

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EP.11.07

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building
601 East John Street
Champaign, IL 61820



September 20, 2010

Abbas Aminmansour, Chair
Senate Committee on Educational Policy
Office of the Senate
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Aminmansour:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal from the College of ACES to establish a Minor in Natural Resource Conservation to be offered by the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences.

This proposal has been approved by the College's Courses and Curricula Committee. It now requires Senate review.

Sincerely,

Kristi A. Kuntz
Assistant Provost

KAK/njh

Enclosures

c: J. D. Brawn
K. M. Claus
P. A. Hodson
F. W. Simmons

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

College of Agricultural, Consumer
and Environmental Sciences

Academic Programs
128 Mumford Hall, MC-710
1301 West Gregory Drive
Urbana, IL 61801



RECEIVED
SEP 13 2010
OFFICE of the PROVOST

September 13, 2010

Kristi Kuntz, Assistant Provost
Office of the Provost, Second Floor
Swanlund Administration Building
Campus MC-304

Dear Kristi:

Please find enclosed a proposal to establish a *Minor in Natural Resource Conservation*, to be offered by the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences within the College of ACES. The proposal has been reviewed and approved by our Courses and Curricula Committee. Letters of endorsement and support from units offering courses in the proposed minor are attached.

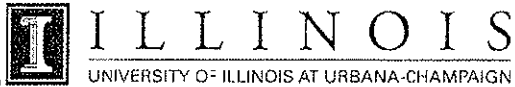
Thank you for your consideration of this proposal. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

F. William Simmons
Assistant Dean, College of ACES

FWS/rhc

cc: J. D. Brawn
K. M. Claus
P. A. Hodson
NRES C&C File



**Proposal to the Senate Committee on Educational Policy to
Establish or Modify an Undergraduate Minor**

TITLE OF THE PROPOSED MINOR OR REVISION: Natural Resource Conservation

SPONSORING UNIT: Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences. Anton G. Endress, Professor and Teaching Coordinator, 244-1679, aendress@illinois.edu

COLLEGE CONTACT: F. William Simmons, Assistant Dean of Academic Programs, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, 333-3380, fsimmons@uiuc.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The proposed minor in Natural Resource Conservation offers an integrated approach to managing natural resources from a sustainability perspective. A minimum of 18 hours is required for the minor, of which at least 6 credit hours must be 400-level. Involving the diverse biological, physical, social, economic, and political aspects of natural resources and stewardship, the unifying focus of this minor is the conservation and stewardship of healthy and sustainable ecosystems that provide important human and community benefits. The minor thus helps prepare students for professional positions requiring a broad background in natural resources as well as in-depth emphasis in a specific content area of their choice.

JUSTIFICATION: Natural resource conservation typically encompasses the concept of safeguarding the earth itself by protecting its capacity for self-renewal. Natural resource conservation, management, and restoration involve complex interrelationships among humans, other animals, plants, and the physical environment. Simultaneously there is a burgeoning population, expanding industry, and the ensuing pollution from these activities. Human experience demonstrates how easily the delicately balanced ecological relationships can be disrupted. There may never have been a greater need to conserve and steward healthy and sustainable ecosystems.

The focus of the Natural Resource Conservation minor extends from the ecology and management of fish and wildlife populations, trees, forests, watersheds, and landscapes to the physical, social, and policy aspects of conservation involving urban forests, human habitat, and sustainability. Conservation of the Earth's natural resources requires broad knowledge and experiences as well as a strong personal commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainability. Thus the minor joins together multiple courses drawn from diverse disciplines to integrate rigorous academic preparation in the natural, conservation, and social sciences. Student learning begins with the ecology of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, and extends toward how these systems can be managed to conserve biodiversity and protect ecosystem functions while providing sustainable benefits to society. The Natural Resource Conservation minor provides students from diverse majors with the technical academic background to pursue careers in the rapidly growing field of natural resources and environmental conservation.

BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:

- a. Additional staff and dollars needed — There are no additions to staff or budget required by the proposed Minor.
- b. Internal reallocations (e.g., change in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio, etc.) — The Minor's three foundation courses are already regularly taught by NRES. Each can accommodate additional students when the Minor starts. The general electives courses are also regularly offered by NRES. By selecting courses aligned with their majors and personal interest, students participating in the Natural Resource Conservation Minor will likely be distributed across the available courses. Consequently a dramatic increase of student demand for any particular course is not anticipated.
- c. Effect on course enrollment in other units and explanations of discussions with representatives of those departments —NRES is the offering department for most of the courses listed. Discussions with the cross-listing units have focused on both future course offerings and anticipated enrollments. There is no expectation that the Minor will have any appreciable impact on the enrollment in cross-listed courses or obligate units to offer courses they are planning to remove from the teaching rotation.
- d. Impact on the University Library —There should be no increased usage of library resources more than the typical usage generated by an undergraduate course. Current library collections across campus and online contain relevant journals, books and instructional resources pertaining to natural resource conservation research, theory, and practice.
- e. Impact on computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc. — Use of computer labs may increase slightly, as the number of students enrolled in the minor increases, but it will be extremely small in the overall pattern of usage.

DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2010

STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG:

Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences

Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences

Head of Department: Jeffrey Brawn

Department Address: W-503 Turner Hall, 1102 South Goodwin Avenue, Urbana, (217) 333-2770

www.nres.illinois.edu

Major in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences

Minor in Natural Resource Conservation

The Natural Resource Conservation minor offers an integrated approach to managing natural resources from a sustainability perspective. This Minor addresses the diverse biological, physical, social, economic, and political aspects of natural resources and stewardship. Ultimately, this curriculum offers students interested in the conservation of natural resource a challenging and rewarding experience while simultaneously preparing them for future careers requiring a fundamental and strong background in the management and conservation of natural resources.

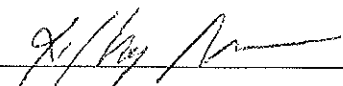
A minimum of 18 hours is required for this minor, of which at least 6 credit hours must be 400-level. Courses taken to fulfill the minor may not be counted toward the major in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences. In order to be eligible to complete the Minor in Natural Resource Conservation, a student must have successfully completed:

Hours	Required Courses for the Minor in Natural Resource Conservation in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences
3	NRES 102: Introduction to NRES <i>or</i> NRES 100: Fundamentals of Env Sci
3	NRES 287: Environment and Society
Hours	General Electives (Minimum of 12 credit hours, at least 6 of which must be 400-level)
1	NRES 108: Env Sci & Nat Resource Careers
3	NRES 109: Global Environmental Issues
4	NRES 201: Introductory Soils
3	ACE/NRES 210: Environmental Economics
3	NRES 219: Principles of Ecosystem Mgmt
4	NRES 302: Dendrology
3	ACE/NRES 310: Natural Resource Economics
3	NRES 313: Silviculture
3	NRES 325: Natural Resource Policy Mgmt
3	NRES 340: Environ Social Sci Res Meth
3	NRES 348: Fish and Wildlife Ecology
3	NRES 351: Environmental Chemistry
4	NRES 407: Wildlife Population Ecology
4	NRES 409: Fishery Ecol and Conservation
4	NRES 415: Native Plant ID and Floristics
3	NRES 416: Forest Biology
3	NRES 419: Env and Plant Ecosystems
4	NRES 420: Restoration Ecology

3	NRES 421: Quantitative Methods in NRES
4	ATMS 421/NRES 422: Earth Systems Modeling
4	NRES 427: Modeling Natural Resources
3	NRES 429: Aquatic Ecosystem Conservation
3	NRES 438: Soil Nutrient Cycling
3	NRES 439: Env and Sustainable Dev
3	NRES 454: GIS in Natural Resource Mgmt
2	NRES 455: Adv GIS for Nat Res Planning
3	NRES 471: Pedology
4	NRES 472: Environmental Psychology
3	NRES 474: Soil and Water Conservation
3	NRES 475: Environmental Microbiology
3	NRES 488: Soil Fertility and Fertilizers

CLEARANCES: (Clearances should include signatures and dates of approval) - - These signatures must appear on a separate sheet. If multiple departments or colleges, add lines.)

