

## **Southeast Missouri State University**

**Department of:** Environmental Science Program

**Course Number:** EV401

**Course Title:** Environmental Science Seminar

**New:** Fall 1999

**I. Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course:** Consideration of topical environmental issues. Required for Environmental Science majors; to be taken in senior year. Meets concurrently with EV201. Two contact hours per week. Two credit hours.

**II. Prerequisites:** EV201, minimum of 30 hours in the natural sciences, and senior status.

**III. Purposes or Objectives of Course:**

- A. To provide continuity and cohesiveness for students in a cross-disciplinary curriculum.
- B. To facilitate academic interactions of lower division and upper division students within the major.
- C. To relate environmental issues to the interdisciplinary nature of the content of courses.
- D. To develop group discussion skills and decision-making abilities.
- E. To facilitate in-depth literature research on selected topics of contemporary environmental concern.
- F. To provide individual and small group interactions with environmental science professionals.
- G. To provide support and assistance to students in the preparation of graduation portfolios.

**IV. Expectations of Students:**

- A. Students are expected to attend and actively participate in all class activities.
- B. Students will be required to maintain throughout the semester a portfolio of environmentally-related articles from across the disciplines. Periodic summaries will be expected.
- C. Students are expected to participate in work groups concentrating on literature research of environmental issues. Presentation of research topics by each group to the class will be expected.
- D. Students will prepare a graduation portfolio that includes such items as a professional resume, graduate or professional school applications, and other relevant materials. Portfolios will be critiqued by members of small groups.
- E. Students are expected to prepare for guest lectures.
- F. Students are expected to prepare a professional presentation on an environmental issue using available multimedia techniques. The topic

presented will involve either literature research separate from the group project (see III-C above) or a student's experiential learning project (internship or original research).

**V. Textbook and Other Material:**

No textbook will be required. Selected readings will be provided by the instructors.

**VI. Basis for Student Evaluation:**

Environmental Portfolio	20%
Class Participation	20%
Group Literature Research Project and Presentation	20%
Professional Presentation	30%
Graduation Portfolio	10%

**VII. Instructors:**

Instructors will be drawn from the Environmental Science program faculty. It is expected that there will be a regular rotation of faculty through the course as faculty schedules and teaching loads permit.