

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE  
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number SD2123S  
Date of Senate Approval 03/02/2023

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Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

**APC Document 12 (ATMS): Delete ATMS 113;  
Change course title and corequisite for ATMS 111**

**Effective Date: Fall 2023**

1. **Delete:** On page 93, course description for **ATMS 113, Understanding the Atmosphere:**

**113 Understanding the Atmosphere (3)**

An introduction to meteorology and climatology. This course focuses on the basics of understanding the weather, including how weather observations are made and used. Atmospheric Science majors may substitute ATMS 113 for ATMS 103. Students may not receive credit for both ATMS 103 and 113. Fall.

2. **Delete:** On page 93, course description for **ATMS 111, Understanding the Atmosphere Lab:**

**111 Understanding the Atmosphere Lab (1)**

Introduction to meteorology lab. A significant portion of the laboratory sessions will be spent outside observing weather elements. Corequisite: ATMS 113. Fall.

**Add:** On page 93, in place of deleted entry:

**111 Introduction to Meteorology Lab (1)**

A laboratory course designed specifically for students majoring in other disciplines who are interested in learning about aspects of the Earth's atmosphere to a greater depth than can be gained in a lecture. A significant portion of the laboratory sessions will be spent outside observing weather elements. Pre- or corequisite: ATMS 103. Fall.

**Impact:** The ATMS 111 corequisite change to ATMS 103 (*Introduction to Meteorology*) will likely result in higher enrollment in both ATMS 111 and in sections of ATMS 103 by students interested in fulfilling the Laboratory Science requirement of the Liberal Arts Core (LAC). The addition of ATMS 103 as a prerequisite will allow students to take ATMS 111 in a different semester, further increasing enrollment and student options for fulfilling the LAC Laboratory Science requirement. The Natural Sciences division chairs have already approved the addition of the ATMS 103/111 combination to the list of LAC laboratory science courses. Since the syllabi for ATMS 113 and the same instructor's syllabus for ATMS 103 are identical, these changes will have no adverse impact on funding or staffing needs.

**Rationale:** The Department of Atmospheric Sciences through Spring 2022 offered an approved combination of ATMS 113 (*Understanding the Atmosphere*) and ATMS 111 (*Understanding the Atmosphere Lab*) to satisfy the LAC Laboratory Science requirement. ATMS 103 (*Introduction to Meteorology*) covers the same basic topics as ATMS 113 and does so on roughly the same timeline. In fact, Dr. Miller's ATMS 103 and 113 course outlines are identical. When the ATMS 111/113 laboratory and lecture combination was established, not all the professors teaching ATMS 103 used the same textbook and timing of course topics. The department made the decision to assign a separate course number of ATMS 113 to Dr. Miller's introductory course to guarantee that the topics in ATMS 111 align with the order of presentation in his choice of textbook. All the current ATMS 103 instructors now use the same textbook, so the separate ATMS 113 designation is no longer necessary. In the future, the department will enforce the use of a single textbook among all ATMS 103 instructors to ensure a unified approach to the course.

In a long-term effort to increase flagging enrollment in ATMS 111 and to mitigate a short-term Fall 2022 scheduling challenge for first-year atmospheric sciences majors, the Natural Sciences Division chairs voted unanimously on August 3, 2022 to allow the Department of Atmospheric Sciences to open up ATMS 111 to those concurrently enrolled in ATMS 103. This freed students to select any section of ATMS 103 or ATMS 113 to pair with the ATMS 111 lab course. This option has already been added to GradPlan. Though this change did not require APC approval, the department would like to codify these changes in the course catalog and simplify the course naming convention to reduce confusion among students. The removal of ATMS 113 in lieu of ATMS 103 will make it clear that any section of ATMS 103 taken either prior to or concurrently with ATMS 111 will satisfy the LAC Laboratory Science requirement. Students who previously completed ATMS 113 are still eligible to enroll in ATMS 111. Lastly, the name change for ATMS 111 (*Introduction to Meteorology Lab*) reflects its new pairing with ATMS 103 (*Introduction to Meteorology*) and the new description describes the purpose of the course in more detail. Please note that Dr. Miller will replace the ATMS 113 course with his identical ATMS 103 course, so there will not be a change in the total number of sections of the department's general education introductory meteorology course.

All faculty in the atmospheric sciences department agree with this change.

3. **Delete:** On page 93, in the description for ATMS 103, the following sentence:

Atmospheric science majors may substitute ATMS 113 for ATMS 103.

4. **Delete:** On page 92, ATMS 113 as an option to ATMS 103 in item I under **Concentration in Broadcast Meteorology, Concentration in Climatology, and Concentration in Weather Forecasting:**

I. Required courses in the major—XX hours, including: ATMS 103 ~~or 113~~,

**Impact:** None anticipated. Students who have taken ATMS 113 will still be able to use it for the major.

**Rationale:** Editorial changes reflecting the deletion of ATMS 113.