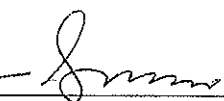
Signatures:



Unit Representative:

10-5-10

Date:



College Representative:

10-5-10

Date:

Graduate College Representative:

Date:

Provost Representative:

Date:

Educational Policy Committee Representative:

Date:

Chappell, Rob

From: Simmons, Bill
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2010 11:15
To: Chappell, Rob
Subject: FW: Request for Inclusion of SESE Courses in NRES Minor

From: Jonathan Tomkin [mailto:tomkin@illinois.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2010 10:54 AM
To: Brawn, Jeff
Cc: smarshak@illinois.edu; Simmons, Bill
Subject: Re: Request for Inclusion of SESE Courses in NRES Minor

Dear Jeff,
we (The School of Earth, Society and Environment) support the inclusion of Earth Systems Modeling in the proposed minor.
Regards,
Jonathan Tomkin

Dear Steve and Jonathon:

As we discussed yesterday, NRES is proposing a new minor called "Natural Resource Conservation" (please see attached). In the course list for the proposed minor we have included the following course that is offered by SESE or its member units.

ESES 421 Earth Systems Modeling (ATMS 421, GEOG 421, GEOL 481, NRES 422)

I am contacting you to request support for the proposal and permission to include the course in the curriculum for the minor.

If you approve, a simple e-mail to me stating such is sufficient. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Jeff Brawn
Head, NRES

Jeff Brawn (jbrawn@illinois.edu)
Professor and Head, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences (<http://nres.illinois.edu/>)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Office: (217) 244-5937 or 333-2770
FAX: (217) 244-2521
http://nres.illinois.edu/directory/Jeffrey_D_Brawn

Mailing Address:
W-503 Turner Hall, MC-047
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
1102 Goodwin Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801

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Dr. Jonathan Tomkin
Associate Director
Research Assistant Professor
School of Earth, Society, and Environment
University of Illinois
202 Natural History Bldg.
1301 W. Green Street
Urbana, IL 61801

Tel: (217) 244-2928 Fax: (217) 244-6323
tomkin@illinois.edu

Chappell, Rob

From: Simmons, Bill
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2010 13:32
To: Chappell, Rob
Subject: FW: Request for Inclusion of CPSC Courses in NRES Minor

From: Brawn, Jeff
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2010 11:47 AM
To: Simmons, Bill
Subject: FW: Request for Inclusion of CPSC Courses in NRES Minor

See below

Jeff Brawn (jbrawn@illinois.edu)
Professor and Head, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences (<http://nres.illinois.edu/>)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Office: (217) 244-5937 or 333-2770
FAX: (217) 244-2521
[http://nres.illinois.edu/directory/Jeffrey D Brawn](http://nres.illinois.edu/directory/Jeffrey_D_Brawn)

Mailing Address:
W-503 Turner Hall, MC-047
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
1102 Goodwin Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801

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From: Bollero, Germán
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2010 11:32 AM
To: Brawn, Jeff
Cc: Simmons, Bill
Subject: RE: Request for Inclusion of CPSC Courses in NRES Minor

Dear Jeff,
I approve and support this proposal.

Best regards

Germán Bollero
Professor and Head
Department of Crop Sciences
University of Illinois

From: Brawn, Jeff
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2010 9:44 AM
To: Bollero, Germán
Cc: Simmons, Bill
Subject: Request for Inclusion of CPSC Courses in NRES Minor

Dear German

NRES is proposing a new minor called "Natural Resource Conservation" (please see attached). In the course list for the proposed minor we have included the following courses that are offered by Crop Sciences.

