Environmental Studies Courses
Spring 2017

ENVS 002  International Environmental Studies
10317 / 4 Credits / Kaitlyn Morris / MWF 9:40-10:30 am
This course explores some of the most pressing global environmental issues of our time, including biodiversity and protected areas, agriculture and food systems, fresh water, energy, waste, and climate change. We examine these issues using a variety of different disciplines and approaches, with a particular focus on the economic, political, and social disparities that affect people's access to natural resources. Case studies from around the world help ground environmental issues with real-world examples. Students will be evaluated with a combination of exams, reading quizzes, written assignments, and lab participation. Note: ENVS 001 is not required as a prerequisite for this course. Students must register for the lecture and a lab section; see registrar's website for details. Enrollment limit: 240.

ENVS 150 / NR 195 / PRT 188 Communities, Conservation, and Development in Costa Rica
11240 / 3 Credits / David Kestenbaum and Walt Kuettzel / Travel course to Costa Rica, March 10 - 19, 2017
This course will introduce students to: a) the foundations of community development and sustainability b) the fundamentals and principles of service learning, c) the methodologies of participatory rural research and rapid rural appraisal. Course material will be delivered in a service-learning context that engages students in reciprocal learning relationships with community members and organizations in the buffer zone of Costa Rica’s Corcovado National Park. Program fee: TBD. Instructor permission required. Enrollment Limit: 15. For more info please email Pete Shear, nshear@uvm.edu, or Monique McHenry, mmchenry@uvm.edu.

ENVS 150 / PBIO 195 Natural History and Conservation of the Galapagos Island
11612 / 3 Credits / Monique McHenry and Pete Shear / Travel course to Galapagos Islands, March 11 - 19, 2017
A hands-on exploration of the unique biodiversity found in the tropical Andes and the Galapagos Islands. Students will contemplate ideas of how this great diversity came to be and learn about current conservation efforts in place that aim to protect this diversity. Students will keep detailed daily field journals to develop skill in natural history field observation. Program Fee: $2,993. Instructor permission required. Enrollment Limit: 15. For more info please email Pete Shear, nshear@uvm.edu, or Monique McHenry, mmchenry@uvm.edu.

ENVS 150 / NR 195 / PRT 188 Ecotourism in Costa Rica
10983 / 3 Credits / David Kestenbaum / Travel course to Costa Rica, December 26, 2016 – January 13, 2017 with 3 TBD pre-trip meetings and 1 post-trip meeting
This course will explore the forces and processes of social change in Costa Rican communities given the rise of nature-based travel to this Central American destination. We will consider the processes of how communities in service sector enterprises relate to concepts of sustainability, including environmental, social and economic impacts. From a conceptual and operational point of view, we will explore the concept of sustainability/sustainable development, with an emphasis on community-based sustainable development. Program fee: TBD. Instructor permission required. Enrollment Limit: 15. For more info please email Pete Shear, nshear@uvm.edu, or Monique McHenry, mmchenry@uvm.edu.

ENVS 150 Yasuni Oil and Biodiversity
14011 / 3 credits / Pete Shear / Travel course to Yasuni, Ecuador January 3, 2017 – January 15, 2017
COMING SOON. For more information go to https://learn.uvm.edu/study-abroad/study-abroad-programs/ecuador-the-battle-over-oil-and-biodiversity-in-yasuni/

ENVS 154 D2: Traditional Ecological Knowledge
11619 / 3 Credits / Kit Anderson / TR 10:05 – 11:20 am
The course focuses on traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) as a system of knowledge, practice and belief. Using examples from a range of the world’s biomes, we consider maintenance of biocultural diversity, the similarities and differences between “science” and indigenous ways of knowledge and strategies for combining these systems in addressing climate adaptation strategies. We will discuss examples of the successes and challenges faced today as well as similarities in how traditional knowledge is transmitted, including storytelling. Students will be expected to contribute regularly to class discussion, submit a series of essays that integrate what they have learned, develop and present a group-teaching project, and learn a traditional skill. Prerequisites: ENVS 001 or ENVS 002 or ANTH 021, sophomore standing. Enrollment Limit: 25.

