

Curriculum Proposal Signature Sheet

Psyc 239 Environmental and Conservation Psychology

TITLE OF PROPOSAL

Type of Proposal

Program

- New
- Changes within Major
- Changes within Cognate *
- Changes in Minor or Track
- Changes in Concentration*
- Program Deletion

Course

- New
- Changes in Course taken only by Majors
- Changes in Course required of Non-Majors*
- Changes in Course open to Non-Majors
- Deletion of Course taken only by Majors
- Deletion of Course required of Non-Majors*
- Deletion of Course open to Non-Majors

Psychology

SPONSORING DEPARTMENT(S)

Review and Approval

11/4/08

DATE(S)

Signature of Sponsoring Chair(s)/Date

James P. Bud

11-6-08

* For starred items Chairs of affected Departments/Programs must sign below before Dean's review

Dean's Preliminary Review

Proposal: Complete

Additional preliminary comments below

- Satisfies U of S Curricular Requirements
- Consistent with College Goals/Mission

Dean's Signature/Date

[Signature]

11-19-08

CAS

CPS

SOM

GRAD

DHC

Preliminary FSCC Disposition:

- Committee recommends approval (*new program proposals require a Recommendation from the full Senate*)
- Proposal will require minimal review: Anticipated FS Meeting Date: _____
- Proposal will require significant review: Anticipated FS Meeting Date: _____

RECEIVED

NOV - 6 2008

UNIVERSITY of SCRANTON
CAS ASSOCIATE DEAN

FSCC Chair Signature/Date _____

Issues: _____

Additional Signatures

Department	Signature	Date
Department	Signature	Date
Department	Signature	Date

New Course

Course Title: Environmental and Conservation Psychology

Course Number: PSYC 239 Date Of Initial Offering: Spring 2010
Semester year

Rationale for Course level

Because PSYC 110 is a prerequisite, this course is considered a 200-level class.

Credit Hours: 3 Format: lecture lab other: _____

Frequency: annual each semester alternate years

Prerequisites: PSYC 110 (Fundamentals of Psychology)

Rationale for pre-requisites (if pre-requisites are listed)

The course assumes some familiarity with basic psychological theory and methods.

Catalog Description (50 word maximum)

Provides an overview of psychological theories and methods used to study the human-nature relationship and the specific approaches used to address modern environmental problems. This is a service learning course. Students will spend a minimum of 25 hours applying course concepts/tools to assist local environmental agencies.

Similar Courses being offered at the University

NSCI 201 Science & Human Environment
MKT 484 Sustainable Marketing

Discuss Extent of overlap with existing courses

Overlap with similar courses is minimal. The current course overlaps with NSCI 201 in that both courses provide an overview of environmental problems. However, where NSCI spends the entire course on these problems, the present course spends no more than one week. MKT 484 looks at demand for green products and how companies can market their "greenness." In contrast, the present course emphasizes how to promote or market the environmental behaviors themselves.

Special Resources Required (e.g. library, equipment, materials/facilities)

None

Characteristics (check any/all that apply):

Major: Required Elective
GE : submitted to CCC will be submitted to CCC _____ Area Free only
date

<input type="checkbox"/> Humanities (CA)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> S/B Sciences (S)	<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Diversity (D)
<input type="checkbox"/> Humanities (CH)	<input type="checkbox"/> Natural Science (E)	<input type="checkbox"/> Writing Intensive(W)
<input type="checkbox"/> Humanities (CL)	<input type="checkbox"/> Theology/Phil (P)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Humanities (CF)	<input type="checkbox"/> Quantitative Reasoning (Q)	

Interdisciplinary: YES NO Team Teaching: YES NO

Exclusively For Special Programs/Concentrations: NO YES (Name) _____

Home College: CAS PCPS KSOM GRAD

Required Attachments:

- Syllabus with student learning objectives, assessment/evaluation mechanisms, and outline of topics
- Description of, or example of, readings/papers/projects/examinations
- Assessment/evaluation based course improvement mechanisms

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Jessica M. Nolan **OFFICE:** Alumni Memorial Hall 203
PHONE: (570)941-4270 **HOURS:** TBA
E-MAIL: nolanj3@scranton.edu
Website: <http://academic.scranton.edu/department/psych/faculty.html>

Course Overview

Conservation psychology is the scientific study of the reciprocal relationship between humans and the environment. This course provides an overview of the theories and methods that are used to study the human-nature relationship and the techniques that are used to solve modern environmental problems. We will also discuss the relationship between human health and the environment. This is a service learning course with a 25 hour out-of-class service requirement.

