

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 09/23/25 8:45 am

Viewing: **PLEO : Paleontology Minor**

Last approved: 05/07/24 2:20 pm

Last edit: 11/17/25 10:58 am

Changes proposed by: jbazaz

Catalog Pages
Using this Program

[Paleontology Minor](#)

In Workflow

- 1. **AOES Chair**
- 2. **SC Curriculum Committee**
- 3. SC Assistant Dean
- 4. Assoc Provost- Undergraduate
- 5. Registrar-Programs

Approval Path

- 1. 09/23/25 8:55 am
Mark Uhen
(muhen): Approved for AOES Chair
- 2. 09/23/25 9:04 am
Jennifer Bazaz
Gettys (jbazaz): Rollback to AOES Chair for SC Curriculum Committee
- 3. 11/05/25 4:24 pm
Mark Uhen
(muhen): Approved for AOES Chair

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

Yes

Requestor:

Name	Extension	Email
Geoff Gilleaudeau	5302	ggilleau@GMU.EDU

Effective Catalog: 2026-2027

Program Level: Undergraduate

Program Type: Minor

Title: Paleontology Minor

Banner Title: Paleontology Minor

**Registrar's Office
Use Only –
Program Start Term**

**Registrar/OAPI Use
Only – SACSCOC
Status**

College/School: College of Science

**Department /
Academic Unit:** Atmospheric, Oceanic, & Earth Sciences

**Jointly Owned
Program?** No

**Is there an
embedded degree
as part of a
program?**

Justification

History

1. Nov 15, 2017 by
clmig-jwehrheim
2. Jan 29, 2018 by
rzachari
3. Mar 14, 2019 by
Tory Sarro (vsarro)
4. Jan 9, 2020 by
Jennifer Bazaz
Gettys (jbazaz)
5. Mar 3, 2021 by
Jennifer Bazaz
Gettys (jbazaz)
6. May 7, 2024 by Tory
Sarro (vsarro)

What: Making edits to the elective list.

Why: Streamlining our minors to better match the recent changes that were made to our majors and to better reflect the range of courses that are now being taught regularly in AOES given that we have some new faculty members since our minor was last updated many years ago.

Catalog Published Information

Total Credits Required: Total credits: 18-20 18-21

Registrar's Office Use Only - Program Code: PLEO

Registrar/IRR Use Only – Program CIP Code

Admission Requirements:

Program-Specific Policies: Policies

Eight credits of coursework must be unique to the minor. For policies governing all minors, see AP.5.3.4 Minors.

Degree Requirements: This is a Green Leaf program. Students should refer to the Admissions & Policies tab for specific policies related to this program.

Students must successfully complete the following coursework with a minimum GPA of 2.00.

Required Core

GEOL 102 & GEOL 104	Historical Geology(Mason Core) and Historical Geology Laboratory(Mason Core)	4
GEOL 312	Invertebrate Paleontology	4

GEOL 334	Vertebrate Paleontology(Mason Core)	4
Total Credits		12

Electives

Many of the courses below have additional prerequisites beyond the required core courses above; please check the individual courses carefully.

Select two courses from the following: 6-8

GEOL 304	Sedimentary Geology	
GEOL 309	Oceanography	
GEOL 332	Paleoclimatology	
GEOL 364	Marine Geology	
GEOL 403	Geochemistry	
GEOL 441	Great Events in Earth History	
BIOL 300	BioDiversity	
BIOL 308	Foundations of Ecology and Evolution(Mason Core)	
BIOL 320	Comparative Chordate Anatomy	
BIOL 331	Invertebrate Zoology	
BIOL 377	Applied Ecology	
BIOL 471	Evolution	
EVPP 419	Marine Mammal Biology and Conservation	
GGG 321	Biogeography	
or BIOL 374	Biogeography: Space, Time, and Life	
Total Credits		6-8

Retroactive Requirements Updates:

Plan of Study:

Honors
Information:

Accelerated
Description/Dual
Degree

INTO-Mason
Requirements:

College
Requirements &
Policies:

Department /
Academic Unit
Requirements &
Program Outcomes

Course offerings
Indicate whether

What is the
primary delivery
format for the
program?

Additional SCI

Is this change a
simple retitling of
an existing
program, with no

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

OAPI Use Only – Determination of SACSCOC Impact

Comments or Notes

Green Leaf Program Designation

Is this a Green Leaf
program? Yes

Green Leaf
Designation Sustainability-focused designation

Sustainability-focused academic programs require at least one green leaf course. Either that course is itself sustainability-focused or else the program requires a set of sustainability-related courses with aggregated substance equivalent to a sustainability-focused course.

Relationship to
Existing Courses

Relationship to
Existing Programs

List sustainability-
focused courses
currently required

in the degree
program:

List sustainability-

Does this program cover material which crosses into another department?

No

Additional
Attachments

Executive Summary

Reviewer
Comments

Jennifer Bazaz Gettys (jbazaz) (09/23/25 9:04 am): Rollback: Rolling back per dept. request.

Additional
Comments

Is this course required of all students in this degree program?

%wi_required.eshtml%

Key: 368