ENVS / PSS 156 SU: Permaculture
11710 / Recitation: 15141 or 15142 / 3 Credits / Victor Izzo / Lecture TR 4:25 – 5:40 pm / Recitation T or R 5:45 – 7:15 pm (students must take one recitation)
This course provides students with an introduction to the principles of permaculture. As a multidimensional and transdisciplinary approach to sustainable living, permaculture is a “way of thinking”. We will explore the permaculture approach via a process of knowledge and experience stacking. This is what I call a grassroots educational pursuit. Through a combination of lectures, field trips, in-class activities, written reflections, guest speakers and films, we will explore each of the fundamental principles underlying the permaculture paradigm. This class is designed as a primer for students looking to take a formal Permaculture Design Course (PDC). Skills and techniques for “reading the landscape,” developing site-responsive design, and representing interpretations and plans through visual maps and public presentations will be developed through a collaborative design by students in groups. Prerequisites: 3 credits in basic biology or ecology. Enrollment Limit: 40 per lecture and 20 each recitation section.
ENVS 173 Landscape Natural History
10887 (W) / 11645 (M) / 3 Credits / Heather Fitzgerald (M) or Alicia Daniel (W) / W or M 12:00 - 3:45 pm
This field course is designed to acquaint you with a variety of Vermont landscapes and provide you with an integrative framework for “reading” the land. Although we will be focusing on Chittenden County, you will be able to take what you learn here and use it in other landscapes that are important to you. This framework involves an understanding of the pieces, patterns, and processes that shape the natural world. We will spend time on each site reviewing the geology, soils, plants and animals, human land use history, and signs of processes like wind, fire, or deer browse. We will think of these as the layers of a cake. People come into this class with a variety of different backgrounds and levels of knowledge about these topics, and that is fine. When we put it all together we will have a good understanding of why each site looks the way it does. While this process will involve learning to find and examine evidence, we also invite you to enter each of these places with an open heart, enjoying the beauty and connection to nature that have drawn us together. Prerequisites: ENVS 001 or NR 001, minimum sophomore standing. Enrollment Limit: 15 in each section.

ENVS 177 Introduction to Landscape Restoration
14643 / 3 Credits / Rick Paradis / TR 11:40 am - 12:55 pm
This course explores the emerging field of landscape restoration that attempts to find ways to repair and restore the ecological systems and natural landscapes damaged by past human activity and neglect. Together, we will examine the many facets of landscape restoration including its historical roots and development, its philosophical foundation and tensions, its interdisciplinary nature that borrows from the natural sciences, social sciences and humanities, and its practical applications in a variety of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem settings. A combination of readings, seminars, discussion sessions, invited guests, class presentations, problem-solving exercises, creative writing assignments, take-home exams, and field walks will offer you an opportunity to develop both a theoretical and practical knowledge base in this exciting discipline. Prerequisites: ENVS 001 or NR 001, minimum sophomore standing. Enrollment limit: 40

ENVS 178 Environmental Ethics
15346 / 3 Credits / Mark Budolfson / TR 4:25 – 5:40 pm
Contemporary environmental ethics, drawing on case studies from philosophy, public policy, and civil society in sustainability, animal welfare, land ethics, wilderness preservation, environmental economics, and resource management. Recurring questions are what fundamentally explains the value of nature and non-human animals, and how to integrate these values into decision-making analyses for society in which competing values may be at stake (such as human nutrition and wellbeing), and in which considerations of justice and sustainability may also loom large. Increasingly, such analyses must dovetail with analyses at a global scale -- for example, at the nexus of food, water, energy, and climate. Thus, values of local vs. global justice are increasingly at the forefront of environmental ethics, as well as concrete questions about the desirability and design of various international institutions. Evaluation will be based on writing assignments and two exams. Prerequisites: ENVS 001 or 002, or NR 001 or NR002, or ENSC 001. Cross-listed with PHIL 195. Enrollment limit: 25

