

# District Curriculum Committee Meeting Agenda

| Tuesday, March 4, 2025                    | 4:00-5:00pm           | CAADO 209/Zoom      |
|---|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Committee Members                         | Guests                |                     |
| □ Brian Johnson (Chair, MAT, NOR)         | 🗆 Lijuan Zhai (AV     | VC ES&IE, RCCD)     |
| Eric Bishop (Co-Chair, Int. VC Ed. Servic | ces) 🗆 Steven Schmidt | (MUS, RCC)          |
| □ Kelly Douglass (ENG, RIV)               | 🗆 Bryan Medina (      | Staff, RCCD)        |
| □ Nick Sinigaglia (PHI, MOV)              | 🗆 Ellen Brown-Dr      | rinkwater (AO, RCC) |
|   | □ Nick Franco (A      | O, NOR)             |
|   | 🗆 Deanna Murrell      | (AO, MVC)           |
|   | 🗆 Sabina Fernand      | ez (Staff, MVC)     |
|   | 🗆 Casandra Green      | ne (Staff, RCC)     |
|   | □ Nicole Brown (S     | Staff, NOR)         |
| Additional Guests:                        | \ \ \ \ \ \ \_        | · · · · ·           |

## Zoom Information

https://rccd-edu.zoom.us/j/86555446612?pwd=R0dDakVkSzNZQitZZEN0Zm1TTlYvQT09 +1 669 900 6833 US Meeting ID: 865 5544 6612 Passcode: 627472

## Call to Order:

## **Agenda and Minutes**

- 1. Approval of Agenda *The agenda will be reviewed, discussed, and considered for approval.*
- 2. Approval of Minutes December 3, 2024 *The minutes will be reviewed, discussed, and considered for approval.*

## **Reports from Colleges**

- 1. Moreno Valley
- 2. Norco
- 3. Riverside

## **Action Items**

1. Curriculum Proposals Curriculum proposals will be reviewed, discussed, and considered for forwarding to the Board of Trustees.



# **Discussion Items and Public Comment**

- 1. Open Forum
- 2. Public Comment for all items on or not otherwise on the agenda.

