

Course Change Request

Date Submitted: 10/14/25 4:10 pm

Viewing: **COS 301 : Great Ideas in Science**

Transfer Course(s): COS L301

Last approved: 03/06/21 4:53 am

Last edit: 10/14/25 4:10 pm

Changes proposed by: jbazaz

Catalog Pages
referencing this
course

[College of Science](#)
[College of Science \(COS\)](#)
[Individualized Study, BIS](#)
[Mason Core](#)
[STEM in Society Minor \(CEC\)](#)

Select modification type:

~~Simple~~

Substantial

Are you completing this form on someone else's behalf?

No

Effective Term: Fall 2025

Subject Code: COS - College of Science

Course Number: 301

Bundled Courses:

Is this course replacing another course? No Yes

Equivalent Courses:

In Workflow

1. SC Curriculum Committee

2. SC Assistant Dean
3. Assoc Provost-
Undergraduate
4. Registrar-Courses
5. Banner

History

1. Jan 26, 2021 by
Jennifer Bazaz
Gettys (jbazaz)
2. Feb 16, 2021 by
Gregory Craft
(gcraft)
3. Mar 6, 2021 by
Jennifer Bazaz
Gettys (jbazaz)

Catalog Title: Great Ideas in Science

Banner Title: Great Ideas in Science

Will section titles vary by semester? No

Credits: 3

Schedule Type: Lecture

Hours of Lecture or Seminar per week: 3

Repeatable: May be only taken once for credit, limited to 3 attempts (N3) **Max Allowable Credits:** 9

Default Grade Mode: Undergraduate Regular

Recommended Prerequisite(s): [Classification as a sophomore or higher.](#)

Recommended Corequisite(s):

Required Prerequisite(s) / Corequisite(s) (Updates only):

Registrar's Office Use Only - Required Prerequisite(s)/Corequisite(s):

And/Or	(	Course/Test Code	Min Grade/Score	Academic Level	)	Concurrency?

Registration Restrictions (Updates only):

Registrar's Office Use Only - Registration Restrictions:

Field(s) of Study:**Class(es):****Level(s):****Degree(s):****School(s):**

Catalog Description: Nontechnical introduction to ideas that have shaped the growth of science, from the building of Stonehenge to modern theories of the Big Bang. The idea behind each major advance is treated in its historical context, with special attention to its importance in mankind's understanding of the nature of the universe. Intended for nonscience majors; uses little mathematics.
COS 301 is the new course number for PROV 301: Great Ideas in Science.

Justification: What: Adding a prerequisite.
Why: Students with at least a full year of college will be better prepared for this course.

Does this course cover material which crosses into another department? No

Learning Outcomes:

Will this course be scheduled as a cross-level cross listed section?

Attach Syllabus [Mason_Undergrad_Syllabus_COS 301.pdf](#)

Additional Attachments

Specialized Course Categories: Mason Core

Select the Mason Core Requirement the course is proposing to fulfill:

Foundation Courses:

**Exploration
Courses:**

Natural Sciences Non-Lab

**Exploration
Courses:**

**Integration
Courses:**

Natural Sciences Non-Lab

Courses must meet the following learning outcomes:

1. Understand how scientific inquiry is based on investigation of evidence from the natural world, and that scientific knowledge and understanding: a) evolves based on new evidence, and b) differs from personal and cultural beliefs.
2. Recognize the scope and limits of science.
3. Recognize and articulate the relationship between the natural sciences and society and the application of science to societal challenges (e.g., health, conservation, sustainability, energy, natural disasters, etc.).
4. Evaluate scientific information (e.g., distinguish primary and secondary sources, assess credibility and validity of information).

I affirm that I have attached the following using the syllabus and attachment buttons provided above: (see “?” for help with submission)

Syllabus

Have you reached out to the Libraries to determine whether there are adequate resources to support your course? If not, please email Meg Meiman, Associate University Librarian for Learning, Research, and Engagement at mmeiman2@gmu.edu.

**Additional
Comments:**

**Reviewer
Comments**