ENVS 185 Climate Justice and Advocacy: Critical Social Movement Perspectives
14644 / 3 Credits / Brian Tokar / W 4:05 – 7:05 pm
As awareness of global climate disruptions continues to rise, popular movements for climate action have come to reflect a diversity of approaches and increasingly embrace a holistic, justice-centered perspective. This course seeks to offer a comprehensive critical outlook on the developing climate movement, with a focus on international perspectives, emerging policy debates, diverse local responses to energy extraction, and possible directions for the future. The class follows a discussion/seminar format, with students as well as the instructor presenting on core topics, and evaluated on their participation in class and online discussions, as well as through response papers on the readings. Additionally, students take turns presenting current news on climate-related issues and movements, followed by a research paper, and also develop and evaluate their own hands-on group projects that apply their knowledge to local and regional environmental issues. Prerequisites: ENVS 001 or 002, or NR 001 or NR002, or CDAE 002. Minimum sophomore standing or instructor permission. Enrollment limit: 30.

ENVS 188 Sustainability Science
11655 / 3 credits / Brendan Fisher / TR 10:05 - 11:20 am / ENVS Natural Science Breadth Course.
This course will consider the emerging discipline of sustainability science from an integrative natural and social science approach. We will start by reviewing the history of sustainability science as a field that seeks to understand how the mutual goals of ecosystem health and human well-being can be achieved. This review will include the importance of a systems perspective as the framing for sustainability science moving forward. We will then focus on the applied side of the natural and social science as well as the technological advances associated of sustainability, including ecosystem conservation, product and material design, and issues of social wellbeing and justice. In the end we will be better positioned to answer the question of: How do we as a society address long-term goals of sustainable human welfare and ecosystem well-being? Students will be expected to take active role in class debates, complete numerous writing assignments and a final project. There will also be quizzes, a midterm and a final. Prerequisites: ENVS 001 or ENVS 002 or NR 001 or NR 002 or ENSC 001, minimum sophomore standing. Enrollment Limit: 70

ENVS 191 Environmental Practicum/Internship
10331 / 1-9 Credits / Amy Seid
Students engage in independent study, research or internships that have been developed with a site supervisor and faculty sponsor. Course coordinator must approve proposals before the activity begins. Prerequisites: Sophomore standing. Instructor permission (by application) required. Contact Program Assistant, rory.shamlian@uvm.edu for more information.
ENVS 195 Academic Planning Workshop
14646 / 1 credit / Ibit Wright / TR 1:15 – 2:30
This one-credit, six-week course replaces ENVS 151 as a requirement for ENVS majors. It is designed to inform and direct ENVS majors who have completed both ENVS 001 and 002 and are ready to develop an interdisciplinary plan of study that aligns with their emerging academic, personal and professional interests. A range of activities will instruct, inspire, assist and challenge students to take initiative for their education with all of its requirements, choices and opportunities. Students will be asked to complete readings and reflective writings, engage with guest speakers, do research and interview practitioners in a chosen field of interest, and engage with peers, the graduate TA, ENVS faculty and staff, and ENVS peer mentors. Students will leave the course having completed an introductory exploration of a “life and livelihood,” and a comprehensive academic plan through graduation. Prerequisites: ENVS major, sophomore standing, ENVS 001 and 002, or permission.

