

SUNY-ESF Service-Learning Courses 2008-2009

Class #: LSA 326

Class Title: Design Studio I

Semester: Fall 2008

Instructor: Cheryl Doble, Kathy Stribley, Margaret Bryant, and Dan Reeder

CCDR: Maren King

Students: 47 students

Description: The City of Little Falls submitted a Design Assistance Request to the CCDR for conceptual design studies for Moss Island. Located in the Mohawk River/Barge Canal and adjacent to an active lock, the city is interested in having this unique feature designated as a state park with the goal of attracting more visitors to its waterfront. The students in this class facilitated a panel discussion with representatives of stakeholder groups to better understand from their perspectives the existing conditions, and the community values, desires and goals for this site. They toured the site with community members and explored the surrounding waterfront context area. Based on the findings of the meeting and site inventory and analysis, the students prepared alternative approaches that were presented for review and discussion at a second meeting as ESF attended by 8 to 10 community representatives. Each student then prepared detailed site design studies that were presented and discussed at a final meeting in the city. One of the students in the class is continuing to work with the CCDR to prepare a final summary document for the city.

Class #: LSA 601

Class Title: Design Studio II

Semester: Fall 2008

Instructor: Tony Miller

CCDR: Maren King

Students: 12 students

Description: The Village of Sackets Harbor requested design assistance in developing ideas for the redesign of their Market Square Park. Located at the edge of their compact business district, Market Square Park is the heart of this historic waterfront community but there are many uses and events competing for time and space. The students worked with 15 to 20 community members through a series of three workshops to reveal and explore existing and desired uses, historic narratives, community values, and existing conditions. Through this participatory process, the students developed analysis documentation and design studies for review and discussion by community members. The students worked in teams to develop master plan strategies documented in model form for the entire downtown waterfront, and then individually on site design studies for Market Square Park or the main street corridor. The community representative used the student models and drawings to solicit additional comments and ideas from an additional 100 residents and business owners at a number of community events. A CCDR graduate assistant is documenting this process and project findings to help guide community decisions about improvements to the park and waterfront.

Class #: FOR 476/676

Class Title: Ecotourism and Nature Tourism

Semester: Fall 2008

Instructor: Diane M. Kuehn

Students: 23 students

Description: The class was involved with a feasibility study for a proposed greenway called the Onondaga Escarpment Nature Corridor. The corridor encompasses natural areas along the Onondaga Escarpment in

Central New York from the Split Rock Unique Area west of Syracuse to Green Lakes State Park in Fayetteville, and is home to many rare and endangered species such as the American Hart's Tongue Fern. The class's efforts will result in a corridor-wide report that will be available in draft form in February 2009. This report will be used by some communities to designate some of the natural areas within the corridor as Critical Environmental Areas.

Class #: EFB 518

Class Title: Systems Ecology

Semester: Fall 2008

Instructor: Charles Hall, Myrna Hall

Students: 18 graduate students

Description: A full-time two week course taught at the National University of Rio Cuarto in Argentina, lecturing each 4+ hours per day. Their focus was "Preparing Cordoba Province for a lower energy future".

Class #: EFB 416/616

Class Title: Introduction to Environmental Interpretation

Semester: Fall 2008

Instructor: Andy Saunders

Students: 32 students

Description: Students completed projects at: Rosamond Gifford Zoo (EdZoocation & Zoo to you); Sleeth Park (North Syracuse); ESF (EFB Heiberg, &Greenhouses); Green Lakes State Park; Muscoot Farms (Kantonah, NY); Chittenango Park (Dog Days, Snail pamphlet & Interpretive Walks); Great Swamp Conservancy; High School Classrooms (CNY & Downstate), Battle of Plattsburg Association, Jamestown Audubon Society

Class #: WPE 331

Class Title: Construction Safety

Semester: Fall 2008

Instructor: Kenneth J. Tiss

Students: 33 students

Description: This involved drawing up a tool box talk and delivering the tool box talk at the SU/ESF Habitat for Humanity project that is ongoing this semester

Class #: WPE 303

Class Title: Construction Management and Wood Products Engineering Internship

Semester: Fall 2008

Instructor: Ken Tiss

Students: 2 students

Description: Two student interns acted as project managers for the WPE 331 course.

Class #: LSA 422

Class Title: Design Studio III

Semester: Fall 2008

Instructor: Timothy R. Toland

Students: 29 students

Description: Manlius Pebble Hill School Courtyard: The school is planning two future building expansions,

ultimately creating an interior, closed courtyard. The school requested ideas for the creation of a courtyard that met their educational needs and goals as well as incorporating sustainability initiatives. Students looked at solar shading, rainwater harvesting, rain gardens, composting, and several other initiatives. Total project time was 4 weeks.

