TRIAL COURSE OR NEW COURSE PROPOSAL

SUBMITTED BY:
Department
Environmental Studies
Prepared by
Clint Reigh
Email
creigh@alaska.edu

College/School
CRCD
Phone
907-842-5109
Faculty Contact
Dr. Todd Radenbaugh

1. ACTION DESIRED
(CHECK ONE):
Trial Course
New Course X

2. COURSE IDENTIFICATION:
Dept
ENVI
Course # 250
No. of Credits 1-3

Justify upper/lower division status & number of credits:
ENVI 101, English 111, 100 level science course, or permission of instructor

3. PROPOSED COURSE TITLE:
Current Topics in Environmental Studies

4. To be CROSS LISTED?
YES/NO
If yes, Dept:

Course #

(Requires approval of both departments and deans involved. Add lines at end of form for additional required signatures.)

5. To be STACKED?
YES/NO
If yes, Dept.

Course #

Stacked course applications are reviewed by the (Undergraduate) Curricular Review Committee and by the Graduate Academic and Advising Committee. Creating two different syllabi—undergraduate and graduate versions—will help emphasize the different qualities of what are supposed to be two different courses. The committees will determine: 1) whether the two versions are sufficiently different (i.e. is there undergraduate and graduate level content being offered); 2) are undergraduates being overtaxed? 3) are graduate students being undertaxed? In this context, the committees are looking out for the interests of the students taking the course. Typically, if either committee has qualms, they both do. More info online – see URL at top of this page.

6. FREQUENCY OF OFFERING:
As Demand Warrants
Fall, Spring, Summer (Every, or Even-numbered Years, or Odd-numbered Years) — or
As Demand Warrants

7. SEMESTER & YEAR OF FIRST OFFERING
(AY2013-14 if approved by 3/1/2013; otherwise AY2014-15)
Spring 2014

8. COURSE FORMAT:
NOTE: Course hours may not be compressed into fewer than three days per credit. Any course compressed into fewer than six weeks must be approved by the college or school's curriculum council. Furthermore, any core course compressed to less than six weeks must be approved by the core review committee.

COURSE FORMAT:
(check all that apply)

\[ \begin{array}{ccccccc}
\times & 1 & \times & 2 & \times & 3 & \times & 4 & \times & 5 & \times \\
\end{array} \]
6 weeks to full semester

OTHER FORMAT (specify)
Mode of delivery (specify lecture, field trips, labs, etc)
Course will follow a lecture format using any combination of the following delivery methods: e-learning, face to face, audio conference, and field trip.

9. CONTACT HOURS PER WEEK:
LECTURE hours/weeks
LAB hours/week
PRACTICUM hours/week

Note: # of credits are based on contact hours. 800 minutes of lecture=1 credit. 1600 minutes in non-science lab=1 credit. 2400-4800 minutes of practicum=1 credit. 2400-8000 minutes of internship=1 credit. This must match with the syllabus. See http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/faculty-senate/curriculum/course-degree-procedures-guidelines-for-computing/ for more information on number of credits.

OTHER HOURS (specify type)
Will depend on course content and delivery method (13.5 hours of lecture per credit)

10. COMPLETE CATALOG DESCRIPTION including dept., number, title, credits, credit distribution, cross-listings and/or stacking (50 words or less if possible):
Example of a complete description:
FISH F487 W, O  Fisheries Management
3 Credits  Offered Spring
Theory and practice of fisheries management, with an emphasis on strategies utilized for the
management of freshwater and marine fisheries. Prerequisites: COMM F131X or COMM F141X; ENGL
F111X; ENGL F211X or ENGL F213X; ENGL F414; FISH F425; or permission of instructor. Cross-listed
with NRM F487. (3+0)

ENVI F250  Current topics in Environmental Studies.
1-3 credits  Offered as demand warrants
Using multiple scientific viewpoints, a specific environmental issue is explored through case
studies and in-depth discussions with an emphasis on complex connections between
ecosystems and society. Themes include sustainability, resource development, indigenous
viewpoints, resource management, building technology, and energy applications. Topics
announced prior to each offering and course may be repeated for credit towards a certificate
or degree program to a maximum of 3 credits. Prerequisite: ENVI 101, English 111, 100
level science class, or permission of instructor. (1-3+0)

11. COURSE CLASSIFICATIONS: Undergraduate courses only. Consult with CLA Curriculum Council to apply S or H
classification appropriately; otherwise leave fields blank.
H = Humanities
S = Social Sciences