ENVS 195 Environmental Policy and Activism
14645 / 3 credits / Trish Okane / TR 4:25 – 5:40 / ENVS Social Science Breadth Course
Across the nation and all over the planet, people are defending the lands and waters that they love, their places, their homes. Mountaintops in Kentucky threatened by coal mining, the Mekong River threatened by damming in Southeast Asia, local watersheds threatened by fracking in Pennsylvania, a wetland park threatened by a gas pipeline in Vermont, an entire island threatened by construction of a US military base in South Korea, much of Louisiana threatened by oceans rising due to global warming, Mayan villagers threatened by Canadian gold mining in Guatemala. As the list grows so does the number of people researching, protesting, petitioning, marching, litigating, and desperately trying to find new ways to protect their places and ways of life. Policy-making and citizen action begin with observation and careful research. In this course, you will become a more effective and active citizen by becoming a more skilled researcher. Through case studies in Vermont, Alabama, South Korea, and Latin America, you will learn what environmental policy is, how it is created, and how an ordinary citizen can influence that process through observation, data collection and recording, fact-finding, media analysis, publishing, and public participation. This course will help you grow in four ways: 1) by developing a critical daily media reading practice based on your interests and passions to achieve media literacy; 2) by connecting you with environmental issues and conflicts in Burlington and in Vermont and drawing the connections between local and global environmental issues; 3) by showing you the many ways that ordinary citizens, both in the US and abroad, influence policy through data collection, research, writing, public speaking, and media campaigns; and 4) by teaching you essential citizenship skills, particularly media analysis, writing and public speaking. Prerequisites: ENVS 001 or ENVS 002 or NR 001 or NR 002 or ENSC 001. Sophomore standing only. Enrollment limit: 60.

ENVS 195 Media – Action – Policy
15426 / 3 credits / Richard Watts / MW 5:05 – 6:20 pm
Vermont is a small state where big things can happen. This course examines the relationship between media, public policy and outcomes through hands-on learning. We are focused on the Vermont Legislature from a media and communications perspective. Students will meet and work with legislators, journalists and policy advocates while following issues ranging from the legalization of marijuana to the debate over a carbon pollution tax. Students will be expected to spend some time in the Vermont Legislature related to the policy issues the class is engaged in. Class meets once a week (Monday 5:05-6:20) with students expected to spend 5-8 hours a week engaged with project partners and/or attending the Vermont Legislature and other related events. Transportation will be provided. This is an upper level service learning course. Prerequisites: ENVS 001 or ENVS 002 or NR 001 or NR 002 or ENSC 001. Cross-listed with CDAE 195. Enrollment Limit: 25.

ENVS 195 Documentary Film for Environmental Community Development
15345 / 3 credits / Nilima Abrams / M 5:05 – 8:05 pm
An introduction to the study of documentary film and video in a development context. Students will critically watch, research and write about various films, movements and organizations that use documentary film for community development and environmental causes. In class lectures, screenings and discussions will focus on whether and how films can be effectively used for social change. Students will also learn about documentary film techniques, style, process and ethics. Homework will mainly consist of watching documentaries and reading about them, as well as related social issues and causes: a film about garbage workers in Brazil or Sudanese refugees, for example, coupled with study about the underlying social issues and related activism efforts. Grading consists of weekly quizzes on the homework, in-class participation, two research/analysis papers, and a final project. The class is NOT a hands-on filmmaking class. Though students may have the option to make a short film for their final project, these skills are not required.

ENVS 195 Community Mapping Studio
14110 / 3 credits / David Hohenschau / R 4:35 – 7:35 pm
This is a hands-on, creative, community-based mapmaking course. Students will create maps of Burlington in partnership with a local community organization or with individual residents of the city. Students will be invited to develop map themes that suit their own disciplines and interests, whether this be cultural, ecological, historic, or anything else. Students will gain experience in designing and producing digital and paper maps; using digital mapping platforms, design software, and hand-drawing techniques; working with community partners to support community development and knowledge-building efforts; designing and conducting place-based interviews with local experts and residents; and, creating new maps that include both qualitative and quantitative information. Prerequisites: ENVS 001 or ENVS 002 or NR 001 or NR 002 or ENSC 001. Cross-listed with CDAE 195. Enrollment Limit 5

