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Requiring a Course on Science Communication at the University of Guelph

Thursday, 1 June 2017 14:00 (30 minutes)

In September 2014 we launched our significantly revised and updated undergraduate physics program. The redesign process was guided by an extensive curriculum mapping exercise, focusing on the desired graduate attributes of students completing degrees in our department. In the new sequence of courses, all of our students are now required to take our new Science Communication course in their third year, allowing us to take a more intentional approach to the development of communication skills. Through this course students are given the opportunity to share their passion for physics with a wide array of target audiences, ranging from elementary school students to teachers to special interest groups. As they work through a variety of exercises and assignments, students hone their abilities to communicate clearly and engagingly both orally and in writing. The course structure, as well as feedback from students who took the course in its first offering in Winter 2017, will be discussed.

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