

COLLOQUIUM

FLORIDA
GULF COAST
UNIVERSITY

University Colloquium: A Sustainable Future
IDS 3920 – CRN 50074
AB3 Room 125

SYLLABUS
Summer A, 2008
Tuesday/ Thursday 8:00-11:25 AM

Contact Information:

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ANGEL

Class administration will be handled through ANGEL
(A New Global Environment for Learning).

TURNITIN.com

I encourage you to submit your papers to turnitin.com
to learn proper citation techniques.

COURSE WEBPAGE

I have created a **www portal to supplement this course. It can be accessed at** <http://ruby.fgcu.edu/courses/ndemers/colloq.html>

Required Texts:

- Dewey, John (1938). *Experience and Education*. New York: Macmillan Publishing Company
- The World Watch Institute. (2008). *State of the World*: New York: W. W. Norton & Company
- University Colloquium Reader. (2007). *Selected Readings*. Lad Custom Publishing, Inc.
- A Florida book of your choosing

Recommended Texts:

Wackernagel, Mathis and Rees, William. (1996). *Our Ecological Footprint*, Vancouver. British Columbia: New Society Publishers

Alden, Peter, Cech, R. Nelson, G (1998). *National Audubon Society Field Guild to Florida*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf

Introduction:

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 goal of developing "an ecological perspective" and in teaching the related outcomes 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 eight 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 South Florida by rapid growth.
4. Demonstrate a working understanding of sustainability, sense of place, and ecological literacy.

Process

Study will be through reading and discussion, writing, and extensive field experiences. Students will reflect upon and demonstrate their learning through analysis in papers, class discussions and presentations, a reflective journal, and a final presentation that links their service learning/community engagement to the goals of the Colloquium in a creative manner. Students are to write four reflective papers on the

questions raised by certain readings, as assigned. Classroom discussion will be required on a weekly basis. Journals are to be kept regularly and shared with the instructor.

Successful completion of the course requirements will earn three-credit hours and completion of this requirement for graduation from Florida Gulf Coast University. Grades will be earned based on an assessment rubric, which provides the weighting of and standards for assignments. The course is officially designated as a writing intensive course, it will require graded writing assignments and will satisfy a portion of the Gordon Rule requirements for graduation (State DOE Rule 6A-10.030).

Several off-campus field trips require limited travel time in addition to the contact time and on occasion an hour at the end of class. These experiences are to be documented in the journal.

- Required papers are in the form of short academic essays and should follow the guidelines of the American Psychological Association (APA) or Modern Language Association of America (MLA). Citation style guidelines may be accessed electronically at <http://Library.fgcu.edu/ddsg/ddsg.asp?id=3384>.

Academic Integrity

Plagiarism is cheating. When one appropriates or deliberately uses another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own, one engages in plagiarism. Any student failing to properly credit ideas or material taken from another is plagiarizing. A student work found to contain material that is plagiarized will be given an F for the paper, and the student may be given an F for the course.

Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. Use of turnitin.com service is subject to the terms and conditions of use posted on the Turnitin.com site.

Student Assessment/Grading

Points:

- | | | |
|--|-----|---------------------|
| • Writing Assignments | | |
| ◦ Short Papers and Journal | 500 | 50% of grade |
| • Presentation and Final Project | 150 | 15% of grade |
| • Participation and Attendance
and (Field Experience) | 350 | 35% of Grade |

Plus/Minus Grades may be used

Late Submissions:

Students are expected to complete and submit all written assignments by their due dates.

All papers that we turned in on time can be revised and resubmitted for re-grading until the final day of class.

Grading:

- A 1000-900
- B 899-800
- C 799-700
- D 699-600
- F Below 599

Attendance Policy:

As University Colloquium is a seminar/discussion course, your attendance and participation are vital to the class. There are of four core field trips that explore freshwater, marine, agricultural and urban environments. **Students must attend all field trips.**

Field Experience/Service Learning:

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. One manner in which this form of society is established is through the community service and engagement of FGCU students. The University Colloquium course provides an opportunity for you to become active participants in service to your community, while at the same time learning collaboratively about the environmental and sustainability needs you will encounter. This opportunity will provide you with a foundational service learning experience that will prepare you for life-long learning and ongoing positive civic engagement. Participation in Field Experience/Service Learning is required to pass the course. This summer of 2007 this requirement has been suspended but you are welcome to integrate service learning into your final project. I can sign for Eagles Connect hours if you elect to do a project.

Educational Assessment/ Course Completion Requirement:

There is a completion requirement for the FGCU Ecological Literacy Instrument and the CSAS (Community Service Attitudes Scale). Students must complete both assessment instruments in order to pass the course. The student's scores on either of these assessments will not be calculated in the final grade. If students do not complete these assessments, they will be assigned a grade of 'I' which turns to an 'F' after one calendar year.

FGCU focuses on two of our student learning outcomes: community awareness and involvement (Goal 9) and ecological perspective (Goal 3). The assessments taken in University Colloquium are designed to measure student learning related to these two outcomes, and will help University Faculty and Staff determine how well they are assisting students in the achievement of these objectives.

Office of Adaptive Services/ Statement:

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 advise the professor and contact the Office of Adaptive Services. The Office of Adaptive Services is located in Howard Hall, room 137. The phone number is 239-590-7959 or TTY 590-7930.

Required Assignments:

Papers:

- Paper 1: Experience & Education
- Paper 2 (and group presentation) Local applications of Global Environmental Challenges
- Paper 3: Floridiana – Florida's People and Their Environment
- Paper 4 Education for Sustainability

Colloquium Journal – no fewer than thirty entries

Final Project & Presentation- relationship of service learning/community engagement project to Colloquium goals- be creative!

*There are two spiritual dangers in not owning a farm.
One is the danger of supposing that breakfast comes from the grocery,
and the other that heat comes from the furnace.*

Aldo Leopold: Sand County Almanac