ENVS 195 Environmental Literature, Arts, and Media
CRN unknown / 3 credits / Tatiana Abatamarcro / TR 2:50-4:05 pm / ENVS Humanities Breadth Course
An introduction to the environmental humanities exploring the range of values and cultural expressions of the human-nature relationship. We will explore contemporary and historical works of literary, visual, musical, performative, and media arts to see the role the expressive humanities have played in shaping social-cultural attitudes toward nature and the human dilemma of depending on nature as source and sustenance. Through readings, discussion, class presentations, and written and creative work, students will gain exposure to artists and movements in the environmental arts and literature as well as ecocinema studies.
ENVS 195 Nonmaterial Values Ecosystems  
13723 / 3 credits / Rachelle Gould / MW 5:05 - 6:20 pm  
All major typologies of ecosystem services include non-material services that ecosystems provide to people. These “Cultural Ecosystem Services” are diverse; they include provision of opportunities for spiritual fulfillment, recreation, identity development, maintaining cultural heritage, and fostering psychological well-being. This course will take a deep dive into this relatively little-discussed, aspect of the increasingly popular ecosystem services concept. After a brief overview of the ecosystem services field, we will explore concepts of human well-being, with a focus on discerning their material and non-material aspects. We will then investigate how different disciplines consider and study the nonmaterial values of ecosystems. Drawing on examples from around the world, we will explore how different people benefit from ecosystems in non-material ways. Throughout this exploration we will practice discernment in being a consumer of interdisciplinary research. A recurrent theme will be how to “measure,” or characterize, these services. We will close by considering the ethical implications of this work: what are the impacts of including (or not including) Cultural Ecosystem Services in decision-making? How can we characterize these values in respectful and sensitive ways? This course will involve constant interaction with classmates and diverse assignments specifically designed for its content. Assignments will include a visit to the Fleming Museum, discussion groups based on podcasts, and developing an original method for measuring Cultural Ecosystem Services. Prerequisites: ENVS 001, sophomore standing. Enrollment limit: 40.

ENVS 195 Environmental Journalism  
13737 / 3 credits / Josh Brown / T 4:35 - 7:35 pm  
Covering the “environmental beat” requires that journalists have the ability to report on complex and interwoven subjects, from land use policy to laboratory discoveries; energy technologies to natural history; waste management to wilderness travel. This course will give students an introduction to finding and tackling these challenging stories. The emphasis of the class is on developing an informed and nuanced approach to reporting and writing environmental stories suitable for newspaper, magazine, radio, and multi-media formats. Through this course you’ll learn about current and emerging environmental topics—both locally and nationally—while you gain hands-on experience in the basics of journalism: deciding what to write about, gathering news, conducting research, investigating, and interviewing. No background in journalism is needed, but you should be a conscientious, inquisitive, determined writer with strong basic writing skills. For more info, email joshua.brown@uvm.edu. Prerequisites: junior standing or instructor permission. Enrollment limit: 26.

ENVS 195 Introduction to Ecopsychology  
13751 / 3 credits / Andy Fisher / Spring Break MTWRFSS 9:00am - 2:00pm / March 13 - 19  
This spring break course introduces students to the full sweep of what is currently meant by the term ecopsychology, covering the field’s psychological, philosophical, practical, and critical/political dimensions. By expanding the focus of psychology to include the relationship between humans and nature, ecopsychology aims not only to develop a truer picture of human psychology, but also to draw attention to the psychological dimensions of the ecological crisis. Students are expected to dedicate as much time as possible to the course in order to benefit from its intensive nature; to engage in personal explorations, sharing some of their experience with the rest of the class; and to participate in an all-day field trip to a nearby wilderness location, with appropriate winter gear. As this is an introductory course, no prior formal knowledge of psychology is necessary. Grades will be based on: 1. attendance and class participation, 2. reflection journal, 3. ecological autobiography, 4. final project (due 3 weeks after the final class). Prerequisite: Sophomore standing. Enrollment Limit: 30.