# Adjournment:

# District Curriculum Committee Proposals for Review for Meeting: 03/04/2025

# Courses

| Course Inclusions M N R Discussion      |  |   |   |           |            |
|---|--|---|---|-----------|------------|
| BIO 14                                  | Soil Science and Manageme                                  | ent   |   |           |            |
| Rationale:<br>MOV: Info Iter            |  | ired courses for the new Associate of Science<br>NOR: Approved, 2/25/2025 | in Agriculture Plant Science for T<br>RIV: Info Item, 2/25/2025 | ransfer.  |            |
|   |  |   |   |           |            |
| BIO 15<br><u>Rationale:</u>             | Soil Science and Manageme<br>BIO-14 and BIO-15 are requ    | ent Laboratory<br>ired courses for the new Associate of Science           | in Agriculture Plant Science for T                              | ransfer.  |            |
| MOV: Info Iter                          | n, 2/25/2025   | NOR: Approved, 2/25/2025  | <b><u>RIV:</u></b> Info Item, 2/25/2025                         |           |            |
| Course Ma                               | jor Modifications  | 2   |   | MNR       | Discussion |
| ACC 55                                  | Applied Accounting/Bookk                                   | _   |   |           |            |
| Rationale:                              |  | our discipline's Equity SLO and textbook upda                             | te review.  |           |            |
| MOV: Approv                             | ed, 2/25/2025  | NOR: Approved, 2/25/2025  | <b><u>RIV:</u></b> Approved, 2/25/2025                          |           |            |
| CAT 55                                  | Applied Accounting/Bookk                                   | eeping  |   |           |            |
| Rationale:                              | . –  | 55, major modification (cross-listed course)                              | DIV/ Approved 2/25/2025   |           |            |
| MOV: Approv                             | 20, 2/25/2025  | NOR: Info Item, 2/25/2025   | <u><b>RIV:</b></u> Approved, 2/25/2025                          |           |            |
| Course Mi                               | nor Modification   | <u>s</u>  |   | MNR       | Discussion |
| ACC 819                                 | Volunteer Income Tax Assis                                 | stance Training   |   |           |            |
| Rationale:                              | The discipline has reviewed<br>seeking a refreshed BOT app | the current COR and found it up to date. We                               | are submitting this as an 'empty'                               | minor mod |            |
| MOV: Approv                             |  | NOR: Info Item, 2/25/2025   | <u><b>RIV:</b></u> Approved, 2/25/2025                          |           |            |
| CIS 62                                  | Microsoft Access   |   |   |           |            |
| Rationale:<br>MOV: Info Iter            |  | s for currency-2 year review 9/2024<br>NOR: Info Item, 2/25/2025          | <b><u>RIV:</u></b> Approved, 2/25/2025                          |           |            |
|   |  | <u>NOR.</u> Into item, 2/25/2025  | <u>Mrv.</u> Approved, 2/23/2023                                 |           |            |
| CSC 62<br>Rationale:                    | Microsoft Access   | s for currency-2 year review 9/2024                                       |   |           |            |
| MOV: Info Iter                          |  | <u>NOR:</u> Info Item, 2/25/2025  | <u>RIV:</u> Approved, 2/25/2025                                 |           |            |
| FIT DO1C                                | Aerial Apparatus Operation                                 | 15  |   |           |            |
| Rationale:                              | CTE two-year review.                                       |   |   |           |            |
| MOV: Approv                             | ed, 2/25/2025  | NOR: Info Item, 2/25/2025   | <u><b>RIV:</b></u> Info Item, 2/25/2025                         |           |            |
| FIT DO1D                                | Tillered Apparatus Operatio                                | ons   |   |           |            |
| Rationale:<br>MOV: Approv               | CTE two-year review.<br>ed, 2/25/2025                      | NOR: Info Item, 2/25/2025   | <b><u>RIV:</u></b> Info Item, 2/25/2025                         |           |            |
| FIT DO1E                                | Wildland Fire Apparatus Dr                                 | iver/Operator   |   |           |            |
| Rationale:                              | CTE two-year review.                                       |   |   |           |            |
| MOV: Approv                             | ed, 2/25/2025  | NOR: Info Item, 2/25/2025   | <u><b>RIV:</b></u> Info Item, 2/25/2025                         |           |            |
| FIT DO1F                                | Water Tender Operations                                    |   |   |           |            |
| Rationale:                              | CTE two-year review.                                       |   |   |           |            |
| MOV: Approv                             | ea, 2/25/2025  | NOR: Info Item, 2/25/2025   | <b><u>RIV:</u></b> Info Item, 2/25/2025                         |           |            |
| FIT R7                                  | Trench Rescue Technician                                   |   |   |           |            |
| <u>Rationale:</u><br><u>MOV:</u> Approv | CTE two-year review.<br>ed, 2/25/2025                      | NOR: Info Item, 2/25/2025   | <b><u>RIV:</u></b> Info Item, 2/25/2025                         |           |            |

