Date: March 13, 2013
Course Number: EST 404
Course Title: Using Past Experience to Inform Future Management: Synthesizing the Adirondack Park

X New Course OR

☐ Changes in existing course (check all that apply):

☐ Prefix
☐ Number
☐ Credits
☐ Title
☐ Description
☐ Pre-requisite(s)
☐ Co-requisite(s)
☐ Shared Resources
☐ Course Format
☐ Content
☐ Semester Offered

For new courses only, indicate if you would like approval as a course meeting the General Education standards in the following knowledge and skills area (check all that apply):

☐ American History
☐ The Arts
☐ Basic Communication
☐ Humanities
☐ Mathematics
☐ Natural Sciences
☐ Other World Civilizations
☐ Social Sciences
☐ Western Civilization

If changing an existing course, describe the change(s): NA

List any pre- or co-requisites here: The 4 additional “Sustaining the Adirondack Park” courses are mandatory co-requisites. These additional courses are EFB 411, EST 401, EST 402, and EST 403

Institutional Impact:

Anticipated Enrollment: 8-12 per semester
Technology and Classroom Resource Demands: Weekly meeting space(s) at Newcomb Campus
Computing Resources: Internet access for research and communication
Library Resources: Managed via the Newcomb Campus
Transportation Requirements: N/A
Forest Properties or Field Practicum Facilities N/A

Proposer Contact Information:

Name: Paul B. Hai
Department: AEC (EFB)
Email: pbhai@esf.edu
Phone: 518.582.4551 xtn 104

Chair/Coordinator Signature:
Health and Safety Considerations:

Conditions or situations present in association with the course?

Yes / No

1. Will substances with any of the following properties be used during instruction: flammability, toxicity, corrosivity, reactivity, registered pesticide, legally controlled, or other characteristics with the potential to cause harm or injury? X

2. Will any physical hazards be present during instruction? (e.g., machines that need safety guards; razor blades or syringes; compressed gases, etc.). X

3. Will any biological hazards be present during instruction? (e.g., handling animals (rabies or hantavirus); cultures or stocks of infectious agents (fungal spores, viruses, bacteria, etc.). X

4. Will any radiation hazards be present during instruction? (e.g., radioisotopes, X-rays, ultraviolet rays, lasers, etc.). X

5. Will any electrical equipment that, due to its design, location, or method of use, pose any threat to safety during instruction? (Give considerable thought to electrical use outdoors, or any potentially wet location.). X

6. Will there be any personal safety issues related to the class? (e.g., due to time of day or location, at the end of any organized class exercise, will students be in danger of physical assault, etc.). X

7. Will any students be driving official state or research sponsored land or water vehicles during any class or instructional exercise? X

8. Will any type of personal protective equipment be necessary during class exercises? (e.g., hard-hats, eye/face protection, hearing protection, hand/foot protection, lab coat, visibility clothing, etc.) X

If the answer was “Yes” to any of the HEALTH AND SAFETY questions, please explain:

A detailed course description must accompany the Course Proposal Form
DTAILED COURSE DESCRIPTION

COURSE: EST 404 Using Past Experience to Inform Future Management: Synthesizing the Adirondack Park
3 Credit Hours – Fall Semester
3 Hours lecture/meeting per week
Prerequisite(s): none
Co-requisites: EFB 411, EST 401, EST 402, EST 403

SCOPE:
1. Level of Instruction:
   a. EST 404 is an elective course intended to fulfill upper division elective requirements
2. Relation to curriculum or to other ESF or Syracuse University courses:
   a. EST 404 is an elective course offered at ESF’s Newcomb Campus as part of the
      residential semester “Sustaining the Adirondack Park.” This course is open to all
      disciplines at ESF and SU as well as students from other colleges and universities
   b. Shared resource requirements: none

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

At the conclusion of this course students will be able to:
1. Describe and discuss historical and contemporary issues relating to the management of natural and
   human communities in the Adirondack Park
2. Write a clearly articulated management plan balancing the competing needs of natural and human
   communities for the Essex Chain Lake area, 69,000 acres of former paper-company lands, centered
   around the town of Newcomb, NY.
3. Discuss positions, opinions and synthesis supported by referenced research, writings, and direct
   experience with stakeholders
4. Demonstrate writing and critical thinking proficiency

MAJOR CONCEPTS OR METHODOLOGIES:

The Adirondack Park is a spider web of competing goals, perspectives, issues, and concerns regarding
almost every aspect of managing the Park’s natural and human communities. Navigating these competing
interests to form sound, effective and just public policy and regulation is a fascinating and challenging
process.

This course is the capstone experience for “Sustaining the Adirondack Park” a suite of five courses forming
a residential semester at ESF’s Newcomb Campus. Drawing on biological and social sciences, the
humanities, and a wide range of first-person experiences and conversations gleaned throughout the
semester students will collaboratively research and write a comprehensive management plan for the State’s
Essex Chain Lake purchase, 69,000 acres of land in the Adirondack towns of Newcomb, North Hudson and
Minerva. Each student will also independently research and write a position paper, exploring in greater
detail an issue of import relating to the plan.

The management plan will address how to balance competing needs and make specific recommendations
for recreational, preservation, conservation and development of these lands, and include an assessment of
the anticipated impacts the plan will have on neighboring communities from an economic perspective. The
plans will be submitted in written form, with findings and conclusions presented to a selected group of
regional stakeholders. Feedback from presentations to stakeholders will be incorporated before a final
presentation to the general public, to be held on main campus at the conclusion of the semester.

Student demonstration of learning will be assessed through:
1. Weekly progress meetings and written briefs (notes, outlines, drafts, etc.)
2. Capstone research paper (management plan)
3. In-class presentation and incorporation of feedback
4. Capstone presentation #1; “Stakeholder Meeting” private presentation to invited regional stakeholders
5. Capstone presentation #2; “Adirondack Forum” public presentation to campus community

CATALOG DESCRIPTION (Please provide using the precise format to be included in the ESF catalog, please do not exceed 1000 characters)

EST 404. Using Past Experience to Inform Future Management: Synthesizing the Adirondack Park (3)

Three hours of lecture/seminar/discussion per week. Synthesis of experiences, content and insights gained during the “Sustaining the Adirondack Park” residential semester, including Capstone research and production of an independent position paper and collaborative comprehensive management plan. Requires concurrent registration with other Sustaining the Park courses. Fall, Newcomb Campus.

Prerequisite(s): none

Co-requisites: EFB 411, EST 401, EST 402, EST 403

COURSE HISTORY:

This course has never been taught at ESF. Last approved: never.