ENVS 195 Therapeutic Herbalism  
14647 / 3 Credits / Katherine Elmer / W 12:00 - 3:00 pm  
This course builds on ENVS 195 (Plant-Based Healing Medicine) in the study of holistic, preventative health, natural medicine, and using plants for medicine. Course primary objectives are to familiarize the students with an integrative, nature-based approach to health and healing with a focus on plant-based medicine; the relative safety-toxicity spectrum of botanicals; and the role of nutrition, botanicals, and lifestyle support in preventive care. Students will also be introduced to aspects of clinical practice in evidence-based botanical medicine. Other objectives: factors that affect dosage determination, current issues in herbalism, botanical medicine as an effective complement to conventional medicine, and an understanding of herb-drug interactions. Finally, this course aims to familiarize the students with specific pathologies and conditions, the phytotherapeutic approaches to treating them, including supportive lifestyle changes. Recommended: ENVS 195: Plant-based Healing Medicine and an anatomy and physiology class.

ENVS 195 SU: Environmental Entrepreneurship  
13779 / 3 Credits / Todd Comen / W 12:00 – 3:00 pm  
Entrepreneurial activity is a major source of innovation and job creation around the world. An environmental entrepreneur is someone who is driven not only by the possibility of making a profit, but is also driven by environmental and social concerns. Environmental entrepreneurs want to make the world a better place by engaging in practices that minimize the environmental impact of their activities or, ideally, practices that don’t result in degradation of the natural environment. Environmental Entrepreneurship is designed to meet individual student interests as well as to introduce broad management concepts that will help every student make informed entrepreneurial decisions. The course is organized around topics derived from student interests, including but not limited to tourism, the built environment, and food and agriculture. Students will learn how organizations strive to minimize their impact on the environment and make meaningful contributions to society. Students will study environmental entrepreneurship at a variety of organizational scales, conducting independent research and learning from case studies. The building blocks of environmental entrepreneurship will be introduced so that students without a business background will understand the key components of creating and operating a successful organization, with emphasis on the business planning process. Prerequisites: ENVS 001, 002 or NR 001, 002, or ENSC 001. Enrollment limit: 30.

ENVS 201 Research Methods  
10354 / 3 Credits / Kit Anderson / TR 1:15 - 2:30 pm  
This course covers the planning, design, and methods for the ENVS 202 senior capstone thesis or project. It is taught in seminar style and includes instruction and guidance for preparing the literature review and final proposal. Prerequisite: ENVS 151 or APW, minimum junior standing, ENVS major or RSENR Honors students. Enrollment Limit: 25.
ENVS 202 A, B, or C Senior Project and Thesis
10360 / 1-9 Credits / Brendan Fisher / T 4:25 – 5:15 pm
Weekly voluntary check-in help/support sessions for students working on their ENVS 202 Senior Project or Thesis. Prerequisite: ENVS major; minimum junior standing, ENVS 201 or concurrent registration.

ENVS 202 D Senior Capstone Internship
11387 / 1-9 Credits / Rick Paradis / W 3:30 - 4:20 pm
Weekly voluntary check-in help/support sessions for students working on their ENVS 202D Capstone Internship. This course is meant for students in any part of the capstone internship process from securing internships, to completing working hours, to writing a final paper. Prerequisite: ENVS major; minimum junior standing, ENVS 151 or APW.

ENVS 202 E Food, Land, Community Senior Capstone (Thesis or Internship)
14066 / 1-9 Credits / Ernesto Mendez / W 3:30 – 4:20
Weekly voluntary check-in help/support sessions for students working on their ENVS 202E Capstone Internship. For students with Food, Land, Community concentration working on a senior thesis or capstone internship with Ernesto Mendez. Prerequisite: ENVS major; minimum junior standing, ENVS 151 or APW. Enrollment Limit: 25.

