

PROPOSAL FOR COURSE CHANGE
RP 3763 Introduction to Turfgrass Management

To: Curriculum Committee

From: Parks, Recreation, and Hospitality Administration

Date submitted: September 17, 2007

Request for: Course change _____ Course deletion _____ Course addition X
(Excluding course credit hour changes)

Submitted by: Glen Bishop

Approved by: Department Head: _____
Dean of School: _____

Reviewed by: Registrar: _____
Vice President: _____

If this is a deletion or other minor change, describe and give rationale.

This proposal is to add a course to the Turf Management Emphasis in the Recreation and Park Administration Program. The purpose of the new course is to serve as an entry course upon which to build more detailed study of turfgrass management as students move through the curriculum.

If this is an addition of a new course, fill in the following and attach a syllabus (syllabus should include course objectives, and outline of the course with sufficient details to illuminate course content, and a bibliography. The Curriculum Committee/Graduate Council does not need evaluation and testing procedural information nor does it need excessively long bibliographies).

I. Catalog description:

Number: **RP 3763**

Title for Catalog: **Introduction to Turfgrass Management**

Description: **Pre or Co-requisite: BIOL 2134 and CHEM 1114. An introduction to turf management emphasizing structure, growth, adaptation, and management of turfgrass. Methods for establishment, fertilization, mowing, cultivation, irrigation and pest management.**

Effective date or term: **Fall 2008**

II. Justification and feasibility of course:

- A. What is the need for this course? Who will take it? **This course will serve as the entry course into the Turf Management Emphasis in the Recreation and Park Administration Program. This course will replace RP 4773 Turfgrass Management: Climatic Regions and Cultivars. The Turf Management Emphasis needs a clear entry course of general turfgrass study upon which to build more detailed scholarship with additional courses. This course will serve that purpose. Because the course should serve as a gateway to specialized study of turfgrass, it**

app CC 11/19/07
app FS 12/3/07

should be no higher than the Junior level. The course it replaces is at the Senior level. Students in the Turf Management Emphasis will be the primary target for this course. Agriculture students may also find this course to be of interest.

- B. How does it relate to other work being offered by your department? Is there an overlap with other courses in the department. This course will be part of a revised Turf Management Emphasis curriculum. All courses in this emphasis are designed to overlap slightly with each other and also to explore in more detail particular topics that do not overlap the other courses. This course will provide an introduction to areas discussed in more depth in Turf Management courses that should be taken later in the curriculum.
- C. Is this course part of any general plan of development within your department? Explain. This course is part of a redesign of the Turf Management Emphasis in the Recreation and Park Administration Program.
- D. How often will the course be offered? It is anticipated that the course will be offered every other year. The course may be offered more often based on demand.
- E. How will the course be staffed? The course will be staffed with existing personnel.
- F. When applicable, state with which departments you have specifically coordinated this change? It is anticipated that this change will not affect other departments. Agriculture students may find this course of interest. This proposal has been circulated to the Department of Agriculture.

***Note: Each new course proposal must include a short explanation describing how the new course integrates with the assessment process of the department in which the course will be taught.**

ASSESSMENT:

Because the assessment process of the Recreation and Park Administration Program is guided by the standards of its accrediting body and those standards are addressed in other courses, this course will have little affect on the department's assessment process.

SYLLABUS

RP 3763 Introduction to Turfgrass Management Arkansas Tech University

Course Description: Pre or Co-requisite: BIOL 2134 and CHEM 1114. An introduction to turf management emphasizing structure, growth, adaptation, and management of turfgrass. Methods for establishment, fertilization, mowing, cultivation, irrigation and pest management.

Course Objectives: During this course, students will:

1. Understand basic structure and physiology of turfgrass plants.
2. Know characteristics of the climatic zones of grass adaptation for the United States.
3. Know characteristics key turfgrass species for each climatic zone.
4. Understand key cultural practices.

Textbook:

Christians, N. (2007). *Fundamentals of turfgrass management* (3rd ed.). Hoboken, New Jersey: Wiley.

Course Schedule:

<i>Week</i>	<i>Topic</i>
1	Careers in the Turfgrass Industry
2	Introduction to the Grasses
3	Cool-Season Grasses
4	Warm-Season Grasses
5	Establishment
6	Soil Testing and Soil Amendment
7	Fertilization
8	Mowing
9	Irrigation
10	Thatch, Cultivation, and Topdressing
11	Weed Control
12	Turf Insects
13	Turfgrass Diseases
14	Sports Field Management and Sod Production
15	Lawn Care and Golf Course Maintenance
Finals	