| Courses  |  |   |   |                     |            |
|--|--|---|---|---------------------|------------|
| Course Mi  | nor Modification   | <u>s</u>  |   | MNR                 | Discussion |
| HUM 35<br><u>Rationale:</u>                        | Philosophy of Religion<br>Updating course materials p<br>unchanged/approved. | er curriculum requirements. Other CC                                | DR elements reviewed by discipline and le   | <b>√ √ √</b><br>eft |            |
| MOV: Approv  | 0 11   | NOR: Approved, 2/25/2025  | <u><b>RIV:</b></u> Approved, 2/25/2025  |                     |            |
| PHI 35<br><u>Rationale:</u><br><u>MOV:</u> Approve | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·  | paired proposal for cross-listed course<br>NOR: Approved, 2/25/2025 | HUM-35 held at Tech Review.<br><u>RIV:</u> Approved, 2/25/2025                          |                     |            |
| Distance E   | ducation   |   |   | MNR                 | Discussion |
| CHE 2ADE<br><u>Rationale:</u>                      | Introductory Chemistry, I  |   |   | •••                 |            |
| MOV: Approv  | ed, 2/25/2025  | NOR: Approved, 2/25/2025  | <u><b>RIV:</b></u> Approved, 2/25/2025  |                     |            |
| CHE 2BDE<br>Rationale:                             | Introductory Chemistry II  |   |   |                     |            |
| MOV: Approv  | ed, 2/25/2025  | NOR: Approved, 2/25/2025  | <u><b>RIV:</b></u> Approved, 2/25/2025  |                     |            |
| CHE 3DE  | Fundamentals of Chemistry  | ,   |   | <b>√ √ √</b>        |            |
| <u>Rationale:</u><br><u>MOV:</u> Approve           | ed, 2/25/2025  | NOR: Approved, 2/25/2025  | <u><b>RIV:</b></u> Approved, 2/25/2025  |                     |            |
| MUS 37DE<br>Rationale:                             | Class Guitar   |   |   | <b>√ √ √</b>        |            |
| MOV: Approv  | ed, 2/25/2025  | NOR: Approved, 2/25/2025  | <u>RIV:</u> Hold, 2/25/2025   |                     |            |
| Distance F   | ducation Modific   | ations  |   | MNR                 | Discussion |
| PSY 1DE  | General Psychology   |   |   |                     | Discussion |
| <u>Rationale:</u><br><u>MOV:</u> Approv            |  | NOR: Approved, 2/25/2025  | <u>RIV:</u> Approved, 2/25/2025   |                     |            |
| PSY 2DE  | Biological Psychology  |   | <u></u> Approted, 2, 25, 2025   |                     |            |
| Rationale:   |  |   |   |                     |            |
| MOV: Approv  |  | NOR: Approved, 2/25/2025  | <u>RIV:</u> Approved, 2/25/2025   |                     |            |
| PSY 35DE<br><u>Rationale:</u>                      | Abnormal Psychology  |   |   |                     |            |
| MOV: Approv  | ed, 2/25/2025  | NOR: Approved, 2/25/2025  | <u><b>RIV:</b></u> Approved, 2/25/2025  |                     |            |
| PSY 9DE<br><u>Rationale:</u>                       | Developmental Psychology   |   |   | <b>√ √ √</b>        |            |
| MOV: Approv  | ed, 2/25/2025  | NOR: Approved, 2/25/2025  | <u>RIV:</u> Approved, 2/25/2025   |                     |            |
| Extensive I  | Labs   |   |   | MNR                 | Discussion |
| MAT 39<br><u>Rationale:</u>                        | outlined in Article X Section  | J 2c of the Faculty Association Agreen                              | s the 54 hours of lab for Math 39 meets t<br>hent. Therefore, this proposal is to reque |                     |            |
| MOV: Approv  | classification of Math 39 lab  | hours as lab hours requiring extensive<br>NOR: Approved 2/25/2025   |   |                     |            |

