ESF Course Proposal
Committee on Curriculum - ESF Faculty Governance
Office of Instruction & Graduate Studies

This course proposal form should be completed when introducing a new course or a revision of an existing course. The proposal will be reviewed by the Committee on Curriculum, or, in the case of minor revisions, will be approved administratively by the Associate Provost for Instruction.

This Course Proposal must be completed according to the guidelines provided in Course Proposal Form – Instructions and Guidance. Please see the last page of Course Proposal Form – Instructions and Guidance, for instructions on how this Course Proposal should be submitted to the Committee on Curriculum for review.

Date: November XX, 2020

1. Course Information:

1.1  Course Prefix and Number: EST 615
    Course Title: Environmental Justice: Policy, Tools, and Society
    (If a new or renumbered course, please check with the Registrar regarding the use or reuse of the course number)

1.2  This is a New Course.
    OR
   ☐ This is a Major Course Revision
    OR
    X This is a Minor Course Revision

    If this is a Course Revision, please see Course Proposal Form – Instructions and Guidance to determine if your revision is major or minor. Indicate below the reason(s) for the revision.

    (Please check all that apply)

    ☐ Course Number/Division  X Learning Outcomes  ☐ Institutional Resources
    X Title  ☐ Concepts, Content  ☐ Semester Offered
    ☐ Credit hours  ☐ Catalog Description  ☐ Course Inactivation
    ☐ Pre- or Co-requisite(s)  ☐ Instructional Methods  ☐ Course Reactivation
    X Format  ☐ General Education

1.3  General Education knowledge and skills area (if applicable): If none, check here ☐

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

2.1 Describe why this course (or course revision) is needed to meet current or proposed goals and outcomes of the program or College, and, if a revision, provide an explanation of and justification for the revision. This course will serve as an elective for both the Department of Environmental Studies graduate course offerings and serve as one of three courses to be featured in a newly created graduate certificate program centered on Environmental Justice & Inequality and online MPS degree. The in-person version of EST 615 is not being permanently discontinued; future decisions regarding in-person option will be based on enrollment demands.

2.2 List the pre-requisite or co-requisite courses (taught within the home department or taught by another department) and explain their relationship to the proposed course.

None

2.3 Explain the impact of this course in meeting the goals and outcomes of other Departments/programs (if any). This course will be a requisite course in the newly formed Environmental Justice & Inequality graduate certificate program along with being an elective for those enrolled in graduate programs across ESF and SU. A non-online version of EST 615 which will continue to be taught based on enrollment demands, has drawn wide enrollments external to the ES Department; similar attention is expected for the online version.

2.4 If the proposed course is designed to fulfill SUNY General Education Requirements, the Associate Provost for Instruction must review this proposal to ensure that General Education Requirements will be met for the specified knowledge area (See Instructions and Guidance). Please provide an explanation of how this course fulfills SUNY General Education Requirements.

2.5 What are the staffing requirements (instructor, TA, Lab tech, etc.) for this course? If a new course, are there new staffing needs or are there adequate staff members already in place? If a revised course, are there additional staffing needs? Course will be taught by existing faculty.

2.6 What Department (or extra-Department) resources are or will be made available to support the course or course revision? ESF Open Academy; ES Departmental-based technology used to support online teaching.

2.7 Anticipated Enrollment (enter where applicable)

15-20 per semester

2.8 Anticipated frequency of class meetings. asynchronous instruction
2. DETAILED COURSE DESCRIPTION

3.1 COURSE IDENTIFICATION AND FORMAT:

3.1.1 Course Prefix and Number: EST 615
3.1.2 Course Name: Environmental Justice: Policy, Tools, and Society
3.1.3 Credit Hours: 3
3.1.4 Semester (check all that apply): Fall ☒ Spring ☐ Summer ☐
3.1.5 Format (check as appropriate): Lecture ☐ Online ☒ Lab ☐ Field ☐ Other ☐ (explain)
3.1.6 Contact hours per week: 3
3.1.7 Prerequisite(s) – if none, please enter “None” (Be specific, as Upper Division courses and Graduate courses will likely have some pre-requisite knowledge)

3.2 SCOPE:
3.2.1 Level of Instruction (check one, or two if a shared resource course):
   - Lower Division ☐
   - Upper Division ☐
   - Beginning Graduate ☐
   - Advanced Graduate ☒

3.2.2 Relation to curriculum or to other ESF or Syracuse University courses:
   a. Is this a required course? No ☐ Yes ☒
      If Yes, please list the program(s) for which it is a requirement:
      • Online Graduate Certificate in Environmental Justice & Inequality
      • Online MPS in Environmental Leadership, Justice, and Communication
   b. Is this an elective course within your department? No ☐ Yes ☒
   c. Is enrollment in this course restricted? No ☐ Yes ☒
      If Yes, please explain: Enrollment is limited to a maximum of 25 students
   d. Are other ESF or SU courses similar or identical to this course? No ☒ Yes ☐
      If Yes, please identify the courses: EST 615
   e. Is this course a shared resource offering (i.e. is there a graduate or undergraduate concurrent offering)? No ☐ Yes ☒
      If Yes, what is the course number of the concurrent offering?