ENVS 204 Forest, Community and Climate: Burning Issues
13724 / 3 Credits / Cecilia Danks and Laura Edling, PhD candidate / TR 2:50 – 4:05 pm
This seminar will take an interdisciplinary, international look at: 1) the complex role of forests as both sinks and sources of carbon, and 2) the climate-related livelihood and equity issues involving local communities that depend on forests, 3) and policies and projects to mitigate and adapt to climate change. We will start by reviewing the natural science literature of the varied roles of forests in climate change and the predicted impacts on forests and related human communities from climate change models. The course then delves into current, socio-ecological issues such as widespread wildfire in Indonesia, the Amazon and the American West in recent years, the controversy over carbon offsetting and REDD, and the pros and cons of wood-based energy. The course will also examine the outcomes of the 2015 UN Climate Change Conference in Paris to unpack the implications for forests and local communities. For the final project, students may pursue independent research on an approved topic. While all majors are welcome to take this course, it is especially good for ENSC (esp. the climate change track) FOR, and NR, and, of course, ENVS majors concentrating in Ecology and Conservation, Sustainability Studies, Environmental Policy and Development, and Nature, Culture, Justice. It can be used as an ENVS senior capstone course. Email me if you have any questions or need an override, contact me at edanks@uvm.edu. Prerequisites: ENVS 001 and ENVS 002; Junior, Senior, or Graduate standing. Cross-listed with ENSC 295 and NR 285. Enrollment limit: 25.

ENVS 284 Teaching Assistantship
10369 / 1-3 Credits / Katlyn Morris / TBA
Assist instructor in teaching and administration of ENVS 002 International Environmental Studies. Primary responsibilities will include leading at least one weekly discussion session of 15 students each; planning and preparation of instructional materials for discussion sessions; maintenance of student records; and assisting with student grading of course examinations. Teaching assistants are expected to attend all ENVS 002 lectures; lead one or two weekly discussion sessions (3 hrs. ea.); and attend a weekly morning team meeting. Prerequisite: ENVS 002 TA’s only, permission.

ENVS 291 Advanced Environmental Practicum/Internship
10352 / 1-18 Credits / Amy Seidl
Students engage in advanced level independent study or internships developed with a site supervisor and faculty sponsor. Course coordinator must approve proposals before the activity begins. Prerequisite: ENVS 151 or APW, instructor permission required (via application), senior standing only. Contact rory.shamlian@uvm.edu for more information.

ENVS 295/GEOG 272/GWS 296 Advanced Topics in Space, Power & Identity - Decolonization of Feminist Political Ecology
15344 / 3 credits / Ingrid Nelson / MW 5:05 – 6:20 pm
This advanced seminar on space, power and identity examines decolonial practices and theory. We begin with feminist writings from the “Andean” region, where much of decolonial theory has its roots and connects with eco-social and indigenous movements further afield in central and South America. How well do decolonial theories and practices travel from their roots in the Andes to other places? What challenges do the unique naturecultures encountered in the worlds beyond, pose for feminist decolonial perspectives? This course will examine these questions in three highly contested spaces: i) hostess bars in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, ii) mosques in Cairo, Egypt and iii) cancer treatment clinics in California, USA. These spaces are sites of intense contestations of power, identity and knowledge. Three ethnographies will help us carefully unpack common gendered figures, or tropes, of intense workers, pious Muslim women, and breast cancer survivors in ways that radically rethink ideas of modernity, agency, freedom, nature, gender and other concepts. These texts also ask what it means to do embodied, intersectional ethnography. One of the major silences in these three ethnographies concerns ecology and narratives about nature. Throughout the course we will work together to locate the more-than-human relations in these cases through an approach known as feminist political ecology. This course is writing-intensive and will provide students with skills for doing critical analysis and research. Students should be prepared for engaging, thoughtful and challenging discussions throughout the course. Prerequisites: GEOG 163 or ENVS 143, intro-level Human Geography course. Cross-listed with GEOG 272. Enrollment limit: 18.
ENVS 295 SL Adaptation to Climate Change
14648 / 3 credits / Amy Seidl / TR 1:15 - 2:30 pm
Carbon mitigation has been the dominant response to global warming in the 35 years since the term was first coined. But the blunt fact is this: global warming will continue throughout the next century regardless of our ability to reduce emissions, including immediate cessation. Therefore, adaptation will be the process by which organisms, including humans, will adjust and persist beyond the Age of Warming. In this service-learning course we will consider adaptation in both ecological and socio-ecological systems and apply concepts of selection, resilience, plasticity, and ecosystem health to climate adaptation. Students will work in teams and with a community partner to develop adaptation strategies unique to that partner’s interests and mission. To meet course objectives there will be weekly readings, quizzes, and group presentations. Prerequisites: ENVS 001 and ENVS 002; Junior standing. Enrollment Limit: 25.

