

To: IAI Course Submitters, IAI Institutional Contacts, Transfer Coordinators

From: IAI GECC Life Science Panel

Date: April 2015

Re: IAI GECC Codes Ending

As announced at the spring and fall 2014 Transfer Coordinator meetings, the GECC Life Science panel has been attempting to clean up course codes by removing courses that have general education approval but do not match the panel description of a course code.

To qualify as a general education course, a breadth of fundamental biology topics must be present. These topics should address concepts drawn from molecular/cellular, organismal, and super-organismal approaches to biology and should be relatively equally represented across the semester. In addition, personal and societal issues related to the biology topics being presented should be integrated throughout the course content. Courses with a lab code should have students engaged in various aspects of the methods of scientific inquiry during part of the lab experience. The panel has determined that many courses designed for biology majors or pre-professional / career programs do not meet these criteria. . Examples of courses that will not be approved going forward include courses focused primarily on taxonomy surveys, anatomy and physiology, microbiology, or nutrition courses for health professions, , and applied courses such as agriculture, etc.

Rather than continue to call for affected courses via the ongoing review process , the panel declares that as of May 2015, courses in Human Anatomy and Physiology that are designed as service courses or prerequisites for Allied Health (nursing, etc.) will no longer carry the L1 904 / L1 904L Human Biology IAI code. These courses typically have highly specific content, lack of coverage of general science concepts such as heredity, evolution, and ecology; an integrated societal component, and an inquiry approach in lab.

In the Spring 2015 season, the panel will go through the approved L1 904 / L1 904L courses and remove courses that do not appear to fit the general education description. Institutions will have one year for appeal.

Additional courses that have not been considered general education by the panel since 2009 include Microbiology for health professionals and introductory majors' courses in botany and zoology (being primarily focused on taxonomy and structure / function) and introductory, applied, or service courses in disciplines other than biology, such as animal sciences, crop sciences, biotechnology, forensics, nutrition, or horticulture. As ongoing review occurs, these types of course will not be approved with a general education code, and upon announcement, the panel may investigate other course descriptors that contain such courses that do not qualify for general education. Institutions will again be given a year from announcement for appeal.

If your course(s) has already been returned as a result of this discontinuation, please do not resubmit unless the institution is appealing the decision. In cases of appeal, the institution shall indicate this in the resubmitted materials along with evidence that the course should be classified as a general education course and retain the subsequent IAI GECC Life Science panel descriptor code.

The following IAI GECC Life panel course descriptor codes will end according to the following schedule:

IAI Descriptor Code	IAI Descriptor Name	Commonly Used / Course Name	IAI Code Ending Scheduled Date
L1 904 / L1 904L	Human Biology	Anatomy & Physiology	May 2015
L1 904 / L1 904L	Human Biology	Nutrition	May 2016
L1 902 / L1 902L	Animals and Society	Zoology / Taxonomy	May 2016
L1 903 / L1 903L	Microbes and Society	Microbiology	May 2016
L1 901 / L1 901L	Plants and Society	Botany	May 2016
Varies		Applied Non-Biology Courses	May 2016
L1 902 / L1 902L	Animals and Society	Animal Science	May 2016
L1 901 / L1 901L	Human Biology	Agriculture or Horticulture or Crop Science	May 2016