

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE

FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 3712S

Date of Senate Approval 02/09/12

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Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

**APC Document 27: Change the requirements for the Concentration in Weather Forecasting in Atmospheric Sciences**

**Effective Date: Fall 2012**

**1. Delete:** On page 84, the entry under **Concentration in Weather Forecasting:**

- I. Required courses in the major—33 hours, including ATMS 103 or 113, 205, 230, 241, 251, 261, 305, 310, 320, 350, 410, 411, 455. CSCI 181 may be substituted for ATMS 230.
- II. Required courses outside the major—24 hours distributed as follows: CHEM 111, 132; MATH 191, 192, 291; PHYS 221, 222. MATH 394 is strongly recommended. Additional courses in Statistics, Hydrology and Oceanography are recommended.
- III. Special departmental requirements—Major competency is demonstrated by a senior comprehensive exam. Oral competency is demonstrated as part of the senior comprehensive examination. Formal preparation for this is in ATMS 410 and 411. Computer competency is demonstrated through completion of either ATMS 230 or CSCI 181.

**Add:** On page 84, in place of deleted entry:

- I. Required courses in the major--- 40-41 hours, including: ATMS 103 or 113, 205, 230, 241, 251, 261, 305, 310, 320, 350, 410, 411, 455; 6-7 hours chosen from ATMS 223, 355, 405, or ENVR 338, and 3 additional hours of ATMS at the 300-400 level. CSCI 181 may be substituted for ATMS 230.
- II. Required courses outside the major--- 26 hours distributed as follows: CHEM 132; MATH 191, 192, 291, 394; PHYS 221, 222. Additional courses in Statistics and Mathematics are recommended.
- III. Special departmental requirements--- Major competency is demonstrated by a senior comprehensive exam. Oral competency is demonstrated as part of the senior comprehensive examination. Formal preparation for this is in ATMS 410 and 411. Computer competency is demonstrated through completion of either ATMS 230 or CSCI 181.

**Impact:**

Eliminating CHEM 111 as a requirement outside of the major will reduce student demand for this course. Added elective options for courses in the major will need to be offered more regularly, but will not result in any staffing or other course changes.

**Rationale:**

The proposed changes are to encourage coursework that meets the federal GS-1340 requirements for employment as a meteorologist and to create added distinction between the Climatology and Weather Forecasting concentrations. The additional required hours of the ATMS and MATH 394 courses are necessary to meet these federal requirements. Older versions of the course catalog merely recommended that students enroll in these courses. By adding these requirements, the ATMS Department can rightfully claim that graduates in our program meet the federal requirements for employment in the federal sector as meteorologists. All faculty in ATMS are in agreement with this proposal.