

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT, ACADEMIC

MEMORANDUM

**To:** Senate  
**From:** J. M. Munro, Chair  
Senate Committee on Academic Planning  
**Subject:** Revisions to Science 010  
**Date:** March 13, 1995

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Action undertaken by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Studies and the Senate Committee on Academic Planning gives rise to the following motion:

**Motion:**

"that Senate approve and recommend approval to the Board of Governors, as set forth in S.95 - 27 , the changes to SCI 010 - Contemporary Topics in the Natural Sciences."

*J. M. Munro*

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
MEMORANDUM**

To: R. Heath  
Secretary to Senate

From: C.H.W. Jones, Dean  
Faculty of Science

Subject: **Science 010**

Date: March 9, 1995

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The proposed revisions to the course SCI 010 were approved by SCAP at its meeting on February 8, 1995 contingent on the Faculty of Science approving the changes. These changes, namely that the course would be assigned variable credit of one, two or three credit hours and that the course should not be restricted to non-specialists in science, were approved at the Faculty of Science meeting on February 28, 1995.

We have now incorporated these changes into a revised calendar entry for SCI 010.

CHW. Jones.  
C.H.W. Jones

CHWJ:ln

## Science 010

The calendar entry under General Education Courses for the Faculty of Science be changed from:

### **General Education Courses**

Several courses have been designed with no prerequisite structure and are meant to convey a broad perspective of scientific outlook to students who are non-specialists in science. These courses are as follows.

#### Science

SCI 010-3 Contemporary Topics in the Natural Sciences (This course may be offered by any of the Science departments.)

#### Biological Sciences

BISC 003-3 Ecology and the Population Explosion  
004-3 Apiculture: An introduction to Bees and Beekeeping  
105-3 Biology and the Human Species

#### Chemistry

CHEM 003-3 Chemistry, Technology and Society  
004-3 Pollution, Energy and Resources

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### **General Education Courses**

- a) Several courses have been designed with no prerequisite structure and are meant to convey a broad perspective of scientific outlook to students who are non-specialists in science. These courses are as follows.

#### Biological Sciences

BISC 003-3 Ecology and the Population Explosion  
004-3 Apiculture: An Introduction to Bees and Beekeeping  
105-3 Biology and the Human Species

#### Chemistry

CHEM 003-3 Chemistry, Technology and Society  
004-3 Pollution, Energy and Resources

- b) In addition, a course is offered on forefront, interdisciplinary topics in contemporary science.

SCI 010 Contemporary Topics in the Natural Sciences

This course may be offered for one, two or three units of credit and a student may acquire a maximum of 3 credit hours for the course. This course may be offered by any of the Science departments or may be team-taught by faculty members from across the Faculty.

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
MEMORANDUM**

To: R. Heath,  
Secretary to SCUS

From: C.H.W. Jones, Dean  
Faculty of Science

Subject: **Science 010**

Date: December 13, 1994

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A very recent report by a Task Force in the Faculty of Science has recommended that we offer a special topics course in first year as enrichment for our entering students.

Presently, the Faculty has a course approved and in the Calendar, Science 010-3 Contemporary Topics in the Natural Sciences. We would like to be able to offer this course as a variable credit course, the credit to be determined by the content in a given semester. Typically, the course would be offered as a one, two or three credit elective and would then involve one, two or three lectures per week, coupled with a variety of additional activities outside the classroom. The course would be graded and the grade would be assigned on the basis of term papers.

In any one course several topics would be covered and these would be forefront, interdisciplinary science topics which could be anticipated to generate a high level of student interest; e.g., the information highway; alternative energy sources; AIDS; periodic catastrophes - the death of the dinosaurs, etc.

Enrolment in the course would be limited to ca. 80 students.

Recommendation

That SCI 010, Contemporary Topics in the Natural Sciences, be assigned variable credit of one, two or three credit hours depending on the content in a given semester.

In the Faculty of Science Calendar Entry under General Education Courses (p. 150), the phrase "...to students who are non-specialists in science", should be removed in connection with the SCI 010 entry.

*C.H.W. Jones*  
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C.H.W. Jones

CHWJ:ln

Revised March 9, 1995.