Will this course be used to fulfill a requirement
for the baccalaureate core? If YES, attach form.
YES:  NO:  X

IF YES, check which core requirements it could be used to fulfill:
O = Oral Intensive, Format 6
W = Writing Intensive, Format 7
Natural Science, (*X* for Core) Format 8

11.A  Is course content related to northern, arctic or circumpolar studies? If yes, a “snowflake” symbol will be added in the printed Catalog, and flagged in Banner.
YES:  NO:  X

12. COURSE REPEATABILITY:
Is this course repeatable for credit?
YES  X  NO

Justification: Indicate why the course can be repeated (for example, the course follows a different theme each time).
As this is a course is to meet program needs in environmental studies. The course will cover
different topics and themes with each offering.
Course may be repeated for credit towards a certificate or degree program to a maximum of 3
credits.

How many times may the course be repeated for credit?
3-9 TIMES
9 CREDITS

If the course can be repeated for credit, what is the maximum number of credit hours that
may be earned for this course?
9 CREDITS

If the course can be repeated with variable credit, what is the maximum number of credit
hours that may be earned for this course?

13. GRADING SYSTEM: Specify only one. Note: Later changing the grading system for a course constitutes a
Major Course Change.
LETTER:  X  PASS/FAIL:

14. PREREQUISITES
This course requires ENVI 101, English F111X or 100 level science course or permission of
instructor.

These will be required before the student is allowed to enroll in the course.

15. SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS, CONDITIONS  none

16. PROPOSED COURSE FEES  none

Has a memo been submitted through your dean to the Provost for fee approval?  Yes/No
17. PREVIOUS HISTORY

Has the course been offered as special topics or trial course previously?

Yes/No: Yes

If yes, give semester, year, course #, etc.:

- ENVI 293 Climate Change in Southwest Alaska (SP 2011)
- ENVI 293 Grant Writing for Sustainable Energy (SP 2012)

18. ESTIMATED IMPACT

WHAT IMPACT, IF ANY, WILL THIS HAVE ON BUDGET, FACILITIES/SPACE, FACULTY, ETC.

Minimal impact on budget, facilities, and classroom space. Classes will be taught by both regular faculty and approved adjunct instructors.

19. LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

Have you contacted the library collection development officer (kljensen@alaska.edu, 474-6695) with regard to the adequacy of library/media collections, equipment, and services available for the proposed course? If so, give date of contact and resolution. If not, explain why not.

No [ ] Yes [X] Library collections should be adequate (contacted 9/19/13)

20. IMPACTS ON PROGRAMS/DEPTS

What programs/departments will be affected by this proposed action?

Include information on the Programs/Departments contacted (e.g., email, memo)

Environmental Studies, but courses already taught as ENVI 293 courses

Minimal impact on English or science departments for prerequisite course.

No expected increase in enrollment in prerequisite departments from offering proposed course.

21. POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE IMPACTS

Please specify positive and negative impacts on other courses, programs and departments resulting from the proposed action.

The UAF BBC Environmental Studies Program and its students will benefit from the proposed course as students, employers, and community partners frequently request special topics courses. We have already held these types of courses as ENVI 293. As a result, there is a now need for a Current Topics catalog course in the Environmental Studies Program.

JUSTIFICATION FOR ACTION REQUESTED

The purpose of the department and campus-wide curriculum committees is to scrutinize course change and new course applications to make sure that the quality of UAF education is not lowered as a result of the proposed change. Please address this in your response. This section needs to be self-explanatory. Use as much space as needed to fully justify the proposed course.

The UAF Bristol Bay Campus serves the educational needs of communities in Southwest Alaska. Due to the rapidly changing environment in Southwest Alaska it is important to have a dynamic and topical course that includes sustainability, resource development, resource management, field methods, building technology, and energy. There needs to be an avenue to address current environmental topics that impact rural residents and communities.

The syllabus of the proposed course maintains academic rigor by providing a forum for critical thinking and understanding of data on a range of important current environmental topics. Students will be required to understand, analyze, and discuss course material in both formal and informal formats. Special focus will be placed upon the scientific method, traditional knowledge, and cultural practices as they relate to environmental issues and civic engagement.
APPROVALS: Add additional signature lines as needed.

Signature, Chair, Program/Department of: Environmental Studies
Date 3-Oct-2013

Signature, Chair, College/School Curriculum Council for: CRC
Date 7-Oct-2013

Signature, Dean, College/School of: CRC
Date 10/1/13

Offerings above the level of approved programs must be approved in advance by the Provost.

