



# Course Approval Form

For instructions see:  
<http://registrar.gmu.edu/facultystaff/catalog-revisions/course/>

**Action Requested:**

Create new course     Inactivate existing course     Reinstate inactive course     Undergraduate

Modify existing course (check all that apply)

Title     Credits     Repeat Status     Grade Type     Graduate

Prereq/coreq     Schedule Type     Restrictions

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**College/School:**     **Department:**

**Submitted by:**     **Ext:**     **Email:**

**Subject Code:**     **Number:**     **Effective Term:**  Fall     Spring     Summer    **Year:**

(Do not list multiple codes or numbers. Each course proposal must have a separate form.)

**Title:** Current     **Fulfills Mason Core Req?** (undergrad only)

Banner (30 characters max w/ spaces)      Currently fulfills requirement

New      Submission in progress

**Credits:** (check one)  Fixed     Variable     or     **Repeat Status:** (check one)  Not Repeatable (NR)     Repeatable within degree (RD)     Repeatable within term (RT)    **Maximum credits allowed:**

**Grade Mode:** (check one)  Regular (A, B, C, etc.)     Satisfactory/No Credit     Special (A, B, C, etc. +IP)    **Schedule Type:** (check one)  Lecture (LEC)     Lab (LAB)     Recitation (RCT)     Internship (INT)     Independent Study (IND)     Seminar (SEM)     Studio (STU)

**Prerequisite(s):**     **Corequisite(s):**

**Instructional Mode:**  100% face-to-face     Hybrid: ≤ 50% electronically delivered     100% electronically delivered

**Restrictions Enforced by System:** Major, College, Degree, Program, etc. Include Code.

**Are there equivalent course(s)?**  Yes     No    If yes, please list \_\_\_\_\_

**Catalog Copy for NEW Courses Only** (Consult University Catalog for models)

<b>Description</b> (No more than 60 words, use verb phrases and present tense)	<b>Notes</b> (List additional information for the course)
Preparation for and completion of written comprehensive exam within AOES department. The comprehensive exam is given as part of the degree requirements in lieu of writing a master's thesis. Instructor should be the chair of the examination committee. The exam committee will specify exam content.	No more than 1 credit of GEOL 700 may be applied toward the master's degree.
<b>Indicate number of contact hours:</b> _____ <b>Hours of Lecture or Seminar per week:</b> _____ <b>Hours of Lab or Studio:</b> _____	
<b>When Offered:</b> (check all that apply) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fall <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Summer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spring	

**Approval Signatures**

Department Approval \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_    College/School Approval \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**If this course includes subject matter currently dealt with by any other units,** the originating department must circulate this proposal for review by those units and obtain the necessary signatures prior to submission. Failure to do so will delay action on this proposal.

Unit Name	Unit Approval Name	Unit Approver's Signature	Date

**For Graduate Courses Only**

Graduate Council Member \_\_\_\_\_ Provost Office \_\_\_\_\_ Graduate Council Approval Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Course Proposal Submitted to the Curriculum Committee of the College of Science

## 1. COURSE NUMBER AND TITLE:

GEOL 700

**Course Prerequisites:** At least 15 graduate credits, approved project proposal, and permission of major advisor or chair of the examination committee.

**Catalog Description:** Preparation for and completion of written comprehensive exam within AOES Department. The comprehensive exam is given as part of the degree requirements in lieu of writing a master's thesis. Instructor should be the chair of the examination committee. The exam committee will specify exam content.

## 2. COURSE JUSTIFICATION:

**Course Objectives:** This course will serve four purposes:

- 1) To document which students are planning on taking the comprehensive exam as the semester starts, and to establish what professor is the committee chair.
- 2) To establish a method of documenting quality of their Exam on a student's record.
- 3) To formalize both the time involvement (through FTE) and exam chair relationship (by requiring a particular professor to serve as instructor).
- 4) To raise the apparent level of difficulty associated with the comprehensive exam with the goal of further suggesting to students that they complete a thesis-option instead of a comprehensive-exam option.

**Course Necessity:** Current administration of the comprehensive exam for MS in ESS is ad-hoc. This course will formalize the process and provide structure for the examination.

**Course Relationship to Existing Programs:** GGS Department has implemented a similar course (GGS 700) for the MS in ESS and it has worked well.

**Course Relationship to Existing Courses:** Course is administrative in nature and does not conflict with existing courses.

3. **APPROVAL HISTORY:** Approved by AOES faculty on 21 Nov 2014.

## 4. SCHEDULING AND PROPOSED INSTRUCTORS:

**Semester of Initial Offering:** Fall '15

**Proposed Instructors:** Individualized

5. **TENTATIVE SYLLABUS:** Individualized section.

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