

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Biological Sciences

DATE: 04/09/21
TO: The Graduate Students, Department of Biological Sciences
FROM: The Graduate Faculty, Department of Biological Sciences
SUBJECT: Temporary policy change regarding the use of Extended Education units

Because the difficulties caused by the pandemic have caused significant slowing of research for most graduate students, the Graduate Faculty in our department have approved a temporary policy change regarding how students may use Extended Education units near the end of their degree. The policy change is intended to help reduce the costs of finishing your degree, and it applies only to graduate students that began the program in Fall of 2020 or earlier.

Previously, graduate students could enroll in one unit of Extended Education (BIOL x693) in their last semester, assuming that the complete written thesis could be distributed to the thesis committee for review by the Add/Drop date for the semester (typically the second or third week of the semester).

The temporary policy change allows graduate students to use Extended Education units a maximum of two semesters. To use Extended Education, the following criteria must be met:

- all required coursework for the degree are already completed;
- the graduate adviser is confident the degree will be completed by the end of the second semester that Extended Education units are used;
- the complete written thesis will be distributed by the adviser to the committee for review at least one month prior to the defense date; and
- defenses will be completed no later than November 15th (fall semesters) or April 15th (spring semester).