#### **New Courses** MNR Discussion **ELE 33** Network Troubleshooting and Methodology in Biomedical Equipment Holding for Norco's approval. For students and new healthcare professionals, an introduction to medical equipment is an essential part of their Rationale: education and training. It lays the foundation for more advanced learning and specialization in specific areas of medicine and medical technology. MOV: Info Item, 11/12/2024 NOR: Hold, 2/25/2025 RIV: Info Item, 11/12/2024 On Hold since 11/12/24. Still keep on Hold. Programs **New Programs** MNR Discussion ADT BIO **Agriculture Plant Science** $\square \blacksquare \square$ Rationale: The Associate in Science in Agriculture Plant Science for Transfer offers students a solid foundation in environmental horticulture, preparing them for advanced coursework in agriculture and environmental plant sciences. This program is specifically designed to facilitate a smooth transfer to California State University (CSU) within the agricultural science field, ensuring students can complete their bachelor's degree with guaranteed admission to a similar major at a CSU, entering with junior standing, and fulfilling remaining requirements within 60 semester or 90 guarter units. Career opportunities in agriculture and plant sciences are abundant in California's expanding horticulture and agronomic sectors. Graduates in these fields are increasingly sought after as agriculture adopts more high-tech approaches and embraces sustainable practices. Pursuing a degree in Agriculture Plant Sciences can lead to careers in soil science and conservation, agricultural biology, entomology, plant biotechnology, postharvest physiology, and the environmental protection of water resources, farmlands, open spaces, and landscaped areas. NOR: Approved, 2/25/2025 MOV: Info Item, 2/25/2025 RIV: Info Item, 2/25/2025 Certificate BIO **Biology Field Technician** In alignment with RCCD Board Policy 5775, item 6 ("Encouragement of curriculum in environmental sustainability"), **Rationale:** and the District Strategic Plan 2019-24, Objective 6.1 ("Establish and expand relationships with regional educational institutions"), Norco College proposes the introduction of a Biology Field Technician Certificate. A survey of local educational institutions revealed that there are no certificates of this type in our region. This certificate is structured to provide skills needed to assist professional Biologists in field work as a biology field technician. The selected courses will ensure that Norco College students are well-equipped for field work in the environment. The Resolution of the Board of Governors, California Community Colleges (No. 2019-11), emphasizes the importance of prioritizing sustainability within the CCCs, including the provision of valuable education for our students. A recent report indicates that the global green technology and sustainability market is projected to grow from \$11.2 billion in 2020 to \$36.6 billion by 2025. Additionally, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics forecasts that more than half of the job growth expected by 2026 will occur in eco-friendly occupations. Offering a Biology Field Technician Certificate will equip our students with experience for rewarding careers and contribute to a more stable future. MOV: Info Item, 2/25/2025 NOR: Approved, 2/25/2025 RIV: Info Item, 2/25/2025 **Program Discontinuance** Discussion MNR ADT JOU Journalism **Rationale:** Challenges faced by the journalism program since 2021, including declining enrollments and lack of interest from the student body and community, despite efforts to revitalize the program including collaboration with RCC, CTE and the Innovation Center. Based on all of the input and discussions by the program discontinuance task force, the determination was made to discontinue the journalism program. The Task Force also recommends that MVC looks for tangible ways to incorporate student voices through other disciplines, outreach, and marketing. MOV: Approved, 2/25/2025 NOR: Info Item, 2/25/2025 RIV: Info Item, 2/25/2025

**Program Outline of Record – RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY** Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) MORENO VALLEY COLLEGE | NORCO COLLEGE | RIVERSIDE CITY COLLEGE

# **Program Outline**

**Title: Agriculture Plant Science** 

**COLLEGE DISTRICT** 

**Originator: Teresa Friedrich Finnern** Date 10/29/2024 Department: Natural Science, Health, and Kinesiology College/Learning Pathway/Engagement Center: Norco - School of Science, Technology, **Engineering & Mathematics** 

**TOPs Code:** 0103.00 **CIP Code:** 

**Norco** College □ Riverside City College **College: D** Moreno Valley College (Please note: ADTs are college specific. If multiple colleges wish to adopt this program, a separate proposal and college specific supporting documents are required.)

| Type of ADT: | $\Box$ Associate in Arts for Transfer | $\boxtimes$ Associate in Science for Transfer |
|--------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| This is a:   | ⊠ New ADT*                            | □ Modification to an existing ADT             |

\*New programs that require new facilities, positions, capital outlays, or have budgetary impacts must also be approved by Academic Senate and Strategic Planning before being submitted. Has this program been appropriately approved?

> $\Box$  Yes, minutes attached □ Approval Pending ⊠ No Capital or Budgetary Impacts

If this is a modification to an existing ADT, please specify the changes being made:

(Please be specific! Indicate any changes such as title, description, learning outcomes, courses, unit values, etc.)

## **Rationale:**

The Associate in Science in Agriculture Plant Science for Transfer offers students a solid foundation in environmental horticulture, preparing them for advanced coursework in agriculture and environmental plant sciences. This program is specifically designed to facilitate a smooth transfer to California State University (CSU) within the agricultural science field, ensuring students can complete their bachelor's degree with guaranteed admission to a similar major at a CSU, entering with junior standing, and fulfilling remaining requirements within 60 semester or 90 quarter units.

