

Last updated: April 2020

Call for Course Proposals for ENVT 400, Capstone Seminar in Environmental Problem Solving

The ENVT 400 Selection Committee is looking for teaching team proposals for *ENVT 400: Capstone Seminar in Environmental Problem Solving*. Departments supporting faculty in this endeavor will receive PT funding to replace the faculty member for a semester, and the faculty members will receive a development stipend if the course is a new course design.

Please review the course description below. The application page is attached. If you have questions about the capstone, please contact any of the Environmental Minor coordinators: Rob Alexander (alexanrw@jmu.edu), Bruce Wiggins (wigginba@jmu.edu) or Steve Frysinger (frysinsp@jmu.edu). Submissions should be emailed to Dr. Sam Prins in the CSM Dean's Office at prinssc@jmu.edu.

ENVT 400. The Capstone Seminar in Environmental Problem Solving

The purpose of the capstone seminar is to provide an interdisciplinary, environmental problem-solving experience for students completing the Environmental Studies, Environmental Science, and Environmental Management minors who have completed at least 15 credit hours towards completion of their minor.

The course is to be taught by two full time faculty members who represent different disciplinary perspectives on environmental issues and ideally are housed in two different academic departments. The instructors will design the course around a particular environmental topic or case study about which the teaching team has expertise that provides students the opportunity to experience hands-on interdisciplinary work, culminating in an end-of-semester summary experience open to interested faculty members and interested members of the public.

The teaching team must be present in the classroom for every session and may make use of, but may not center the instruction around, guest speakers and lecturers. The course should rely upon experiential and engaged learning approaches when possible.

Learning Objectives

After completing ENVT 400, students will be able to:

1. *articulate the interactions between the social and physical aspects of environmental issues;*
2. *understand that defining and solving environmental. Problems are complex, ongoing processes;*
3. *collaborate in cross disciplinary inquiry and problem solving in the classroom; and,*
4. *prepare and carry out creative, connective research as part of a team.*

ENVT 400 COURSE PROPOSAL FORM

Proposed Title:

Course Instructors:

Name of Instructor A

Name of Instructor B

Department

Department

Email

Email

AUH Approval and Confirmation of Understanding

I support the submission of this proposal on behalf of my faculty member. *If this course is selected, I understand that my Department is responsible for using the PT funds provided specifically for backfilling the course my faculty member would otherwise teach during the designated ENVT 400 semester.*

Academic Unit Head for Instructor A

Date

Academic Unit Head for Instructor B

Date

Preferred Semester

We propose that this ENVT 400 course be offered:

- Fall Semester (Year: _____)
- Spring Semester (Year: _____)

Briefly summarize the topic focus of this proposal. Why do you feel that this topic is relevant to the Environmental Minors? (~ 250 words):

How will your teaching approach fulfill the ENVT 400 learning objectives as stated above? (~250 words):

Please provide an overview of topics you intend to cover and briefly describes how you will assess student performance at the individual level.

Do you anticipate any needs for additional resources to effectively teach this class as proposed? For example, transportation, guest speaker stipends, course materials, etc. If so, please provide a brief budget list.

We confirm that this proposal accurately reflects our intent for teaching ENVT 400 and that our Departments fully support the submission of this proposal. (E-signatures allowed)

Instructor A	Date
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Instructor B	Date
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Academic Unit Head for Instructor A	Date
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Academic Unit Head for Instructor B	Date
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