

**University Colloquium: A Sustainable Future
Florida Gulf Coast University**

Summer C 2012

Undergraduate Studies

IDS 3920 – CRN 50086

SYLLABUS

Contact Information:

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Office Hours: Wednesdays after class or by appointment

Office Location: Whitaker Center, Whitaker Hall Room 223

Online classroom: elearning.fgcu.edu

Course Description: The University Colloquium brings together students from all five colleges in a series of interdisciplinary learning experiences. These experiences are designed to address the ecological perspective outcome in relations to other university outcomes and guiding principles. Critical thinking and communication skills will be enhanced through field trips, discussion, projects, and a journal to be maintained by each student. (Advisor approval needed for virtual sections only) (Gordon Rule)

Course Credit Hours: 3

Course Meetings times and locations: Wednesdays 8:00-12:25 Merwin Hall Room 105

Course website:

<http://ruby.fgcu.edu/courses/ndemers/colloquium/Summer%202012/colloq.html>

This site has ample resources about the course including historical documents and presentations from prior sessions that you may find helpful as exemplary to help you complete assignments for this class. Additionally there are resources for the field trips and current events

Required Texts:

The World Watch Institute. (2011). *State of the World: Innovations that Nourish the Planet*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company. Available from the FGCU bookstore and on course reserve at the Library.

University Colloquium Reader. (2011). Selected Readings for IDS 3920. Available from the FGCU bookstore and on course reserve at the Library.

The Earth Charter - <http://www.earthcharterinaction.org/content/pages/Read-the-Charter.html>
http://www.earthcharterinaction.org/invent/images/uploads/echarter_english.pdf

Floridiana Text -

Paving Paradise: Florida's Vanishing Wetlands and the Failure of No Net Loss (2010)

Craig Pittman and Matthew Waite

University of Florida Press

Foreword by Raymond Arsenault and Gary Mormino, Series Editors

Cloth: ISBN 13: 978-0-8130-3286-3

Paper: ISBN 13: 978-0-8130-3507-9

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF COURSE:

Student Assessment/Grading

1. Writing -- 50% of Grade

	Assignment Weight	Due Date
Essay #1 : Sense of Place (500 words)	10 %	May 16
Essay #2: Research Essay – students choose one of 3 essay prompts (1500 words)	20%	June 27
Essay #3: Service-Learning Reflection (500 words)	10%	July 11
University Colloquium Journal entries on ANGEL discussion board	10 %	weekly online

2. Other Graded Activities -- 50% of Grade

	Assignment Weight	Due Date
Final Project Presentation	15%	July 11
Class Attendance and Participation	5% and 10%	weekly
Service-Learning and Proposal Proposal due May 30	15%	July 11
Species Test	5%	June 27

Attendance Policy: As University Colloquium is a seminar/discussion course, your attendance and participation are vital to the class. There are four core field trips that explore fresh water, marine, agricultural and urban environments. Students must attend all field trips and take university provided bus transportation if they are taking an on-campus class.

Field Trip Make-ups (*approved by UCAC 9.28.11*)

If you miss a field trip, you will need to follow the field trip make-up policy.

- A student cannot receive an incomplete for missed field trips.
- Students are not permitted to attend another instructor's class to make up a field trips.
- Field trips are mandatory.
- Students may make up on their own time (with reduced points) as per the faculty member's stated policy.

Field Trip make-up policy - You must contact me in advance of any missed field trips for make up permission. You will be expected to pay your own way, bring yourself to the site, and provide a picture of yourself at the entrance with the current days newspaper clearly displayed.

Service Learning Component: The Guiding Principles of Florida Gulf Coast University include the conviction that informed and engaged citizens are essential to the creation of a civil and sustainable society. University Colloquium is a Service Learning Course. Because Service-Learning is a critical component of the Colloquium course and serves to integrate experiential learning with course curriculum, all of the 10 required Service-Learning hours must be completed by the last class meeting in order to pass the course. Students who do not complete their Service-Learning activity and do not turn in their signed original Service-Learning form by the last class meeting will be assigned a grade of "F." Deferrals are only given due to severe extenuating circumstances. A valid reason must be given and substantiated for a deferral and in this instance, a grade of "I" will be assigned pending completion. An incomplete form must be signed by both the student and professor outlining the outstanding assignments before grades are submitted.

The following link takes you to the Service Learning forms on EAGLESCONNECT (please note that students must fill out the "Verification and Agreement" form *prior* to conducting Service-Learning): <http://www.fgcu.edu/Connect/contract1.asp>

A variety of service-learning opportunities will be made available this summer. See here: <http://ruby.fgcu.edu/courses/ndemers/colloquium/Summer%202012/col-assignments-servicelearning.html>

Policy Regarding Assignment Completion Deadlines: All assignments are due no later than the date assigned on the course schedule/syllabus. They can be turned in earlier for review and feedback. Under extenuating circumstances, allowance will be given, but only if I am contacted in advance of the due date.

Grading Scale:

A= 93 -100

A - = 90 - 92

B+= 88 - 89

B = 82 - 87

B - = 80-81

C+ = 78-79

C = 70-77

D + = 68-69

D = 62-67

D - = 60-62

F = <60

University Policy regarding Incompletes - An incomplete (I) grade cannot be assigned to a course if the student fails to attend the course, drops the course after the drop/add period, or withdraws from the university. A student, who registers for a course but fails to meet the course requirements, without officially dropping the course, will receive a grade of F in the course.