Career opportunities in agriculture and plant sciences are abundant in California's expanding horticulture and agronomic sectors. Graduates in these fields are increasingly sought after as agriculture adopts more high-tech approaches and embraces sustainable practices. Pursuing a degree in Agriculture Plant Sciences can lead to careers in soil science and conservation, agricultural biology, entomology, plant biotechnology, postharvest physiology, and the environmental protection of water resources, farmlands, open spaces, and landscaped areas.

(Please note: This information will be presented to the Board of Trustees.)

# **Required Documentation:**

Please submit this form and the documents outlined below to your college's Instructional Program Support Coordinator (IPSC) and the District Technical Review committee via TechReview@rccd.edu. Please do not submit your proposal until all of the documentation below is complete.

For additional information, please see the Program and Course Approval Handbook (PCAH), the RCCD Curriculum Handbook, the Taxonomy of Programs manual, and the TOPs/CIP/SOC crosswalk. Revised November 2022

# All new and modified ADTs must include the following:

☑ Evidence of district-wide discipline communication

Department minutes showing approval

⊠ Narrative (See next page)

RCCD

C-ID or Assist Articulation Information, and the most current TMC Template (Work with your

Articulation Officer to obtain this documentation)

# **Program Narrative**

# Item 1. Program Goals and Objectives

The Associate in Science in Agriculture Plant Science for Transfer offers students a solid foundation in environmental horticulture, preparing them for advanced coursework in agriculture and environmental plant sciences. This program is specifically designed to facilitate a smooth transfer to California State University (CSU) within the agricultural science field, ensuring students can complete their bachelor's degree with guaranteed admission to a similar major at a CSU, entering with junior standing, and fulfilling remaining requirements within 60 semester or 90 quarter units.

Career opportunities in agriculture and plant sciences are abundant in California's expanding horticulture and agronomic sectors. Graduates in these fields are increasingly sought after as agriculture adopts more high-tech approaches and embraces sustainable practices. Pursuing a degree in Agriculture Plant Sciences can lead to careers in soil science and conservation, agricultural biology, entomology, plant biotechnology, postharvest physiology, and the environmental protection of water resources, farmlands, open spaces, and landscaped areas.

## **Item 2. Catalog Description**

The Associate in Science in Agriculture Plant Science for Transfer provides a foundation in environmental horticulture, preparing students for advanced coursework in agriculture and environmental plant sciences. This program is specifically designed to facilitate a smooth transfer to California State University (CSU) within the agricultural science field, ensuring students can complete their bachelor's degree with guaranteed admission to a similar major at a CSU, entering with junior standing, and fulfilling remaining requirements within 60 semester or 90 quarter units.

Career opportunities in agriculture and plant sciences are abundant in California's expanding horticulture and agronomic sectors. Graduates in these fields are increasingly sought after as agriculture adopts more high-tech approaches and embraces sustainable practices. Pursuing a degree in Agriculture Plant Sciences can lead to careers in soil science and conservation, agricultural biology, entomology, plant biotechnology, postharvest physiology, and the environmental protection of water resources, farmlands, open spaces, and landscaped areas.

Program Learning Outcomes:

- 1. Students will recognize the key vegetative and reproductive structures of plants and describe the processes involved in plant growth and reproduction, including respiration, photosynthesis, transpiration, growth, fertilization, and fruit development.
- 2. Students will utilize fundamental principles of plant and soil science to promote sustainable plant growth and yield across various environmental conditions.
- 3. Students will discuss the historical, current, and future challenges related to food production systems at both local and global levels.
- 4. Students will employ scientific and mathematical reasoning, along with critical thinking skills, to tackle practical issues in agricultural production systems.

Required Courses: 20-21 units

#### RCCD RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT Program Outline of Record – Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT)

| Course         | Title                                  | Units |
|----------------|--|-------|
| BIO-5          | General Botany                         | 4     |
| BIO-14         | Soil Science and Management            | 3     |
| BIO-15         | Soil Science and Management Laboratory | 2     |
| CHE-2A         | Introductory Chemistry, I              | 4     |
| OR             |  |       |
| CHE-1A         | General Chemistry, I                   | 5     |
| ECO-8          | Principles of Microeconomics           | 3     |
| OR             |  |       |
| ECO-8H         | Honors Principles of Microeconomics    | 3     |
| STAT-C1000     | Introduction to Statistics             | 4     |
| OR             |  |       |
| STAT-C1000H    | Introduction to Statistics - Honors    | 4     |
| OR             |  |       |
| PSYC-48/SOC-48 | Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences | 4     |