Signature of Provost (if above level of approved programs)

ALL SIGNATURES MUST BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO THE GOVERNANCE OFFICE

Signature, Chair
Date

Faculty Senate Review Committee:     __Curriculum Review     __GAAC
                                          ___Core Review     ___SADAC

ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES: (As needed for cross-listing and/or stacking)

Signature, Chair, Program/Department of:
Date

Signature, Chair, College/School Curriculum Council for:
Date

Signature, Dean, College/School of:
ATTACH COMPLETE SYLLABUS (as part of this application). The guidelines are online: http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/faculty-senate/curriculum/course-degree-procedures/-uaf-syllabus-requirements/
The Faculty Senate curriculum committees will review the syllabus to ensure that each of the items listed below are included. If items are missing or unclear, the proposed course (or changes to it) may be denied.

SYLLABUS CHECKLIST FOR ALL UAF COURSES
During the first week of class, instructors will distribute a course syllabus. Although modifications may be made throughout the semester, this document will contain the following information (as applicable to the discipline):

1. Course information:
   - Title, number, credits, prerequisites, location, meeting time (make sure that contact hours are in line with credits).

2. Instructor (and if applicable, Teaching Assistant) information:
   - Name, office location, office hours, telephone, email address.

3. Course readings/materials:
   - Course textbook title, author, edition/publisher.
   - Supplementary readings (indicate whether required or recommended) and any supplies required.

4. Course description:
   - Content of the course and how it fits into the broader curriculum;
   - Expected proficiencies required to undertake the course, if applicable.
   - Inclusion of catalog description is strongly recommended, and
   - Description in syllabus must be consistent with catalog course description.

5. Course Goals (general), and (see #6)

6. Student Learning Outcomes (more specific)

7. Instructional methods:
   - Describe the teaching techniques (eg: lecture, case study, small group discussion, private instruction, studio instruction, values clarification, games, journal writing, use of Blackboard, audio/video conferencing, etc.).

8. Course calendar:
   - A schedule of class topics and assignments must be included. Be specific so that it is clear that the instructor has thought this through and will not be making it up on the fly (e.g. it is not adequate to say "lab". Instead, give each lab a title that describes its content). You may call the outline Tentative or Work in Progress to allow for modifications during the semester.

9. Course policies:
   - Specify course rules, including your policies on attendance, tardiness, class participation, make-up exams, and plagiarism/academic integrity.

10. Evaluation:
    - Specify how students will be evaluated, what factors will be included, their relative value, and how they will be tabulated into grades (on a curve, absolute scores, etc.) Publicize UAF regulations with regard to the grades of "C" and below as applicable to this course. (Not required in the syllabus, but may be a convenient way to publicize this.) Faculty Senate Meeting #171:
      http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/faculty-senate/meetings/2010-2011-meetings/#171

11. Support Services:
    - Describe the student support services such as tutoring (local and/or regional) appropriate for the course.

12. Disabilities Services: Note that the phone# and location have been updated.
The Office of Disability Services implements the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and ensures that UAF students have equal access to the campus and course materials.
    - State that you will work with the Office of Disabilities Services (208 WHITAKER BLDG, 474-5655) to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities.

8/1/2012
ENVI 250: Current Topics in Environmental Studies
Syllabus

Course Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term:</th>
<th>On demand</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Course Title:</td>
<td>Current Topics in Environmental Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dept. &amp; Num:</td>
<td>ENVI 250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credits:</td>
<td>1-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grading</td>
<td>Letter grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prerequisites:</td>
<td>ENVI 101, English 111, 100 level science course, or permission of instructor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dates:</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Days - times:</td>
<td>TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>UAF Bristol Bay Campus or other approved location</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Instructor: Dr. Todd Radenbaugh
Position: Faculty
Phone: 907-842-5109
Fax: 907-842-5692
Email: TARadenbaugh@alaska.edu
Office Hours Available during the date the course is offered

Text: Course related handouts

Purpose:
There is a need for continual discussion of current topics in environmental studies to understand the dynamics of social-ecological interactions.

Course Description
Using multiple scientific viewpoints, a specific environmental issue is explored through case studies and in-depth discussions with an emphasis on complex connections between ecosystems and society. Themes include sustainability, resource development, indigenous viewpoints, resource management, building technology, and energy applications. Topics announced prior to each offering and course may be repeated for credit towards a certificate or degree program to a maximum of 3 credits. Prerequisite: ENVI 101, English 111, 100 level science class, or permission of instructor. (1-3+0)

Course Goals
- Examine how environmental science research methods can influence regional regulations and policy
- Explore the significance of data collection and analysis in promoting civic engagement.