Class #: LSA 433

Class Title: Planting Design and Practice

Semester: Fall 2008

Instructor: Timothy R. Toland

Students: 25 students

Description: West Genesee High School Memorial Gardens: The new superintendent of West Genesee High School requested ideas on how to memorialize past athletes, coaches, teachers and other prominent alumni, faculty, staff and students. Students suggested several ideas for plantings and landscape elements at the high school. Jefferson Clinton Commons: A new infill project in Armory Square requested ideas for the creation of roof gardens and native foundation plantings. Students created several alternatives for each. Each project took two weeks to complete.

Class #: FOR 202

Class Title: Intro to Sociology

Semester: Fall 2008, Spring 2009

Instructor: Doug Morrison

Students: 35 students (fall), 32 students (spring)

Description: Students completed at least 20 hours of community service with local agencies of their choice. Each student composed a term paper where they reflected on how their community service experiences were related to the sociological theories learned in class.

Class #: EFB Interns

Semester: Fall 2008

Instructor: Bill Shields

Students: 7 students

Description: Service projects were completed at Burnett Zoo and Cindy Paige's animal rehabilitation center.

Class #: FCH 152

Class Title: General Chemistry

Semester: Spring 2009

Instructor: Kelley Donaghy, three graduate teaching assistants, five undergraduate teaching assistants, and 10 workshop leaders

Students: 75 students

Description: Students were expected to participate in 20 hours of community service that reflected the course objectives, that is to say, they needed to participate in events and service activities that were grounded in chemistry. Examples of such activities include hands-on-chemistry shows, stream chemistry, mentoring middle school children and judging science fairs.

Class #: CLL 290

Class Title: Honors Writing, Food and the Environment

Semester: Spring 2009

Instructor: Dawnelle Jager

Students: 9 students

Description: Students in this course served food to at-risk students at the North Area Athletic and Education Center made possible by a grant awarded to SUNY-ESF by the Campus Kitchens Project. They worked with community service and service-learning coordinator Liz Mix to plan visits to the center, prepared and served young children healthy meals once per month. These students also did a campus clean-up of trash wastes from food.

Class #: EFB 521

Class Title: Principals of Interpretive Programming

Semester: Spring 2009

Instructor: Andy Saunders

Students: 31 students

Description: Students organized programming at the Jewish Community Center, Rosamond Gifford Zoo, Ed Smith Elementary School, and the EFB Greenhouse Guest Tours (prospective students, Open House, etc.).

Class #: EFB/FOR 523

Class Title: Tropical Ecology

Semester: Spring 2009

Instructors: Don Stewart, Allan Drew

Students: 16 students

Description: Our course entails students doing a course project that accounts for 50 percent of their final grade. At the end of the course, we copy all the student projects and send bound copies to 1) The Division of Forestry, Wildlife and Parks in Dominica, 2) The Archbold Tropical Research and Education Center, Springfield, Dominica, and 3) The Archbold Consortium located at Clemson University which owns and runs the field station. The information in the reports is used by people associated with each of these three groups. Of course, there is direct use of the information in the reports by the forestry staff and people of Dominica, the host country for our course and location of project work.

Class #: CLL 410

Class Title: Writing and Learning in the Community

Semester: Spring 2009

Instructor: Benette Whitmore

Students: 18 students

Description: Students completed service projects at a number of area non-profits-- e.g., Baltimore Woods, Boy Scouts of America, Westcott Community Center, the New Environment Institute, Syracuse City Schools, and Beaver Lake Nature Center. They each committed a minimum of 20 hours per semester and worked on complex writing/visual projects to be used by their sites (e.g., websites, videos, slide shows, volunteer training manuals, materials for fund raisers, books of lesson plans, newsletters).

Class #: EFB 446/646

Class Title: Ecology of Mosses

Semester: Spring 2009

Instructor: Robin Kimmerer, Graduate Assistant

Students: 24 students

Description: The students in Ecology of Mosses created educational materials and presentations for circulation in the local community which educates community members about the biodiversity and ecological importance of mosses in the region. The materials included : 1)an informational booklet and identification guide to the mosses of the University neighborhood 2) a trail guide to the mosses at Morningside Park for use by a local school 3) a radio program on the ecology of mosses and 4) an earth Day educational event on the mosses of Oakwood Cemetery.

Class #: FOR 480/680

Class Title: Urban Forestry

Semester: Spring 2009

Instructor: Doug Morrison

Students: 23 students (480), 5 students (680)

Description: Students in this course prepared all components of an application to the National Arbor Day Foundation to qualify as a Tree Campus USA. Some aspects of the application process involved measuring all of the trees on ESF's campus, as well as completing a tree care service project in the community. This project was completed at Birmingham Park, where 7 new trees were planted, and many others were cared for.