List A: Select 1 course from the following <u>4-5</u> units:

| Course  | Title                      | Units |
|---------|----------------------------|-------|
| BIO-3   | Field Botany               | 4     |
| CHE-2B  | Introductory Chemistry, II | 4     |
| OR      |                            |       |
| CHE-12A | Organic Chemistry I        | 5     |

Total Units: 24-26

# ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE FOR TRANSFER DEGREE

The Associate in Science in Agriculture Plant Science for Transfer degree will be awarded upon completion of 60 California State University (CSU) transferable units including the above major requirements and the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) or California State University General Education (CSUGE) requirements and with a minimum grade point average of 2.0. All courses in the major must be completed with a grade of "C" or better (or a "P" if taken as Pass/No Pass).

# Program Outline

|  | Program Outline               |                                   |  |  |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Title: Biology Field Technician  |                               |                                   |  |  |
| Originator: Teresa J. Friedrich Fir  | nnern                         | Date 10/30/2024                   |  |  |
| Department: Natural Sciences, Health   | , and Kinesiology             |                                   |  |  |
| College/Learning Pathway/Engageme<br>Engineering & Mathematics   | ent Center: Norco - Sch       | nool of Science, Technology,      |  |  |
| ☐ Moreno Valley College<br>(Please note: All degrees and certificates a<br>certificate, a separate proposal and college  |                               | · · ·                             |  |  |
| <b>TOPs Code:</b> 0408.00 <b>CIP C</b>   | ode: 261303                   |                                   |  |  |
| Type of Program:     ☑ Certificate of Achievement only   □ Locally approved certificate (8-units or less) only     □ Associate Degree only   □ Certificate of Achievement and Degree |                               |                                   |  |  |
| Type of Associate Degree:  | □ Associate of Arts           | □ Associate of Science            |  |  |
| This is a:   | ree* □ Modification           | to an existing certificate/degree |  |  |
| *New programs that require new fac   | ilities, positions, capital o | outlays, or have budgetary impact |  |  |

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

MORENO VALLEY COLLEGE | NORCO COLLEGE | RIVERSIDE CITY COLLEGE

\*New programs that require new facilities, positions, capital outlays, or have budgetary impacts must also be approved by Academic Senate and Strategic Planning before being submitted. Has this program been appropriately approved?

☐ Yes, minutes attached ☐ Approval Pending ☑ No Capital or Budgetary Impacts

If this is a modification to an existing certificate/degree, please specify the changes being made: (*Please be specific*! Indicate any changes to title, description, learning outcomes, courses, unit values, etc.)

**Rationale:** In alignment with RCCD Board Policy 5775, item 6 ("Encouragement of curriculum in environmental sustainability"), and the District Strategic Plan 2019-24, Objective 6.1 ("Establish and expand relationships with regional educational institutions"), Norco College proposes the introduction of a Biology Field Technician Certificate. A survey of local educational institutions revealed that there are no certificates of this type in our region. This certificate is structured to provide skills needed to assist professional Biologists in field work as a biology field technician. The selected courses will ensure that Norco College students are well-equipped for field work in the environment.

The Resolution of the Board of Governors, California Community Colleges (No. 2019-11), emphasizes the importance of prioritizing sustainability within the CCCs, including the provision of valuable education for our students. A recent report indicates that the global green technology and sustainability market is projected to grow from \$11.2 billion in 2020 to \$36.6 billion by 2025. Additionally, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics forecasts that more than half of the job growth expected by 2026 will occur in eco-friendly occupations. Offering a Biology Field Technician Certificate will equip our students with experience for rewarding careers and contribute to a more stable future.

(Please note: This information will be presented to the Board of Trustees.)

# **Required Documentation**

Please submit this form and the documents outlined below to your college's Instructional Program Support Coordinator (IPSC) and the District Technical Review committee via <u>TechReview@rccd.edu</u>. Please do not submit your proposal until all of the documentation below is complete.

