

Course Outline

EST 494

SENIOR SEMINAR IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

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Dept. of Environmental Studies

SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry

Spring 2022, M 4-6 pm (every other week), Bray 313

DESCRIPTION

Overview

This course provides a structured context for Environmental Studies majors to (plan, implement and) professionally communicate about their Senior Synthesis Projects.* Students begin the course with Synthesis Projects in every stage of development, from first thoughts to fully complete. The course meets every other week for two hours, and culminates in the 9th annual Environmental Studies Seniors Showcase, April 18, 2022. As an added feature, students gain knowledge, skills, and resources to assist in transitioning to professional life. This is accomplished through interaction with guest panelists, participation in ESF's Career Fair, and other professional development activities. *This course is for Environmental Studies majors who are planning to graduate in May or December 2022.*

Objectives

By completion of this course, each student should be able to:

- Effectively (plan, implement and) professionally communicate about her/ his Senior Synthesis Project, both orally and in research poster form;
- Prepare an up-to-date and compelling professional résumé;
- Access ESF and other resources for job and internship opportunities; and
- Make best use of social networks for professional and career development.

Media of Instruction

- Class meetings, in person
- Assignments & submissions, via course Blackboard site

* For further information about the Senior Synthesis Project requirement, see the Student Handbook, at: <http://www.esf.edu/es/handbook/>.

Requirements

- Adhere to ESF's COVID-19 safety requirements and protocols (see below)
- Attend all class sessions
- Prepare a research-style poster on your Senior Synthesis Project
- Present that poster at the annual Environmental Studies Seniors Showcase event
- Prepare/ update/ refine your professional résumé
- Prepare/ update/ refine your professional profile on LinkedIn
- Complete a short (2-3 pp.) Environmental Studies graduating senior self-assessment

Recommended

Participation in the following ESF events:

- ESF Career Fair (Weds., Feb. 16)
- Other Career Services events (TBA)

Grading

Research-style poster & presentation, 50 pts.

Professional and career development activities, 20 pts.

- Professional résumé (10 pts.)
- LinkedIn profile (10 pts.)
- ESF Career Services event participation (extra credit)

Environmental Studies graduating senior self-assessment, 20 pts.

Attendance & participation, 10 pts.

TOTAL, 100 pts. (A= 100-93 pts.; B= 92-85 pts.; C= 84-77 pts.; D= 76-69 pts.; F= <69 pts.)

Communication

Office: Baker Lab 214

Hrs. TBA

Tel. 315.464.0084 (voice/ text)

E-mail: dsonn@esf.edu

URL: <http://www.esf.edu/es/sonnenfeld>

READING

Recommended

Pollack, Lindsey. 2012. *Getting from College to Career: Your Essential Guide to Succeeding in the Real World*, revised ed. New York: Harper Business. ISBN 978-0062069276

Rosenberg, Arthur. 2007. *The Resume Handbook*. 5th ed. Avon, MA: Adams Media. ISBN 978-1598694598

Bookstore

Syracuse University Online Textbook Store: <https://syracuse.ecampus.com/>

SCHEDULE

Week 1 (Jan. 24) – Getting started

Course introduction; getting to know each other

What are the requirements for the EST Senior Synthesis Project?

REQUIRED:

BS in Environmental Studies Student Handbook (sections on Senior Synthesis Project)

*** Complete & submit student info sheet (in class) ***

*** Assignment #1: Senior Synthesis Project *abstract* (1 p.) – due Wk 3 ***

Week 3 (Feb. 7) – From EST to ??? Green career paths

What types of internships and jobs are available for Environmental Studies majors? What are you looking for?

- ESF Career Services: “Job & internship resources”; application & interview skills
- EST faculty/ grad panel: “Graduate school: for whom and when?”
- Small groups: sharing Senior Synthesis Project topics

RECOMMENDED:

Pollack, *Getting from College to Career*, ch's 1-3

ADDITIONAL:

Cassio, Jim, and Alice Rush. 2009. *Green Careers: Choosing Work for a Sustainable Future*. Gabriola Is., BC: New Society Publishers. ISBN 978-0865716438

Greenland, Paul R., and AnnaMarie L. Sheldon. 2007. *Career Opportunities in Conservation and the Environment*. New York: Ferguson Publishing. ISBN 0816067422

Llewellyn, A. Bronwyn, James P. Hendrix, and K.C. Golden. 2008. *Green Jobs: A Guide to Eco-Friendly Employment*. Avon, MA: Adams Media. ISBN 978-1598698725

*** ESF Career & Internship Fair, 11:00am – 3:00pm, Weds., Feb. 16 ***

*** Assignment #2: Senior Synthesis Project *outline* – due Wk 5 ***

Week 5 (Feb. 21) – Inside the job application and interview process

Employer panel: “Tips from local managers” – public, private, & not-for-profit perspectives

Small groups: feedback on Senior Synthesis Project outlines

RECOMMENDED:

Pollack, *Getting from College to Career*, ch's 7, 9

Rosenberg, *The Resume Handbook*, 5th ed.

*** Assignment #3A: Professional *résumé* (1-2 pp.) – due Wk 7 ***

Week 7 (Mar. 7) -- Building your social capital

Social networking panel: “Strengthening your social networks” – building, developing & strengthening your social networks; 'brand yourself'

Small groups: résumé feedback & critique

*** Assignment #3B: Revised résumé (1-2 pp.) – due Wk 8 ***

*** Assignment #4: Develop a professional profile on LinkedIn – due Wk 8 ***

SPRING BREAK (Mar. 13 – 20)**Week 8 (Mar. 21) – Preparing an outstanding research poster**

Lecture: “Tips for preparing an outstanding research poster”

Small groups: feedback on LinkedIn profiles

*** Assignment #5: Prepare Senior Synthesis Project research poster – due wks 10, 12 ***

Week 10 (Apr. 4) – Becoming an ESF alumna/us

EST alumni panel: “Becoming an ESF alumna/us” – what to look forward to; leveraging your college connections

RECOMMENDED:

Pollack, *Getting from College to Career*, ch's 4, 5, 8

Week 12 (Apr. 18) – Environmental Studies Seniors Showcase

Presentation of Senior Synthesis Project research-style posters

*** Assignment #7: Graduating Senior Self-Assessment – due Friday, April 22 ***

NOTICES**COVID-19 protocols**

Students in this course are required to follow ESF’s evolving Covid-19 protocols and restrictions. These can be found on the college website at: <https://www.esf.edu/restart/>.

Fire alarm procedures

If a fire alarm sounds, exit the building immediately to the designated area for this course. Stay together as a class, until released. Take all personal belongings with you, including electronics, backpacks, coats, and keys. Please let your instructor know in advance if you might have any special needs in case of a building evacuation. For further information, contact the ESF Division of Student Affairs, 110 Bray Hall, tel. 315.470.6660, or email studenthelp@esf.edu.

Accommodations

SUNY-ESF works with Syracuse University’s Center for Disability Resources (CDR) in assisting students with learning and physical disabilities. If you think you may need accommodations in this course related to a disability, you may contact the ESF Division of Student Affairs, 110 Bray Hall, tel.

315.470.6660, or email studenthelp@esf.edu, for assistance with the process. You may also contact CDR directly via their website at <https://disabilityresources.syr.edu>; or call 315.443.4498 or email disabilityresources@syr.edu for more detailed information. CDR is responsible for coordinating disability-related academic accommodations and will work with the student to develop an access plan. Since academic accommodations may require early planning and generally are not provided retroactively, please contact ESF's Division of Student Affairs or CDR as soon as possible to begin this process.