

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE  
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 2713S

Date of Senate Approval 01/24/13

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Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

**APC Document 22:** **Add the requirements for a new concentration of Broadcast Meteorology in Atmospheric Sciences**

**Effective Date: Fall 2013**

1. **Add:** On page 86, ahead of the section labeled “**Concentration in Climatology**”:

**Concentration in Broadcast Meteorology**

- I. Required courses in the major--- 34 hours, including: ATMS 103 or 113, 205, 230, 241, 251, 261, 305, 310, 320, 328, 350, 410, 411, 455. CSCI 181 may be substituted for ATMS 230.
- II. Required courses outside the major--- 32 hours distributed as follows: CHEM 132; DRAM 213; MATH 191, 192, 291; MCOM 201; PHYS 221, 222; VMP 205. Recommended elective: VMP 331.
- III. Special departmental requirements--- Major competency is demonstrated by a senior comprehensive exam. Oral competency is demonstrated as part of the senior comprehensive examination and by the production of a taped weather forecast. Formal preparation for the senior comprehensive examination is in ATMS 410 and 411. Computer competency is demonstrated through completion of either ATMS 230 or CSCI 181.

**Impact:** Adding a new concentration in the ATMS Department will help diversify the types of students attending UNC Asheville with the intent of majoring in the atmospheric sciences and will grow the total number of students in the department. The requirements of the new concentration are very similar to the existing ATMS concentrations, but require interdisciplinary coursework in the Mass Communication and Drama Departments. Concurrences of the chairs of the two departments are included in the application packet. The added concentration will require more frequent offerings of ATMS 328 (Broadcast Meteorology) which can be absorbed by sharing the teaching load between in-house options (Prof. Huang) and representatives from the local ABC affiliated television station (WLOS, Jason Boyer or Julie Wunder), who taught the course at UNC Asheville before the severe restrictions on adjuncts went into effect.

**Rationale:** A significant percentage of new undergraduate students contemplating a career as a meteorologist consider the broadcast meteorology field as their primary option. The new concentration provides a curricular path for students having this interest by requiring fewer ATMS and MATH courses than existing ATMS concentrations, while promoting the development of skills related to public speaking, newswriting, and video production. All faculty in ATMS are in agreement with this proposal.