Class #: LSA 470/670

Class Title: Studio in Landscape and Urban Ecology

Semester: Spring 2009

Instructor: Emanuel Carter, one teaching assistant

Students: 10 students, 3 students

Description: Our primary client was the combined Town and Village of Ft. Edward, NY. We did a study for the future of a 150 acre site along the Champlain Canal that will be used to clean up PCBs from the Hudson River for the next six years. The study also included much of the Village and the Hudson River corridor at Ft. Edward. We provided three approaches, each a variation on a couple of dominant design themes (food processing and cargo exchange between Montreal and New York City) and each related to the European Union concept of a "Freight Village" which cuts the carbon footprint of commerce by emphasizing connections between rail and ship/barge and reducing trucking. Other participants active in the project, to which the students were exposed, were the US Environmental Protection Agency, the NYS Department of Agriculture, the NYS Department of Transportation and the Canadian Pacific Railroad. In the same studio we also did a short project for the Alchemical Nursery Group on the Near Westside of Syracuse. We made presentations on the Near Westside, in Marshall Hall and in Ft. Edward, NY.

Class #: EFB 486

Class Title: Ichthyology

Semester: Spring 2009

Instructor: Don Stewart, 2 teaching assistants

Students: 72 students

Description: Students in this course sampled the Nine-Mile Creek Basin which flows into Onondaga Lake.

The data on fish distributions will be made available to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

Class #: EST 390 *

Class Title: Social Processes and the Environment

Semester: Spring 2009

Instructor: Jack Manno, 2 graduate assistants

Students: 24 students

Description: Students in this course were to spend up to 5 hours per week with a community organization, and then relate their experiences to the material learned in class. Some placement sites included NYPIRG, American Red Cross, VA Medical Center, and the Syracuse Center of Excellence.

Class #: ENS 796/EST 496

Class Title: Environmental Energy Audit

Semester: Spring 2009

Instructor: Rick Smardon

Students: 14 students

Description: The energy auditing class assisted the Rosamond Gifford Zoo in their efforts to achieve energy certification of the entire zoo. Their compliance with the energy and atmosphere pre-requisites towards LEED accreditation was analyzed by the class. This was accomplished using the ASHRAE Level 1, Walk through analysis, as defined in the "Procedures for commercial Building Energy Audits" (RP-669, SP-56). The walk through analysis required square footage of the building, copies of utility bills, completed energy performance summaries, derived target energy, demand and cost and comparison to other buildings with the lowest energy index, and the energy and cost savings for each fuel type. It was found that subsequent assessments and improvements are required of the zoo in order to meet the standards for LEED accreditation.

Class #: LSA 327

Class Title: Landscape Architectural Design Studio II

Semester: Spring 2009

Instructor: Kathy Stribley

Students: 44 students

Description: Students in this course designed alternative site designs for the Radisson Community Association at Radisson Riverfront Park, including green infrastructure storm water management, wetland preservation and mitigation concepts. The site designs required designing an access road and boat trailer parking as well as car-top boat parking, riverfront, upland and wetland trails and nodes, and a community/nature center and restroom building. Their plans also included planting designs and landscape management. The designs were presented to the Executive Director of the Radisson Community Association as well as to the board member who requested the student ideas.

Class #: LSA 498/698

Class Title: Independent Study

Semester: Spring 2009

Instructor: Cheryl Doble

CCDR: Maren King

Students: 6 students

Description: The Center for Community Design Research was approached by the Village of East Syracuse to assist them in preparing a vision plan for the revitalization of their Main Street. The students in this independent study studio organized and facilitated a planning process that engaged residents and business owners in establishing a vision and direction for the future that builds on their strengths and resources and addresses the challenges they are facing. They facilitated a series of workshops, conducted inventory and analysis, and prepared a series of design studies to illustrate the community vision.

Class #: FEG 340

Class Title: Engineering Hydrology and Hydraulics

Semester: Spring 2009

Instructor: Theodore Endreny

Students: 30 students

Description: Students design a bio-retention basin to sustainably process storm water at a local community site. They visited the site, documented it with photos and measurement, and completed their design to reduce ecological impacts of traditional storm water conveyance on water quality and quantity.

Class #: ERE 596

Class Title: Ecological Engineering for Waste Management

Semester: Spring 2009

Instructor: Wendong Tao

Students: 11 students

Description: The ERE 596-02 Ecological Engineering for Waste Management class visited Evans Farmhouse Creamery at Norwich, NY and class discussed a strategy to build a wetland treatment system to treat its dairy wastewater with the farm owner. Wastewater and runoff samples were taken during the farm visit and analyzed in lab. This is an organic dairy farm, committed to environmental sustainability. The class also visited SUNY Morrisville Dairy Complex, collected liquid manure samples, and discussed opportunities for future collaboration to treat its anaerobically digested liquid manure.

Class #: LSA 800

Class Title: Capstone Studio

Student: Amanda Cesari

Project Title: “Toward a Process for Planning and Redevelopment of a Brownfield Site in Sackets Harbor”

Major Professor: Scott Shannon

Student: Jessi Lyons

Project Title: “Expanding West Newell Street and Syracuse Community Gardens”

Advisor: Matt Potteiger

Student: Shirah Cahill

Project Title: “People and Protected Areas”

Advisor: Cheryl Doble