Course Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
- Apply the scientific method to local environmental issues
- Demonstrate an understanding of a current environmental issue and how it is defined by current scientific data.
- Summarize current information related to an environmental topic then suggest what additional information may be useful.
**Instructional Methods:**
Course may use one or more of the following methods: lectures (face to face or distance education), class/panel discussions, constructive class debate, student exercises, data collection/analysis (creating graphs and tables), presentations by students, class projects, and photograph analysis

**Course Calendar**
- Each time this course is taught the instructor must develop and submit a course schedule to the ENVI Program Head for approval.
- Number of lecture and homework hours will be consistent with UAF policy (e.g. one credit hour will be at least 800 - minutes of lecture, plus 1,600 minutes of study time)

Example course syllabus for one credit class:

**Course Title:** Current Topics in Environmental Studies: Influences of Changing Climate on Bristol Bay Landscapes

**Thursday, October 17th**
5:00pm – Introductions – pre-test of knowledge on topic  
6:00pm – What climate change means to you  
7:00pm – What is climate change?  
8:00pm – Homework assignment - list evidence of climate change witnessed in your community

**Friday, October 18th**
9:00 am – Discussion of homework assignment  
10:00am – Ice Ages in Bristol Bay: An Introduction  
10:45am – break  
11:00am – Lessons from the past: climate and ecological change  
12:00pm – Lunch  
1:00 pm – Lessons from the Ice Ages: The amazing speed of deglaciation  
3:30 pm – break  
3:45 pm – Bristol Bay ecosystems: past, present & future  
4:30 pm – CO₂ through geologic time,  
5:00 pm – Homework assignment – calculating your carbon footprint

**Saturday, October 19th**
9:00 am – Reconstructing Past Climate Change using trees, sediments, and isotopes  
10:00am – Discussion, carbon footprints  
10:45am – break  
11:00am – Ecological impacts of climate change  
12:00pm – Lunch  
1:00 pm – Warming and the industrial revolution  
2:00 pm – The Political Realm –Kyoto and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  
3:30 pm – break  
3:45 pm – Energy Use - Future Use of Fossil Fuels Climate and CO₂  
5:00 pm – Post-test - Class evaluation

**Expectations of Course Participants**
Participants will read assigned materials, contribute to the class discussions, and complete field or laboratory assignments. Reference and reading materials will be reviewed before the class so participants can share their learning and insights during the course.
Course Evaluation:
Course grading will be **Letter Grading**
Students will keep daily journals to summarize course discussions and presentations. Students will be required to prepare a position paper or presentation justifying a viewpoint on the course topic. Students will be given a Student Assessment of their Learning Gains (SALG).

Percent breakdown of grade
- 60% — Journal entries addressing discussion questions and reflecting on guest speakers
- 5% — Daily class discussion in sessions with other students, speakers, and other participants
- 30% — Position Paper and/or Presentation
- 5% — Participation and attendance
Final Grade is determined as follows: A = 90%-100%, B = 80%-89%, C = 70%-79%, D = 60%-69%, F = 0%-59% (instructor has right to use +/- system per UAF policy)

**Journal Requirement** Each student will be required to keep a journal of the class sessions and make notes on what they learned.
- To complete the course all students need to log at least 14 hours of course attendance and participate for a minimum of 3 days.
- The journal will be graded based on how well each student articulates what they learned from interactions with speakers and other participants.

