Southeast Missouri State University

Department of: Environmental Science Program  
Course Number: EV401

Course Title: Environmental Science Seminar  
New: Fall 1999

I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course: Consideration of topical environmental issues. Required for Environmental Science majors; to be taken in senior year. Meets concurrently with EV201. Two contact hours per week. Two credit hours.

II. Prerequisites: EV201, minimum of 30 hours in the natural sciences, and senior status.

III. Purposes or Objectives of Course:
A. To provide continuity and cohesiveness for students in a cross-disciplinary curriculum.
B. To facilitate academic interactions of lower division and upper division students within the major.
C. To relate environmental issues to the interdisciplinary nature of the content of courses.
D. To develop group discussion skills and decision-making abilities.
E. To facilitate in-depth literature research on selected topics of contemporary environmental concern.
F. To provide individual and small group interactions with environmental science professionals.
G. To provide support and assistance to students in the preparation of graduation portfolios.

IV. Expectations of Students:
A. Students are expected to attend and actively participate in all class activities.
B. Students will be required to maintain throughout the semester a portfolio of environmentally-related articles from across the disciplines. Periodic summaries will be expected.
C. Students are expected to participate in work groups concentrating on literature research of environmental issues. Presentation of research topics by each group to the class will be expected.
D. Students will prepare a graduation portfolio that includes such items as a professional resume, graduate or professional school applications, and other relevant materials. Portfolios will be critiqued by members of small groups.
E. Students are expected to prepare for guest lectures.
F. Students are expected to prepare a professional presentation on an environmental issue using available multimedia techniques. The topic
presented will involve either literature research separate from the group project (see III-C above) or a student’s experiential learning project (internship or original research).

V. **Textbook and Other Material:**
   No textbook will be required. Selected readings will be provided by the instructors.

VI. **Basis for Student Evaluation:**
   - Environmental Portfolio: 20%
   - Class Participation: 20%
   - Group Literature Research Project and Presentation: 20%
   - Professional Presentation: 30%
   - Graduation Portfolio: 10%

VII. **Instructors:**
   Instructors will be drawn from the Environmental Science program faculty. It is expected that there will be a regular rotation of faculty through the course as faculty schedules and teaching loads permit.