 1130</a> , <a href="#">1330</a> , <a href="#">3145</a> , <a href="#">3150</a> , <a href="#">3340</a> , <a href="#">3345</a> , <a href="#">3350</a> , <a href="#">3370</a> , <a href="#">3372</a> , and <a href="#">4330</a>	24
Approved advanced Geophysics electives	12
Approved advanced Geoscience electives	6

to

Courses	Hours
....: <a href="#">GEOL 1130</a> , <a href="#">1330</a> , <a href="#">3145</a> , <a href="#">3150</a> , <a href="#">3340</a> , <a href="#">3345</a> , <a href="#">3350</a> , <a href="#">3370</a> , <a href="#">3372</a> , <a href="#">4330</a> , and <a href="#">4355</a>	27
Approved advanced Geophysics electives	12
Approved advanced Geoscience electives	3

See next page for change in Suggested Program Schedule of courses, also from:

<http://www.uh.edu/academics/catalog/colleges/nsm/majors/geophysics/index.php>

## Third Year

### Fall Semester Suggested Program

<b>Courses</b>	<b>Hours</b>
<a href="#">GEOL 4330</a> . Introduction to Geophysics	3
<a href="#">GEOL 3150</a> . Principles of Stratigraphy Laboratory	1
<a href="#">GEOL 3350</a> . Principles of Stratigraphy	3
<a href="#">POLS 1336</a> . U.S. and Texas Constitutions and Politics or equivalent	3
Advanced Geophysics Elective	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>

### Spring Semester Suggested Program

<b>Courses</b>	<b>Hours</b>
<a href="#">GEOL 3145</a> . Structural Geology Laboratory	1
<a href="#">GEOL 3345</a> . Structural Geology	3
<a href="#">MATH 3363</a> . Introduction to Partial Differential Equations	3
<a href="#">POLS 1337</a> . U.S. Government: Congress, President and Courts or equivalent	3
Advanced Geophysics Elective	3
Core Curriculum Elective	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>

### Summer Semester Suggested Program

<b>Courses</b>	<b>Hours</b>
<a href="#">GEOL 4355</a> . Geophysics Field Camp	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>

## Fourth Year

### Fall Semester Suggested Program

<b>Courses</b>	<b>Hours</b>
<del>Advanced Geoscience Elective</del>	<del>3</del>
Advanced Geophysics Elective	3
Core Curriculum Elective	3
Approved Elective (NSM Capstone Requirement)	3
<a href="#">MATH 3364</a> . Introduction to Complex Analysis	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>

### Spring Semester Suggested Program

<b>Courses</b>	<b>Hours</b>
Advanced Geoscience Elective	3
Advanced Geophysics Elective	3
Core Curriculum Elective	3
Approved Elective	1
Approved Elective (NSM Capstone Requirement)	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>