

To: College Council
From: E. W. Jones, Head, Biological Sciences
Subject: Core Course in Biochemistry and Cell Biology 07-443

This graduate level course is part of a series including core courses in molecular biology and neuroscience, designed to provide all of our graduate students with a solid foundation in the central disciplines of contemporary biology. The 12 unit course will meet for 50 minutes on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 2:30p.m. until 3:20p.m. in the fall semester. The course will be open only to first-year graduate students in Biological Sciences. Courses in biochemistry and cell biology directed specifically to undergraduates are being offered in the the undergraduate curriculum.

The purpose of the course is to provide a broad foundation in biochemistry and cell biology for all of our graduate students. Topics to be covered in biochemistry will include protein structure, enzymology, and methods to characterize protein structure and function. The textbook for this section will be Structure and Mechanism in Protein Science, by Alan Fersht. The cell biology section will include membrane structure, intracellular trafficking, signal transduction, the cytoskeleton, cell cycle, and cell-cell interactions. The textbook for this section will be Molecular Cell Biology, 5th Edition, by Lodish et al. Professor Hackney will teach the seven-week long section on Biochemistry and Professors Ettensohn, Linstedt, McCartney, and Minden will teach the eight week-long section on cell biology. Students will be evaluated each week and by a final exam.