DETAILED COURSE DESCRIPTION

COURSE:  EWP 291 WRITING, HUMANITIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT
         3 Credit Hours, Spring Semester

SCOPE:

1. Level of Instruction:
   EWP 291 is the Honors section of a required writing/humanities course for
   sophomores.

2. Content:
   Major concepts or methodologies:
   This course will use nature writing and environmental issues as the topic of
   inquiry. Nature writing should be a component, but the students should also be
   exposed to issues in their fields. This will allow them opportunities to read, think,
   and write critically. A primary focus of the course should be on rhetorical
   analysis as it applies to communication situations. In terms of writing the
   students should consider areas such as audience analysis, discourse communities,
   collaborative writing, and writing as a process. The course will examine the
   views of nature and the environment as seen by selected writers, poets, and
   essayists. The course will require frequent informal writing assignments, an oral
   presentation, and at least three formal writing assignments--one of which will
   require research and documentation. The focus is on the students' texts in relation
   to environmental concerns and views of nature writers, with the course preparing
   the students as writers in their disciplines and reinforcing them with critical skills.

3. Relation to Curriculum:
   This course is required for sophomore honor students who have taken an
   introductory writing course. The course will provide students with writing and
   reading experiences designed to be relevant to their ESF college experience.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

After completing this course, the student should be able to:

1. Identify audiences for writing assignments and construct documents accordingly
   in terms of style, diction, tone;

2. Apply rhetorical and contextual analysis;

3. Write more effectively in terms of academic writing skills;

4. Discuss various divergent views of nature as expressed by a variety of authors
   and genres;
5. Engage environmental issues through readings by nature writers, environmentalists, and creative writers from a variety of cultures and historical periods;

6. Critique their own writing and the writing of others in terms of style, organization, development, format, and rhetorical considerations;

7. Write a research paper and use appropriate documentation;

8. Recognize, apply, and critique the conventions of their discourse community (the appropriate standards established by the disciplines they are entering);

9. Identify and discuss some of the views held by nature writers, environmentalists, and creative writers.

10. Engage in critical thinking, which includes writing critically and reading critically.

METHODS AND MATERIALS:
Paperback books, reserve readings, and possibly a reader will comprise the bulk of the course materials. The methodology will be lecture/discussion, small group discussions based on the readings, and written assignments. There will also be opportunities for conferencing and peer group review. Students will be asked to do their written work on a word processor and Blackboard. Students will also be asked to work with a tutor on various assignments in the Writing Center.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:
**EWP 291 Writing, Humanities, and the Environment (Honors)**
Three hours of discussion and lecture per week. Focusing on food politics, this course builds on critical reading and writing skills developed in CLL190. Students complete a 20-hour service project with a community food organization, while researching and writing about food politics and their community service experience. Spring.
Prerequisite(s): **EWP 190** or equivalent.

**COURSE HISTORY**: The course was offered in the Spring of 2008, Spring of 2009 and Spring 2010 at the request of the Director of the Honors Program.