Northern Marianas College
CURRICULUM ACTION REQUEST

Effective Semester / Session: Spring 2012

Type of Action:
- New
- Modification
- Move to Inactive (Stop Out)
- Cancellation

Course Alpha and Number: NR 298 (Previously BI 298)

Course Title: Natural Resources Management Internship

Reason for initiating, revising, or canceling:
The course is being modified for periodic updates.

Dr. Alfredo B. De Torres
Proposer

Dr. Alfredo B. De Torres
Department Chair

Barbara Merfalen
Dean of Academic Programs and Services
1. **Department**  
   Sciences, Mathematics, Health and Athletics

2. **Purpose**  
   NR 298 is a required course for majors designed to provide the student with integration and application of academic knowledge and critical thinking skills emphasizing professional development. The student is placed with a cooperating institutions, governmental agency or private employer in the agriculture, environmental, or natural resource sciences. Successful completion of the internship is required for completion of the degree program. Employers in the governmental and private sector who require well-trained, responsible entry-level employees who can immediately assume their duties in a professional manner have frequently requested a course of this type.

3. **Description**

   A. **Required/Recommended Textbook(s) and Related Materials**  
      There is no text for this course. The student's work supervisor or the instructor/coordinator of the course will provide all materials required.

   B. **Contact Hours**  
      1. **Lecture:**
      2. **Lab:** None
      3. **Other:** Internship; variable, not to exceed 20 hours per week for a total of greater than or equal to 60 hours per semester.

   C. **Credits**  
      1. **Number:** 4
      2. **Type:** Regular degree credits

   D. **Catalogue Course Description**  
      NR 298 is a required course for majors designed to provide the student with integration and application of academic knowledge and critical thinking skills emphasizing professional development. The student is placed with a cooperating institutions, governmental agency or private employer in the agriculture, environmental, or natural resource sciences. Successful completion of the internship is required for completion of the degree program. Class entry is by permission of instructor/coordinator. (Offered Summer and Fall)
E. Degree or Certificate Requirements Met by Course
This course fulfills the requirement of the A.S. degree in Natural Resources Management.

F. Course Activities and Design
This course consists of on-the-job training, working directly with research scientists, field technicians, extension agents, and other professionals in network institutions, governmental agencies or the private sector who have responsibilities in the discipline. Student’s work supervisor and the instructor/coordinator of the course, based on the student’s area of interest, will determine specific activities and evaluation of the student. This course is purposely designed to permit the student to experience a broad range of training and skill building while obtaining “hands-on” work experience.

4. Course Prerequisite(s); Concurrent Course Enrollment; Required English/Mathematics Placement Level(s)
There are no specific prerequisites for this course. Class entry is by permission of instructor/coordinator.

5. Estimated Cost of Course; Instructional Resources Needed
Cost to the Student: Tuition for a 4-credit course and all applicable instructional materials fees.

Cost to the College: Instructor’s salary.

6. Method of Evaluation
Student progress and skill building assessment for this course is determined by periodic evaluation by the work supervisor and course instructor/coordinator in discussion with the student. Students are required to keep a work log, a project report, or some type of documentation appropriate to the area of internship and agency involved. Both work supervisor and course instructor/coordinator complete end-of-internship evaluation. Successful completion of the internship is required for completion of the A.S./Science degree.

Student grades will be based on the regular letter grade system as described below:

A: Excellent – grade points: 4.0;
B: Above average – grade points: 3.0;
C: Average – grade points: 2.0;  
D: Below average – grade points: 1.0;  
F: Failure – grade points: 0.0.  

NMC’s grading and attendance policies will be followed.

7. Course Outline  
This is a topical outline and does not necessarily indicate the sequence in which the material is presented.

There is no specific course outline as this is a highly technical, specialized training and skill building activity course involving on-the-job training which will vary by employer agency and student interests.

8. Instructional Goals  
This course will introduce students to:

1.0 The responsibilities, demands, scope, concepts, ethics, and principles faced by an employee working in the agriculture, environmental, and natural resource sciences;

2.0 The critical influence of the agricultural, environmental, and natural resource sciences in shaping our society, our islands, and the future use of land, water, and air in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI);

3.0 Project planning, preparation, implementation, and evaluation; and

4.0 Protocol and methodology for accurate data collection, data analysis, results interpretation, and reporting.

9. Student Learning Outcomes  
Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1.0 Confidently enter the work force, demonstrating knowledge of the responsibilities, demands, scope, concepts, ethics, and principles faced by an employee working in the agriculture, environmental, and natural resource sciences;
2.0 Explain the critical influence of the agricultural, environmental, and natural resource sciences in shaping our society, our islands, and the future use of land, water, and air in the CNMI;

3.0 Explain and discuss project planning, preparation, implementation, and evaluation; and

4.0 Identify and apply the protocol and methodology for accurate data collection, analysis, results interpretation, and reporting.

10. **Assessment Measures**
Assessment of student learning may include, but not be limited to, the following:

1.0 Preparation of project and/or field study under the host agency supervisor or faculty coordinator;

2.0 Presentation of project and/or field study in a public forum; and

3.0 Participation in the preparation and presentation of the project and/or field study (FS).