

Curriculum Change Form
(Present only one proposed curriculum change per form)
(Complete only the section(s) applicable.)

Part I

<input type="checkbox"/> (Check one)	Department Name	Geography and Geology
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Course (Parts II, IV)	College	Arts and Sciences
<input type="checkbox"/> Course Revision (Parts II, IV)	*Course Prefix & Number	GLY 498
<input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid Course ("S," "W")	*Course Title	Capstone Project in Geology
<input type="checkbox"/> New Minor (Part III)	*Program Title	
<input type="checkbox"/> Program Suspension (Part III)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Program Revision (Part III)	*Provide only the information relevant to the proposal.	If Certificate, indicate Long-Term (University) or Short-Term (Departmental)

	<u>Date</u>		<u>Date</u>
Proposal Approved by: Departmental Committee	09-27-13	Council on Academic Affairs	2/20/2014
College Curriculum Committee	01-27-14	Faculty Senate**	NA
General Education Committee*	NA	Board of Regents**	NA
Teacher Education Committee*	NA	EFFECTIVE ACADEMIC TERM***	Fall 2014
Graduate Council*	NA		

*If Applicable (Type NA if not applicable.)
**Approval needed for program revisions or suspensions.
***To be added by the Registrar's Office after all approval is received.

Completion of A, B, and C is required: (Please be specific, but concise.)

A. 1. Specific action requested: (Example: Increase the number of credit hours for ABC 100 from 1 to 2.)
To create a research-based capstone project in Geology.

A. 2. Proposed Effective Academic Term: (Example: Fall 2012)
Fall 2014

A. 3. Effective date of suspended programs for currently enrolled students: (if applicable)

B. The justification for this action:

Department has a strategic plan goal of providing each student with a research experience prior to graduation, as this is a major area of content knowledge and skills required for certification as a professional geologists. Currently, the department offers two routes to achieve this – a senior thesis, and a group research project in GEO 490.

Department faculty, through discussion at Assurance of Learning Day, decided to allow an additional capstone experience that would be similar in scope to the GEO 490 capstone, but would allow for pursuit of an individual research project rather than a group research project. This pathway is intended specifically for students who are talented, top-notch students but who are unable to complete a multi-semester senior thesis project due to constraints of time (usually because of transferring to the major late in their academic career). These students often are considering graduate school, where an individual research project would give them an advantage at gaining scholarships and assistantships. Enrollment in this course requires departmental approval because students will need to have a commitment from an individual faculty member to mentor the project, analogous to a senior thesis project.

As a department who used to support a graduate program that was suspended six years previously, many of the faculty have robust research programs that were designed for student participation. Faculty members currently use two routes to support student-contributing research projects: senior thesis (GLY 499) and independent study (GLY 398). However, these two courses do not serve the needs of all students well. GLY 398 is intended as a course for students to study subject matter that is not offered by the courses currently offered by the department. Senior

thesis, on the other hand, is a multi-semester, comprehensive research project that is analogous to the Honors Program's senior thesis (but offered to students who are not in the Honors Program). GLY 498 fills this gap by providing a vehicle for students to spend a single semester working on a faculty-led research project that is part of a scholarly research program, but that is not a stand-alone project in the same manner that a senior thesis is. Students learn the necessary content and skills required for certification as a PG or to prepare them for graduate school.

C. The projected cost (or savings) of this proposal is as follows:

Personnel Impact:

Current faculty members will staff this course. Faculty who are active scholars are already using students to enhance their research programs, and currently the department uses a model similar to the Honors Program where faculty "bank" student projects that lead to publication or presentation at a professional conference, then receive release time (which is not actually release time since the faculty already did the important work of mentoring a thesis project or research project to earn that credit) when they have guided a sufficient number of projects. GLY 498 can be rotated among the faculty who participate in this student-focused research program so that this course becomes the mechanism by which faculty earn a 3-hour "release" for effort and productivity already put forth.

Operating Expenses Impact:

No additional costs will be incurred. This work is already being financially supported through departmental M&O funds and travel funds, and many of our faculty have successfully acquired internal and external funding for these scholarly pursuits through grant-writing.

Equipment/Physical Facility Needs:

No additional costs will be incurred. Equipment is already being acquired through university capital equipment funds, and many of our faculty have successfully acquired internal and external funding for new equipment through grant-writing.

Library Resources:

No additional resources will be required. The library has a robust ILL program that currently meets the needs of our faculty's research programs.

Part II. Recording Data for New, Revised, or Dropped Course

(For a **new required course**, complete a separate request for the appropriate program revisions.)

1. For a new course, provide the catalog text.
2. For a revised course, provide the current catalog text with the proposed text using ~~strikethrough~~ for deletions and underlines for additions.
3. For a dropped course, provide the current catalog text.

New or Revised* Catalog Text

(*Use ~~strikethrough~~ for deletions and underlines for additions. Also include Crs. Prefix, No., and description, limited to 35 words.)

GLY 498 Capstone Project in Geology. (3). A. Prerequisite: senior standing and departmental approval. A capstone experience for geology majors that integrates a research experience with the students' professional development and the production of a substantive deliverable product (e.g., poster, conference presentation, geologic map).

Part IV. Recording Data for New or Revised Course (Record only **new or changed** course information.)

Course prefix (3 letters)	Course Number (3 Digits)	Effective Academic Term (Example: Fall 2012)	College/Division:	Dept. (4 letters)*
GLY	498	Fall 2014	AS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HS _____ BT _____ JS _____ ED _____ UP _____	GEOL
Credit Hrs.	Weekly Contact Hrs.		Repeatable Maximum No. of Hrs. _____	
3	Lecture _____ Laboratory _____ Other <u>3</u>		Cip Code (first two digits only)	
Schedule Type* (List all applicable)	Work Load (for each schedule type)	Grading Mode*	Class Restriction, if any: (undergraduate only)	
0	3	N	FR _____ JR _____ SO _____ SR <u>x</u>	
		Grading Information: Course is eligible for IP (in-progress grading) for: <u>Check all applicable</u>		
		Thesis _____		
		Internship _____		
		Independent Study _____		
		Practicum _____		

CoRequisites and Prerequisites ****See definitions on following page****

Co-Requisite(s): (List only co-requisites. See below for prerequisites and combinations.)

Course Prefix and No.

Course Prefix and No.

Prerequisite(s): (List prerequisites only. List combinations below. Use **“and”** and **“or”** literally.) (Specific minimum grade requirements should be placed in () following courses. Default grade is D-.)

Course Prefix and No.

Senior standing and departmental approval

Course Prefix and No.

Test Scores

Minimum GPA (when a course grouping or student cumulative GPA is required)

Co-requisite(s) and/or Prerequisite(s) Combination (Use **“and”** and **“or”** literally.) (Specific minimum grade requirements should be placed in () following courses. Default grade is D-.)

Course Prefix and No.

Test Scores

Minimum GPA (when a course grouping or student cumulative GPA is required)

Equivalent Course(s): (credit will not be awarded for both...; or formerly...)

Course Prefix and No.

Course Prefix and No.

Course Prefix and No.

Proposed General Education Element: Please mark (X) in the appropriate Element or Elements (e.g. – 4B(3) X).

Element 1 (9)	Element 2 (3)	Element 3 (6)	Element 4 (6)	Element 5 (6)	Element 6 (6)
1A (3)	2 (3)	3A (3)	4A (3)	5A (3)	6 (6)
1B (3)		3B (3)	4B (3)	5B (3)	
1C (3)		or 3A/B Integrated A&H(6)	or 4A/B Integrated Sciences(6)		