Students cannot be issued a grade of incomplete before the last day to drop without academic penalty during the semester. To initiate consideration for a grade of I, a student must contact the instructor before grades are reported and after the last day to drop without academic penalty. The decision to award a grade of I is solely the decision of the instructor. Should a professor decide to assign the grade, both the student and the professor must complete and retain a copy of an Incomplete Grade Agreement Form. The maximum amount of time to complete coursework to remove a grade of I is one year from the ending date of the semester for which the grade was assigned or graduation whichever comes first; however, instructors may restrict the amount of time given to the student to complete the coursework. After one year, a grade of I will be changed to an F if the instructor has reported no grade. A student may not re-register for a course in which he or she currently has an incomplete (I) grade. Once an incomplete (I) grade has converted to a failing grade (F), the grade may not be converted back to an incomplete (I) grade or to a regular grade. Exceptions due to university error may be approved by the college Dean (or his/her designee) with supporting justification attached to a change of grade form. <http://www.fgcu.edu/Catalog/regdetail.asp?FMID=Registration+and+Records&page=18>

University Statements:

Academic Behavior Standards and Academic Dishonesty

All students are expected to demonstrate honesty in their academic pursuits. The university policies regarding issues of honesty can be found in the FGCU Student Guidebook under the ***Student Code of Conduct and Policies and Procedures*** sections. All students are expected to study this document which outlines their responsibilities and consequences for violations of the policy. The FGCU Student Guidebook is available online at <http://studentservices.fgcu.edu/judicialaffairs/new.html>

Disability Accommodations Services

Florida Gulf Coast University, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the university's guiding principles, will provide classroom and academic accommodations to students with documented disabilities. If you need to request an accommodation in this class due to a disability, or you suspect that your academic performance is affected by a disability, please contact the Office of Adaptive Services. The Office of Adaptive Services is located in Howard Hall 137. The phone number is 239-590-7956 or TTY 239-590-7930

Student Observance of Religious Holidays

All students at Florida Gulf Coast University have a right to expect that the University will reasonably accommodate their religious observances, practices, and beliefs. Students, upon prior notification to their instructors, shall be excused from class or other scheduled academic activity to observe a religious holy day of their faith. Students shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to make up the material or activities covered in their absence. Students shall

not be penalized due to absence from class or other scheduled academic activity because of religious observances. Where practicable, major examinations, major assignments, and University ceremonies will not be scheduled on a major religious holy day. A student who is to be excused from class for a religious observance is not required to provide a second party certification of the reason for the absence.

Introduction to the University Colloquium: A Sustainable Future:

Conceptual basis for University Colloquium

Adopted January 15, 1997: Dean's Council Meeting

We have made a commitment as a university to make environmental education an integral part of our identity. One of our university-wide outcomes is that all students will develop "an ecological perspective." A way to accomplish this perspective is to devise a course, or group of experiences, with an environmental focus that all FGCU undergraduate students must complete, and in which faculty from all five colleges would be involved. Because "ecology" applies to our total living space and interrelationships, human and natural, it is relevant to all our disciplines and professions. Thus, an ecology course would touch on all nine of the university-wide goals and outcomes, and more. Students would not be introduced to FGCU values, they would participate in them.

Goals:

The University Colloquium is an interdisciplinary environmental education course designed to explore the concept of sustainability as it relates to a variety of considerations and forces in the environment. In particular, we will consider ecological, social, ethical, historical, scientific, economic, and political influences. The course goals are:

- To provide a "sense of place" and an understanding of the unique ecological features of the environment of which you are a part,
- To assist in achieving the Florida Gulf Coast University learning goals of developing "an ecological perspective" and a commitment to "community awareness and involvement" in teaching the related outcomes that state that the student will "...know the issues related to economic, social, and ecological sustainability, analyze and evaluate ecological issues locally and globally, participate in projects requiring awareness and/or analysis of ecological and environmental issues;"
- To provide experiences to assist in moving toward achieving the seven other FGCU learning goals and their related outcomes.
- To enable a working understanding of sustainability, of environmental education, and of ecological literacy.

Student Learning Outcomes

Students are expected to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of environmental issues through writing and class participation.
2. Critically analyze environmental issues from economic, social, political, and ecological perspectives.
3. Describe the unique ecological features of the area and analyze the unique challenges posed to Southwest Florida by rapid growth.
4. Demonstrate a working understanding of sustainability, sense of place, and ecological literacy.

SEE SEPARATE SCHEDULE FOR DETAILED ASSIGNMENTS

Course Schedule:

Please note: Schedule is subject to change, changes will be announced in class.

SUMMER C 2012

CLASS #1

Wednesday, May 9 Campus Tour, discuss SL ideas, FGCU history, introductions

CLASS #2

Wednesday, May 16 Essay one due, Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, Take your ecological footprint

CLASS #3

Wednesday, May 23 discuss readings and group work

No Classes Monday May 28, 2012 – Memorial Holiday

CLASS #4

Wednesday, May 30 Waste to Energy and Recycle Facilities Service Learning Plan due (7% of grade)

CLASS #5

Wednesday, June 6 Group Presentations from State of the World Final project progress report

Last Day to drop/withdraw without academic penalty Friday June 8, 2012

CLASS #6

Wednesday, June 13 Fort Myers Beach Historical Cottage and Lover's Key

CLASS #7

Wednesday June 20 ECHO

CLASS #8

Wednesday June 27 Research Essay due, Species Test

No Classes Wednesday July 4th, 2012 Holiday

CLASS #9

Wednesday July 11 Service-Learning Essay due, Final Presentations

SEE

CLASS #10

Monday July 16, 2012 – Last Day of Classes