

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE  
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 5516S  
Date of Senate Approval 2/11/16

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Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

**APC Document 45:** Delete BIOL 123 and 124, replacing with BIOL 125 and 126

**Effective Date: Fall 2016**

**1. Delete:** On page 93, the entries for **BIOL 123 and 124:**

- 123 Principles of Biology (3)**  
An introduction to ideas fundamental to the understanding of contemporary biology (cell theory, genetics, evolution and ecology). For non-Biology majors. Fall and Spring.
- 124 Principles of Biology Lab (1)**  
Introduction to biology lab. Pre- or corequisite: BIOL 123. For non-Biology majors. Fall and Spring.

**Add:** On page 93, new courses, **BIOL 125 and 126:**

- 125 Current Topics in Biology (3)**  
An exploration of current topical areas of interest in Biology, emphasizing the core concepts required to understand the science of these topics. Students may not receive credit for this course and BIOL 123. Intended for non-Biology majors. Fall and Spring.
- 126 Current Topics in Biology Lab (1)**  
Lab class that introduces students to scientific methodology, and the techniques and tools used in biology. Students may not receive credit for this course and BIOL 124. Pre- or corequisite: BIOL 125. Intended or non-Biology majors. Fall and Spring.

**Impact Statement:** Despite the change in title and focus, the constituency served by these classes will not change. University wide impact from these changes is expected to be minimal, although we hope that these changes will attract more non-majors to this class. Scientific rigor and content of these classes will remain strong and appropriate for non-major students, and areas that require BIOL 125 as a cognate. The changes in these courses should not influence transfer equivalencies. We added an APC document providing changes in the course catalogue for AP and IB exam score credits for these courses.

**Justification:** These changes shift the focus from the basic scientific principles in themselves, to important topical areas of interest and societal importance. The content of BIOL 125 will make it an excellent course to satisfy the LAC Science Perspectives requirement. The classes then engage students to explore the underlying science needed to understand them. This will make the classes more relevant to students, practical and interdisciplinary. It also encourages instructors to be flexible and current in content based on scientific and societal developments, and the strengths and interests of each instructor.