# All Degrees and Certificates

- Evidence of district-wide discipline communication
- Department minutes showing approval
- ☑ Narrative (see following page)
- Transfer preparation documentation *(only if applicable)*

# Degrees and Certificates of 8 Units or More with Vocational TOPs Codes

# In addition to the above, all degrees and certificates of 8 units or more with a vocational TOPs code must include the following to be submitted to the State Chancellor's Office for approval.\*

Labor Market Information and Analysis (*Required for new programs and modifications.*)

 □ Advisory Committee Recommendation (Required for new programs and may be required for modifications. Check with the curriculum coordinator at your college to determine if a new recommendation is necessary.)
□ Regional Consortium Recommendation (Required for new programs only.)

\*Certificates between 8 and less than 16 units can be approved locally or can be submitted to the State Chancellor's Office for approval. Certificates of less than 8 units can only be approved locally. However, locally approved certificates will not appear on student transcripts.

# **Program Narrative**

# Item 1. Program Goals and Objectives

The Biology Field Technician certificate is designed for students who wish to obtain the skills required to gain employment in biological field work. Upon completion of this program, students will be eligible to obtain employment as field assistants to professional biologists for the environmental consultation sector, gaining necessary experience. Environmental consulting assists businesses, governments, and organizations on compliance with environmental regulations

# Item 2. Catalog Description

The Biology Field Technician Certificate provides foundational lower-division coursework that introduces students to the knowledge and skills needed to successfully work in the natural environment. This program is specifically designed to support students interested in working in environmental consulting, or park rangers, interpreters, or docents.

Program Learning Outcomes: Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Utilize the scientific method to formulate hypotheses and analyze ecological data.
- Examine the effects of human activities on ecological systems.
- Discuss the interconnectedness of abiotic, biotic, and cultural factors and their impact on California's natural history.
- Recognize and differentiate plant phyla, classes, orders, families, genera, and species using correct taxonomic terminology.

# Item 3. Program Requirements

Required Courses: 11 units

| Cauraa | Title                 | Units | Saguanaing         |
|--------|-----------------------|-------|--------------------|
| Course | The                   | Units | Sequencing         |
| BIO-3  | Field Botany          | 4     | Semester 2, Spring |
| BIO-8  | Principles of Ecology | 4     | Semester 1, Fall   |
| BIO-21 | California Naturalist | 3     | Semester 1, Fall   |

## Elective Courses: <u>0-8</u> units

| Course | Title                 | Units | Sequencing           |
|--------|-----------------------|-------|----------------------|
| BIO-7  | Marine Biology        | 4     | Intersession, Summer |
| BIO-5  | General Botany        | 4     | Semester 4, Spring   |
| BIO-19 | Environmental Science | 3     | Semester 3, Fall     |

Total Program Units: <u>11-19</u> units

# Item 4. Master Planning

A biology field technician certificate that provides an avenue for students to gain employment and experience supports RCCD Board Policy 5775 item 6 ("Encouragement of curriculum in environmental sustainability"), and District Strategic Plan 2019-24 Objective 6.1 ("Establish and expand relationships with regional educational institutions").

Additionally, with reference to the Norco College mission ("Norco College inspires a diverse student body by an inclusive innovative approach to learning through its pathways to transfer, professional, career

and technical education, certificates, and degrees."), a biology field technician certificate will prepare our students to enter jobs in environmental consulting.

## **Item 5. Enrollment and Completer Projections**

As there are currently no certificates of this type in our region, initial enrollment may begin small but has the potential to grow annually.

## Item 6. Place of Program in Curriculum/Similar Programs

This certificate is designed for students interested in biology fieldwork. While there is currently an Environmental Science ADT offered through the Natural Science, Health and Kinesiology department, it includes different courses and does not provide the field experience needed to obtain employment in the environmental consulting industry.

# Item 7. Similar Programs at Other Colleges in Service Area

There are no similar programs in our service area, so this certificate would provide environmental consulting businesses with needed field technicians, while providing students with necessary field experience in natural environments.

