

MES Winter Quarter 2010

First-year core: Ecological & Social Sustainability- Rob Knapp, Ralph Murphy, Gerardo Chin-Leon (Tuesdays and Thursdays 6-10 pm) CRN: 20232

Focus: This Program addresses key issues of contemporary environmental problems, including sustainability studies on theoretical and practical levels, natural resource management and stewardship, climate change and the oceans, energy regimes and policy, and practical strategies for achieving positive social and environmental change. A variety of specific skills are emphasized in this program, including systems theory, selected quantitative methods for environmental problem solving, environmental economics, public policy and land use planning. As part of this program, students complete and present a research paper that demonstrates evidence of the ability to complete graduate level scholarship.

Thesis-Essay Workshop – Martha Henderson (Tuesdays 6-10 pm) CRN: 20275

Focus: The workshop is intended to help you prepare a high-quality thesis and to increase the likelihood of completion by the end of the spring quarter. It is a means by which students work together in informal groups to review each others' drafts, share insights about research and writing, critique each others' public presentation rehearsals, and otherwise motivate, energize, console, applaud and encourage each other during this sustained project. The workshop also provides a chance to meet weekly with the workshop faculty member for guidance.

Electives:

Conserving and Restoring Biodiversity- Tim Quinn (Mondays 6-10 pm) CRN: 20246

Contact: timothy.quinn@dfw.wa.gov

Focus: This course focuses on the biology that underlies conservation and restoration issues around the world. There are many ways to approach the study of conservation and restoration biology and I will mostly emphasize the scientific elements of these disciplines. I also will provide you with a practitioner's perspective of the relationship of biology and policy from work done in Washington State. This course will introduce you to the literature, controversies, and promising methodologies for a variety of conservation/restoration biology applications. In addition, I will invite a number of local experts to come and provide perspectives on their work in applied fields of conservation. We will read, discuss, and write on a variety of topics. Your assignments include written and oral exercises, and peer evaluations aimed at helping you develop your ideas and increase your ability to communicate those ideas. I want to introduce you to the principal concepts and methodologies of conservation and restoration biology, enrich your understanding of the scientific contributions necessary for solving conservation problems, foster your understanding of the scientific process in general and as applied in conservation settings, and further your powers of analysis and ability to communicate effectively

Ecovention: Urban Horticulture & Ecological Restoration – Frederica Bowcutt (Wednesdays 6-10 pm) CRN: 20233 Contact: bowcuttf@evergreen.edu

Focus: This program introduces students to environmental challenges that face the region that may be interesting enough to them to pursue as a research subject to seek creative solutions. My intention is to help students question the common dualistic thinking that our only choices are to exploit land to meet our material needs and preserve a small percentage in parks to maintain biodiversity and ecosystem health. We will explore how that thinking not only limits our choices unnecessarily. It is false. Ultimately exploitative extractive is not sustainable and parks aren't entirely protected from the negative environmental consequences of land uses outside parks. The sudden oak death epidemic is a classic example of the latter, where some of the hardest hit places in California are state parks. We need to figure out how to use nature to meet our material needs while enhancing ecosystem health.

Global & Regional Climate Change - Kurt Unger (Wednesdays 6-10 PM) CRN 20261

Contact: kung461@ecy.wa.gov

Focus: the science and policy of global and regional climate change. This elective will address questions such as these: How does current climate change differ from past changes? How do climate change models work? What are some of the key effects of climate change? How are policy makers addressing climate change, what should they be doing and what can individuals do? We will also discuss the roles of technology and the media, as well as a variety of economic, legal, political and social perspectives.