

Submit originals and one copy and electronic copy to Governance/Faculty Senate Office (email electronic copy to [jbharvie@alaska.edu](mailto:jbharvie@alaska.edu))

**PROGRAM/DEGREE REQUIREMENT CHANGE (MAJOR)**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Department	Biology & Wildlife	College/School	CNSM
Prepared by	Perry Barboza	Phone	474-7142
Email Contact	<a href="mailto:psbarboza@alaska.edu">psbarboza@alaska.edu</a>	Faculty Contact	P.S.Barboza

See <http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/faculty-senate/curriculum/course-degree-procedures/> for a complete description of the rules governing curriculum & course changes.

**PROGRAM IDENTIFICATION:**

DEGREE PROGRAM	Wildlife Biology and Conservation
Degree Level: (i.e., Certificate, A.A., A.A.S., B.A., B.S., M.A., M.S., Ph.D.)	M.S.

**A. CHANGE IN DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: (Brief statement of program/degree changes and objectives)**

MS students are required to take at least 9 credits of course work for this program. This change requires that students take at least two graduate courses in Wildlife Biology or Biological Sciences within the same 9 credit allocation. Furthermore, we stipulate that students include at least one course from the following three options that are cross-listed in Biological Sciences and Wildlife Biology: Research Design (BIOL F602/ WLF F602), Scientific Writing (BIOL F604/ WLF F604) and Data Analysis in Biology (BIOL F680/ WLF F680).

In practice, our graduate advisory committees assign students one or more of the three courses we have listed. A change in the catalog makes this expectation clear for our students and our faculty and establishes those courses as a required part of our curriculum and course schedule.

**B. CURRENT REQUIREMENTS AS IT APPEARS IN THE CATALOG:**

**WILDLIFE BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION**

College of Natural Science and Mathematics  
Department of Biology and Wildlife  
907-474-7671  
[www.bw.uaf.edu](http://www.bw.uaf.edu)

**MS Degree**

Minimum Requirements for Degree: 30 credits

The geographic location of the university is particularly advantageous for the study of wildlife biology. Spruce forest, aspen-birch forest, alpine tundra, bogs and several types of aquatic habitats are within easy reach. Studies can be made in many other habitats ranging from the dense forests of southeastern Alaska to arctic tundra.

Adequate study collections of plants and animals are available, and a 2,000-acre study area is near the campus. Wildlife biology students have ample opportunity for close association with the personnel of the Alaska Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Institute of Arctic Biology and several local offices of federal and state conservation agencies. These agencies often provide support for graduate student projects, and program faculty usually hire a number of students for summer field work. Exceptional opportunities are available for students to gain experience and make job connections.

The Department of Biology and Wildlife, the Institute of Arctic Biology, and the Alaska Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit cooperate in offering graduate work leading to the MS degree. Detailed information on the graduate program in wildlife biology and management is available from the chair of the wildlife program.

The Alaska Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit and Institute of Arctic Biology offer a limited number of research assistantships.

Teaching assistantships are available in the Department of Biology and Wildlife.

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OCT - 1 2014

Dean's Office

College of Natural Science & Mathematics

Governance  
10/3/14  
TLB



#### MS Degree

1. Complete the following admission requirement:

a. Submit scores from both the GRE general test (required) and the GRE subject test in biology (highly recommended).

b. If English is not your native language, submit scores from both the Test of Spoken English and the Test of Written English, as well as TOEFL scores. Requests, including justification, for exceptions to this requirement should be made to the chair of the department.

2. Complete the general university requirements (page 200).

3. Complete the MS — with Thesis degree requirements (page 207).

4. As part of the MS degree requirements, complete and pass the departmental written and oral master's comprehensive examination.

5. Minimum credits required.....30

See Biological Sciences.

### C. PROPOSED REQUIREMENTS AS IT WILL APPEAR IN THE CATALOG WITH THESE CHANGES:

(Underline new wording strike through old wording and use complete catalog format )

## WILDLIFE BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION

College of Natural Science and Mathematics

Department of Biology and Wildlife

907-474-7671

www.bw.uaf.edu

#### MS Degree

Minimum Requirements for Degree: 30 credits

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b. If English is not your native language, submit scores from both the Test of Spoken English and the Test of Written English, as well as TOEFL scores. Requests, including justification, for exceptions to this requirement should be made to the chair of the department.

2. Complete the general university requirements (page 200).

3. Complete the MS — with Thesis degree requirements (page 207).

4. Complete two courses in Biological Sciences (BIOL) or Wildlife Biology (WLF) at the F600 level including one of the three following courses: Research Design (BIOL F602/ WLF F602), Scientific Writing (BIOL F604/ WLF F604) and Data Analysis in Biology (BIOL F680/ WLF F680).

5. As part of the MS degree requirements, complete and pass the departmental written and oral master's comprehensive examination.

6. Minimum credits required.....30

See Biological Sciences.




**D. ESTIMATED IMPACT**

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

**We do not expect any additional resources for this change because the existing faculty, space and budget will continue to be used for these courses.**

**E. 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)*

**The three courses we have listed are taken by graduate students in MS Wildlife Biology and Conservation as well as MS and PhD students in Biological Sciences. The three courses are well attended but the catalog change will help ensure a reasonable class size for each offering.**

**F. IF MAJOR CHANGE - ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRAM:**

*Description of the student learning outcomes assessment process.)*


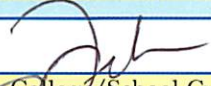
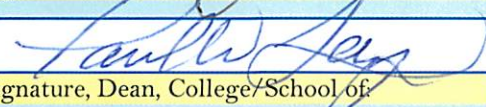
**Research Design, Scientific Writing and Data Analysis are all basic courses that are highly desired by both students and by their advisory committees. This requirement will continue to support the ability of students to make "contributions to scientific knowledge in their field" (Program Goal Statement). The requirement is intended to sustain and improve the quality and quantity of presentations and publications from students in the program.**

**JUSTIFICATION FOR ACTION REQUESTED**

The purpose of the department and campus-wide curriculum committees is to scrutinize program/degree change 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 drop a course, is it because the material is covered elsewhere? 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 program is not compromised as a result.

**Formally requiring these courses makes our program more transparent to our students and our faculty as well as those appraising our program as prospective students or as employers of our graduates.**

**APPROVALS: SIGNATURES MUST BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO THE GOVERNANCE OFFICE**

	Date	10/1/14
Signature, Chair, Program/Department of:		
	Date	10-2-14
Signature, Chair, College/School Curriculum Council for: CNSM		
	Date	10/2/14
Signature, Dean, College/School of: CNSM		

**CHAIR SIGNATURE OBTAINED FOLLOWING APPROVAL BY FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEE**

	Date	
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Signature, Chair, UAF Faculty Senate

\_\_\_Curriculum Review Committee

\_\_\_Graduate Academic and Advisory Committee