CPSC 336 Tomorrow's Environment
CPSC 431 Plants and Global Change

I am contacting you to request support for the proposal and approval to include the course in the curriculum for the minor.

If you approve, a simple e-mail to me stating such is sufficient. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Jeff Brawn
Head, NRES

Jeff Brawn ([jbrown@illinois.edu](mailto:jbrawn@illinois.edu))
Professor and Head, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences (<http://nres.illinois.edu/>)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Office: (217) 244-5937 or 333-2770
FAX: (217) 244-2521
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Mailing Address:
W-503 Turner Hall, MC-047
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
1102 Goodwin Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801

Chappell, Rob

From: Simmons, Bill
Sent: Saturday, September 04, 2010 08:03
To: Chappell, Rob
Subject: FW: Request for Inclusion of ACE Courses in NRES Minor

From: Ellinger, Paul
Sent: Saturday, September 04, 2010 7:42 AM
To: Brawn, Jeff
Cc: Simmons, Bill
Subject: RE: Request for Inclusion of ACE Courses in NRES Minor

Jeff, Approved and supported. It should be a win-win for all. Thanks. Paul _____ Paul
N. Ellinger, PhD Professor and Head, Department of ACE University of Illinois Phone 217.333.5503 Fax
217.333.2312 pellinge@illinois.edu<<mailto:pellinge@illinois.edu>>
<http://www.ace.uiuc.edu/><<http://www.farmdoc.uiuc.edu/ellinger/>>

From: Brawn, Jeff
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2010 9:27 AM
To: Ellinger, Paul
Cc: Simmons, Bill
Subject: Request for Inclusion of ACE Courses in NRES Minor

Dear Paul:

NRES is proposing a new minor called "Natural Resource Conservation" (please see attached). In the course list for the proposed minor we have included the following courses that are offered by ACE.

ACE 210
ACE 310

I am contacting you to request support for the proposal and permission to include the course in the curriculum for the minor.

If you approve, a simple e-mail to me stating such is sufficient. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Jeff Brawn
Head, NRES

Jeff Brawn ([jbrown@illinois.edu](mailto:jbrawn@illinois.edu))
Professor and Head, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences (<http://nres.illinois.edu/>)
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Office: (217) 244-5937 or 333-2770
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Mailing Address:
W-503 Turner Hall, MC-047
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

1102 Goodwin Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801

Chappell, Rob

From: Simmons, Bill
Sent: Wednesday, September 08, 2010 7:46 PM
To: Chappell, Rob
Subject: FW: New NRES minor

From: Evan DeLucia [mailto:delucia@life.illinois.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, September 08, 2010 5:27 PM
To: Jeff Brawn
Cc: Toni Helton; carolaug@life.uiuc.edu
Subject: New NRES minor

Dear Jeff,

I have had an opportunity to review your proposal to create a new minor in NRES titled Natural Resource Conservation. I see your proposed minor as nicely complementary to our educational objectives in SIB and enthusiastically support your proposal. Once established, I imagine that your new minor will be attractive to a significant number of SIB students.

Best wishes,
Evan

Dr. Evan H. De Lucia
G. William Arends Professor of Biology
Director, School of Integrative Biology
University of Illinois
286 Morrill Hall
505 South Goodwin Avenue
Urbana, Illinois 61801

office phone: 217 333 6177
cell phone: 217 369 3284
fax: 217 244 1224

lab home page: <http://www.life.uiuc.edu/delucia/>
Department of Plant Biology: <http://www.life.uiuc.edu/plantbio/>
Program in Ecology... <http://www.life.uiuc.edu/programs/PEEB/>
Institute of Genomic Biology: <http://www.igb.uiuc.edu/>