# Item 8. Transfer Preparation Information (if applicable)

N/A

#### RCCD RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT Program Viability and Discontinuance Task Force Report - AP 2021

Please submit this form and the documentation indicated below to <u>TechReview@rccd.edu</u>. Once received, it will be routed through the curriculum approval process. For additional information on Program Discontinuance, please refer to Board Policy (BP) / Administrative Police (AP) 2021.

| Program:                   | Journalism             |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| College:                   | Moreno Valley          |
| Task Force Recommendation: | Program Discontinuance |

### Steps for consideration of Program Discontinuance

 $\checkmark$ 

| 1. | Does the Program fulfill one or more of the criteria below to be considered for Program discontinuance?  |             |
|----|--|-------------|
|    | (Select one or more as appropriate)  |             |
|    | The goals and objectives of the Program are no longer appropriate to the Mission of California<br>Community Colleges, the college's mission or Educational Master Plan, and/or congruent with<br>the institutional Strategic Plan of the District.   |             |
|    | The Program curriculum no longer aligns with university transfer majors or, General<br>Education requirements of the Program no longer meet industry needs and lack demand in<br>the current job marketand the Program's field is not considered an emerging industry or<br>career path.   |             |
|    | The Program does not meet curriculum standards as defined by Title 5 section 55100.  |             |
|    | There are insufficient resources to realistically support the Program at a sufficient level of quality<br>and the Program has experienced either consistent low enrollment (an average of 50% or more<br>below maximum seat load capacity for courses in the Program over four consecutive semesters)<br>or statistically significant declining Program persistence and completion rates each semester for<br>four semesters, as evidenced by reliable, longitudinal data. |             |
|    | The Program has been determined to be out of compliance with existing state or federal laws, i.e., Title 5, section 55130(d), or licensing laws in particular occupations.   |             |
|    | There is universal agreement among regular faculty in a Program that it be merged with or replaced by another related Program.   |             |
| 2. | Has the Program Discontinuance Task Force been appropriately assembled?  |             |
|    | (Please specify Task Force membership in meeting minutes – see next page for example.)   |             |
| 3. | Did the Task Force inform the college community that the Program is being considered for discontinuance?   |             |
|    | (Attached evidence of communication to college community.)   |             |
| 4. | Was the public comment session convened?   | $\boxtimes$ |
|    | (Attached Task Force meeting minutes with details of public comment, if any.)  |             |
| 5. | Did Task Force convene after the public comment session to provide directive to the Curriculum<br>Committee?   | $\boxtimes$ |
|    | (In the Task Force meeting minutes, please specify the directive as voted on by Task Force members. Please see BP/AP 2021 for directive options.)  |             |



## **Task Force Meeting Minutes**

RCCD

Date: October 1, 2024 Time: 11:30 - 1:00 pm Location: Zoom

Program: Journalism College: Moreno Valley

Task Force Members in attendance

| <u>Representative</u>                    | <u>Name</u>           |                          |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Department Chair                         | Norma Martinez        | voting member            |
| Dean of Instruction                      | Anna Marie Amezquita  | voting member            |
| Dean of Instruction                      | Eric Anthony          | voting member            |
| Research & Planning                      | Jacob Kevari          | voting member            |
| Counseling*                              | Cynthia Ramirez       | voting member            |
| Academic Senate*                         | Laura Dunphy          | voting member            |
| Program Review*                          | Fernando Nahon-Valero | voting member            |
| Curriculum Committee*                    | Nick Sinigaglia       | voting member            |
| Regular Discipline Faculty member (1) ** | Kasey Nguyen          | voting member            |
| Regular Discipline Faculty member (2) ** | Melanie James         | voting member            |
| Regular Faculty member (3) **            | Jennifer Floerke      | voting member            |
| Vice President of Academic Affairs***    | Joumana McGowan       | Chair, non-voting member |
| Vice Chancellor Educational Services     | Eric Bishop           | non-voting member        |

representatives from these areas may not teach in the program

\*\* at most three regular faculty members who teach in the program or closely related field will sit on the committee

\*\*\* non-voting member, but may vote in the case of a tie

On October 1, Dr. McGowan convened the Program Viability and Discontinuance Task Force. The team reviewed AP 2021 in detail and determined that the Public Comment Session and our next meeting will be taking place on October 29, 2024.