Course Objectives

Class members will:

1. be familiar with the research methods, theories, and empirical findings within conservation psychology as demonstrated on the multiple choice section of exams
2. be able to explain the major theories and findings, as demonstrated on the essay portion of exams
3. make explicit connections between empirical evidence and real-world environmental problems as demonstrated by the service learning project reports
4. engage in course content-focused service learning activities in the greater Scranton area

Required text/ Readings

Gardner & Stern (2003). *Environmental Problems and Human Behavior* (possibly)

Brook, A.T. (2001). What is "Conservation Psychology?" *Population & Environmental Psychology Bulletin*, 27(2), 1-2.

Clayton, S. & Brook, A. (2005). Can psychology help save the world? A model for conservation psychology. *Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy*, 5(1), 1-15.

Hardin, G. (1968) *The tragedy of the commons*

The American Psychologist: Special issue on the environment (1999)

Journal of Social Issues - Vol. 50 No. 3 1994 - Green Justice: Conceptions of Fairness and the Natural World

Journal of Social Issues - Vol. 56 No. 3 2000 - Promoting Environment alism

Social Science Quarterly 2008 Special Issue: Social Science Examines the Environment

Exams

There is one mid-term exam worth 100 points, and one final exam worth 100 points. Exams will consist of a combination of multiple choice, short answer, and essay questions. Exams will cover material from lecture, your textbook, and the assigned readings.

Serving Learning

At the beginning of the semester you will be assigned to work with a local environmental agency. You are expected to devote a minimum of 25 hours to service learning activities. Projects will be conducted in groups, with each group supervised by the staff at your assigned agency. In the last week of classes each group will present the findings from their service learning experience in an oral presentation (25 points), and a final paper (75 points). Additional guidelines for the final paper and oral presentation will be given out in class.

As part of the service learning component of this course you are asked to write 5 reflections (20 points each). The first reflection is due before your service learning project begins. The fifth reflection is due on the day of the final- after your service to your agency has ended. The remaining 3 reflections should be completed sometime between the day you start working with your agency and your last day. Additional guidelines for the reflections will be given out in class.

Evaluation

There will be a total of 400 possible points that you can earn in this course. Your final grade will be based on the following:

100 points	Mid-term Exam
100 points	Final Exam
100 points	Service Learning presentation and paper
100 points	Service learning reflection papers
400 points	Total points

Grading Policy

Letter grades will be assigned according to the following "percentage of total points" and "total points earned" cutoffs:

Letter Grade	Percentage of Total Points
A (4.0)	93% – 100%
A- (3.7)	90% – 92.999%
B+ (3.3)	87% – 89.999%
B (3.0)	83% – 86.999%
B- (2.7)	80% – 82.999%
C+ (2.3)	77% – 79.999%
C (2.0)	73% – 76.999%
C- (1.7)	70% – 72.999%
D+ (1.3)	65% – 69.999%
D (1.0)	60% – 64.999%
F (0.0)	59% and below

Academic Honesty

Provisions of the Academic Code of Honesty of the University of Scranton will be followed in this course. Cheating in any form will result in an "F" for the course, and violators of the Code will be referred to the Dean (http://matrix.scranton.edu/student_handbook/policy_academic_code_honesty.html).

Agency Name: _____

Classmate Names

Phone/Email

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

OUTLINE OF TOPICS

Introduction

Overview of Environmental Problems

- Global warming
- Population
- Natural Resources

Healthy Planet, Healthy People

Spending time in nature

- Zoos, parks, aquariums
- Restorative effects of nature

Consumption/ Voluntary Simplicity

Research methods in psychology

- Self-report
- Willingness to pay
- One-time versus repeated behaviors

Environmental Identity

Motivation, Emotion and Affect

Attitudes, Values, & Beliefs

Environmental education

Environmental Justice

Environmental Problems as Social dilemmas

Rational Choice Theory

Learning Theory/ Applied Behavior Analysis

Marketing environmental behaviors