3.3 STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:
Students who successfully complete EST 615 will be able to:
1) Explain the role of law & policy in addressing environmental justice (EJ) issues
2) Develop a framework for actualizing EJ in professional and research contexts
3) Articulate strategies and tools used to advance EJ and apply these tools to remediating problems associated with toxics exposure and environmental inequality
4) Apply an EJ framework in evaluating sustainability and environmental issues
5) Effectively communicate the links between political economy and environmental
3.4 **MAJOR CONCEPTS, PROCESSES or TOOLS:**

Environmental racism, GIS, climate justice, precautionary principle, polluter pays, sustainability planning, health disparities, social indicators of health, food justice, Black radical feminism

3.5 **INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:**

Modules featuring readings (academic, law & policy) and response assignments/papers, web-based lectures, videos, case studies, GIS-based assignments, SWOT analysis assignment, Systems Analysis Project, development of an EJ-based sustainability plan.

3.6 **CATALOG DESCRIPTION**

**EST 615 Environmental Justice: Policy, Tools, and Society (3)**

Online. This course provides legal, policy and management tools to understand and advance environmental justice. The approach is interdisciplinary and includes analytical tools used in geography, environmental and public health, policy and law, and critical race theory. The course will expose students to the unique environmental vulnerabilities that marginalized communities are at heightened exposure to, including toxics siting, public health disparities and food access, while featuring pathways towards building sustainable and just societies. Fall.

3.7 **COURSE HISTORY:**

Provide the dates of prior approval of this course, and its revision history. N/A

3.7.1 **Relationship to current ESF courses**

This course is replacing a current ESF course ☐ YES ☒ NO

If NO, then proceed to section 4 below.

If YES, then provide below the number and name of the course to be deactivated and removed from the catalog once this course proposal has been approved:

Course Number
Course Name

If the course to be replaced is used by departments other than the department sponsoring this proposal, please indicate below which departments are affected and the date they were notified about the course replacement.

Department: Date of Notification:
Department: Date of Notification:
Department: Date of Notification:
3. Institutional Impacts:

This section pertains to forecasting institutional resource needs to support the course or course revision. Provide clear statements regarding the needs and current availability (or absence) of resources. Note that, if this is a course revision, only the impacts of the revision should be included.

Staffing needs: *Existing staffing will be used in teaching this course*

Classroom resources (e.g. physical facilities in a laboratory, lecture hall, flexible space, academic computing): *N/A*

Technology Resources: ESF Computer and Network Services, Blackboard or learning management tool, online GIS applications.

Computing Resources (software licensing, hardware, access): ESF Computer and Network Services, Blackboard

Library Resources (subscriptions, services): N/A

Transportation Requirements (budget, fees, fleet vehicles): N/A

Forest Properties or Field Practicum Facilities: N/A
4. Health and Safety Considerations:

Will any of the conditions or situations outlined below be present in association with the course? Yes / No

5.1. 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? ☐ / ☒

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

5.3. 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.). ☐ / ☒

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

5.5. 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.). ☐ / ☒

5.6. 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.). ☐ / ☒

5.7. Will any students be driving official state or research sponsored land or water vehicles during any class or instructional exercise? ☐ / ☒

5.8. 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.) ☐ / ☒

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

For lab and field courses to which all answers are “no”, you should explain that here, also. Normally, we would expect some safety precautions for such courses.
5. Coordination and Consultation

Emails/letters, as noted below and attached to this proposal, or signatures below, indicate that the affected departments, programs or units have been notified of this proposal and have had an opportunity to assess the impact of the proposal on their respective units.

Affected Academic Department(s) or Program(s) – other than the sponsoring department:

Department/Program 1  
Name of Chair/Program Director  
Chair Signature  
Date  
Or letter attached ☐

Department/Program 2  
Name of Chair/Program Director  
Chair Signature  
Date  
Or letter attached ☐

Department/Program 3  
Name of Chair/Program Director  
Chair Signature  
Date  
Or letter attached ☐

[If more than three Departments/Programs, please continue on a separate page]

Other Units:

Associate Provost for Instruction & Dean of the Graduate School (for Gen Ed courses only)  
Date  
Or letter attached ☐

Registrar  
Date  
Or letter attached ☐

Library Director  
Date  
Or letter attached ☐

Computing and Network Services  
Date  
Or letter attached ☐
Physical Plant

Forest Properties

Environmental Health and Safety

Or letter attached □

Date

Or letter attached □

Date

Or letter attached □

Date
7. Proposer Information and Sponsoring Department Chair
Affirmation:

Contact Person:

Name: Lemir Teron_____________ Department: Environmental Studies____
Email: Lteron@esf.edu _______________ Phone: 315.565.3004_________________

This proposal has been reviewed and approved by the sponsoring Department. Affected departments have been notified and given the opportunity to provide feedback. Department resources are or will be made available to support the course, or a plan is in place to meet the resource needs as identified in the Institutional Impacts section of this proposal (see Section 4, above).

Name: ____________________________________________ Date: ______
Department Chair (or designated curriculum representative)

Signature:_________________________________________________________ Or letter attached ☐
Department Chair (or designated curriculum representative)

8. Approvals:

_____________________________________________________________ Date
Curriculum Committee

_____________________________________________________________ Date
Faculty Governance

_____________________________________________________________ Date
Provost