ENVS 295 Women, Health and the Environment
13726 / 3 Credits / Bindu Pannikar / M W 3:30 – 4:45 pm
This course uses interdisciplinary approaches to study/analyze the connections between women’s health and environment and their role in shaping the environmental health sciences and social movements. Students will examine critical scholarship that includes feminist critiques of scientific epistemologies and practices as well as ecofeminist analysis of women’s health and environmental issues. Through the works of women scholars and activists we will examine the chemicals and hormone disrupters in our food, cosmetics, and our environment; the various ways they impact women’s health and the future generations; and the environmental health activism, and policy battles that they have lead for the benefit of humanity and the environment. This seminar will explore real-world problems, local and global. The class will be broken into groups that consist of natural and social science concentrators in order to problem solve from both perspectives. All assignments will be integrated group work. Prerequisites: ENVS 001 and ENVS 002, junior or senior standing. Enrollment limit: 25.

ENVS 295 B SU: Birding for Change: Sustainability Education
13783 / 4 Credits / Dr. Trish O’Kane / Service Learning Lab W 1:30 – 5:30 and Lecture M 2:00 – 5:00 pm
Be the change you want to see in the world! This is an environmental justice course that gets schoolchildren outside. It will require humility, patience, persistence, flexibility, long underwear (over half of the course is taught outside), and a sense of humor. This course and service learning program pairs UVM students as enviro-mentors and “bird buddies” with children at Flynn Elementary School. By participating in an after-school birding and nature study club for fourth and fifth graders, UVM students will lay the foundation for a university pipeline program; many of Flynn’s students will become first-generation college students. Our class will cooperate with staff at Flynn Elementary School on Burlington’s New North End to provide this programming. Flynn Elementary has the largest after-school program in the Burlington school district with students from 33 different countries. Surrounded by woods and beautiful parks and gardens, this elementary school is just a five-minute walk from Lake Champlain. Based on the theoretical framework of environmental justice—that the environment is where we live, work and play—our class will help Flynn students to connect to their immediate environment. No prior birding experience is necessary (experience working with children would be extremely helpful). Bird identification is a satisfying skill to acquire and birds are a beautiful portal to a better understanding and appreciation of the biophysical world. Students will learn how to identify Vermont’s most common birds by sight and sound, then they will teach that skill to their Flynn “bird buddies” or “co-explorers.” We will spend every Wednesday afternoon together exploring the neighborhood surrounding Flynn to learn what the parks, woods, lake, and all the wild creatures have to teach us, and what we all have to teach each other. Join our flock. Prerequisites: Junior or senior standing, instructor permission required. Enrollment limit: 25. To register please contact Trish O’Kane, pokane@uvm.edu

ENVS 295 Energy Law and Climate Change
14662 / 3 credits / Jody Prescott / R 6:00 – 9:00 pm
Reducing carbon emissions from energy generation is essential to slowing the increase in CO₂ in our atmosphere and hydrosphere, thereby mitigating the pace of anthropogenic climate change. Increased use of renewable energy sources is promoted as an obvious and significant part of any solution to decreasing CO₂ emissions—many see renewable energy sources as win-win for consumers and the environment. Nothing is without cost, however, and the increased use of renewable energy sources often causes very significant controversies and social conflicts. Energy law and regulations are enormously important parts of this context, and the impacts of their complexity often trouble communities, consumers, energy developers and producers, and environmental activists. In addition to classroom work reviewing important energy laws, regulations and cases with a focus on renewable energy, this course will partner with Vermont Law School’s Institute for Energy and the Environment (IEE) to provide each student a service/experiential learning opportunity in the areas of community engagement or research involving renewable energy. Prerequisites: ENVS 001 and ENVS 002, or POLS 021, junior or senior standing. Enrollment limit: 25.