

**UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL
Request for Change(s)**

Originating unit requesting change Biology (BA)

Type of Change requested:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Course number(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Course prerequisite(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Program title |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Course title | <input type="checkbox"/> Drop course(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Program description |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Course description | <input type="checkbox"/> Drop program(s) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Program requirements |

Semester and year change(s) take effect: Fall 2022

Appropriate computer abbreviation if course title is more than 30 spaces: _____

Briefly summarize the change requested:

Update the course titles for BIOL 10503 and BIOL 10513 in the catalog, and replace the requirement for BIOL 10501 & 10511 with BIOL 10523. (This adds one semester hour to the overall degree; we will accept 2 credit hours of lab from transfer students, which means they would then need to be sure to pick up an extra hour in the electives to reach 27.)

Catalog copy

Present catalog copy (paste-up from catalog is acceptable).

Proposed change(s). (Include exact catalog copy as desired. Underline changes)

A minimum of 26 semester hours of biology:

<u>BIOL 10501</u>	Introductory Biology Lab I
<u>BIOL 10503</u>	Introductory Biology I
<u>BIOL 10511</u>	Introductory Biology Lab II
<u>BIOL 10513</u>	Introductory Biology II

A minimum of 27 semester hours of biology:

<u>BIOL 10503</u>	The Unity of Life: Molecules to Cells (Unity and Cells)
<u>BIOL 10513</u>	The Diversity of Life: Organisms to Ecosystems (Diversity and Organisms)
BIOL 10523	Introduction to Biological Investigation (Intro Bio Investigation)

1. What is the justification for the change(s) requested?

Replacing two separate laboratories with one survey experience will achieve several beneficial outcomes:

- Allow us to deliver a more meaningful and beneficial laboratory experience
- Improve our students’ training the process of science, particularly in preparation for lab work in advanced courses
- Provide students with greater flexibility in how they approach their Biology major (nd particularly students who are transitioning into science at TCU, by allowing them to ease into the program with a survey lab experience)
- Resolve current challenges with NSC credit by simply attaching it to this lab instead of BIOL 10503/10501 and BIOL 10513/10511

2. If applicable, explain how the change(s) will affect the current program outcomes and assessment mechanisms.

This change will improve outcomes by better preparing students for advanced laboratory work and research through a more in depth and relevant experience, and by approaching topics in a more comprehensive/integrated manner (i.e., considering all of the various aspects of biology). It will also allow for more streamlined and meaningful assessment of skills (via a single but more comprehensive course assessment strategy).

3. **Faculty Resources:** How will the unit provide faculty support for this change and any other impact this change may have on other current departmental listings.

No new faculty will be needed; some faculty will teach the new BIOL 10523 lecture portion (once per week).

4. **Educational Resources:** Will this change require additional resources not currently available (e.g. space, equipment, library, other)? YES
If yes, list additional resources needed. NO

5. If this change affects other units of the University, include a statement signed by the chairperson(s) of the affected unit(s).

See the original BIOL 10523 course approval submission.

6. If cross-listed, provide evidence of approval by all curriculum committees appropriate to both the originating and cross-listed units.



Approval signature of chairperson of originating unit