

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 02/05/26 12:03 pm

Viewing: PLEO : Paleontology Minor

Last approved: 01/22/26 2:29 pm

Last edit: 02/05/26 12:03 pm

Changes proposed by: jbazaz

Catalog Pages

Using this Program

[Paleontology Minor](#)

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

No

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

In Workflow

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

Approval Path

1. 02/10/26 12:27 pm
Barry Klinger
(bklinger):
Approved for AOES - Curriculum Committee
2. 02/10/26 12:57 pm
Mark Uhen
(muhen): Approved for AOES Chair

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

College/School:	College of Science	Gettys (jbazaz)
Department / Academic Unit:	Atmospheric, Oceanic, & Earth Sciences	6. May 7, 2024 by Tory Sarro (vsarro)
Jointly Owned Program?	No	7. Jan 22, 2026 by Jennifer Bazaz
Is there an embedded degree as part of a program?		Gettys (jbazaz)

Justification

What: Updating the curriculum to account for BIOL course lecture and lab decoupling.

Why: To ensure students are still required to complete the course's lecture and lab components in light of the course being decoupled into two courses.

Catalog Published Information

Total Credits Required: Total credits: 18-20

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.

Requirements: 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

<u>GEOL 102</u> & <u>GEOL 104</u>	Historical Geology(<u>Mason Core</u>) and Historical Geology Laboratory(<u>Mason Core</u>).	4
<u>GEOL 312</u>	Invertebrate Paleontology	4

<u>GEOL 334</u>	Vertebrate Paleontology(<u>Mason Core</u>)	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

<u>GEOL 304</u>	Sedimentary Geology
<u>GEOL 309</u>	Oceanography
or <u>BIOL 309</u>	Oceanography
or <u>EVPP 309</u>	Oceanography
<u>GEOL 332</u>	Paleoclimatology
<u>GEOL 364</u>	Marine Geology
<u>GEOL 403</u>	Geochemistry
<u>GEOL 441</u>	Great Events in Earth History
<u>BIOL 300</u>	BioDiversity
<u>BIOL 308</u> & <u>BIOL 338</u>	Foundations of Ecology and Evolution(<u>Mason Core</u>) and Foundations of Ecology and Evolution Laboratory(<u>Mason Core</u>)
<u>BIOL 320</u>	Comparative Chordate Anatomy
<u>BIOL 331</u>	Invertebrate Zoology
<u>BIOL 471</u>	Evolution
<u>GGS 321</u>	Biogeography
or <u>BIOL 374</u>	Biogeography: Space, Time, and Life

Total Credits 6-8

Retroactive Requirements Updates:

Plan of Study

Honors
Informatics
Accelerate
Description

INTO-Mas

College

Requirements

Departments

Academic

Program Outcomes

What is the

primary de

Additio

Is this

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 Yes
program?

Green Leaf Sustainability-focused designation
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:

• • • • •

Does this program cover material which crosses into another department?

No

Additional Attachments

Executive |

Reviewer Comments

Additional Comments

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

%wi_required.eschtml%

Key: 368