### Grading Rubric for Journal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>5 (Excellent)</th>
<th>4 (Good)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Content</strong></td>
<td>Entries are meaningful and interesting and help the reader understand student perspectives on content; written details focus on important content.</td>
<td>Entries are meaningful and detail course activities; written details help the reader understand topics in interesting ways.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Comprehension of Material</strong></td>
<td>Entries show evidence of conceptual understanding; Able to make connections between concepts.</td>
<td>Entries show evidence that conceptual understanding; Can understand most of what was being communicated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Organization</strong></td>
<td>Journal entries are logical and coherent.</td>
<td>Journal entries are generally logical and effective with few minor problems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Effort</strong></td>
<td>Exceeds the requirements of the assignment; demonstrates exemplary care and detail.</td>
<td>Fulfills all of the requirements of the assignment; shows attention to detail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grammar, Mechanics, Spelling, and Sentence Structure</strong></td>
<td>Journal entries are written in complete sentences; no grammar or spelling errors.</td>
<td>Journal entries poorly organized; many grammar or spelling errors.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Grading Rubric for Position Paper or Presentation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>5 (Excellent)</th>
<th>4 (Good)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Knowledge gained from the course.</strong></td>
<td>More than six significant concepts.</td>
<td>Five or more significant concepts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Planning, outlines, and layout for</strong></td>
<td>Outline illustrates all aspects of the project and</td>
<td>Outline illustrates most aspects presented in the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Outline does not adequately illustrate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Outline is unrelated to the project that was</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>presentation/paper</td>
<td>allows delivery in a format and sequence that that is clear and concise; Viewpoints from the course are sufficiently represented; The layout is visually pleasing and contributes to the overall viewpoint.</td>
<td>project and allows delivery in a format and sequence that that is adequate; Viewpoints from the course are represented adequately; The layout is visually pleasing and contributes to the overall message.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introduction</strong></td>
<td>Section presents the overall topic and draws the audience into the project with compelling questions or by relating to the audience's interests or goals.</td>
<td>Section clearly and coherently describes the topic to the audience.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Content/graphics</strong></td>
<td>Content is written clearly and concisely; Images and data are used and clearly support viewpoint; Includes motivating questions and advanced organizers or figures; Gives the audience a clear sense of the main idea; Information is current and comes mainly from primary sources.</td>
<td>Content is mostly clear and concise; Images and data are used to support viewpoint; Includes persuasive information, images, and data from reliable sources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Conclusions and Citations</strong></td>
<td>Conclusions presented are clear and are drawn directly from data presented in project; Conclusions are based on information obtained in the course or from peer reviewed sources.</td>
<td>Conclusions mostly drawn from data presented in project; Conclusions are mostly based on information obtained in the course or from peer reviewed sources.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course Policies:**
Individuals enrolling in the UAF course agree to:

- To conduct themselves honestly and responsibly, and to respect the rights of others according to the Student Code of Conduct (http://www.uaf.edu/catalog/current/academics/regs3.html)
- Attend course in accordance to the rules stated in this syllabus.
- Turn in all assignments at the end of the course.
- The instructor reserves the right to amend this course outline as needed.

**Support and Disability Services:**
University of Alaska Fairbanks Bristol Bay Campus Student Services at:
PO Box 1070
Dillingham, Alaska  99576
907-842-5109, 800-478-5109, Fax: 907-842-5692

Tutoring is available to eligible students through UAF Student Support Services or Bristol Bay Campus. Contact UAF via the Internet at http://www.uaf.edu/sssp/ or UAF BBC by calling the toll free number at 1.800.478.5109.

Library services are available at http://www.uaf.edu/library/ or call the toll free library information number at 1.800.478.5348 and ask for the off-campus librarian.
UAF has a Disability Services office that operates in conjunction with the College of Rural and Community Development (CRCD) campuses and UAF’s Center for Distance Education (CDE). Disability Services, a part of UAF’s Center for Health and Counseling, provides academic accommodations to enrolled students who are identified as being eligible for these services.

If you believe you are eligible, please visit http://www.uaf.edu/ehc/disability.html on the web or contact a student affairs staff person at the Bristol Bay Campus. You can also contact Disability Services on the Fairbanks Campus at (907) 474-7043, fydsso@uaf.edu

“The Office of Disability Services implements the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and insures that UAF students have equal access to the campus and course materials. I will work with the Office of Disabilities Services (203 WHIT, 474.7043) to provide reasonable accommodation to students with disabilities.”

*In Compliance with UAF Faculty Senate Resolution/2004*
Re: ENVI 250

Todd Radenbaugh <taradenbaugh@alaska.edu>  
To: Jak Maier <jamaier@alaska.edu>, Crystal Frank <cafrank@alaska.edu>  
Mon, Oct 7, 2013 at 10:26 AM

For ENVI 250, Changed the last bullet to to read:

Course Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course, students will:

- Apply the scientific method to local environmental issues
- Demonstrate an understanding of a current environmental issue and how it is defined by current scientific data.
- Be able to summarize current information related to an environmental topic then suggest what additional information may be useful.

On Mon, Oct 7, 2013 at 8:43 AM, Jak Maier <jamaier@alaska.edu> wrote:

Hi Todd,

I've been looking over your ENVI 250 syllabus over the weekend and I've noticed something that will definitely get the attention of the Curriculum Review committee, I believe. Your second Course Outcome is "Be able to critically analyze a simple data set and suggest if there is a way to improve data collection". I don't see that happening very clearly in the course calendar or in the evaluation section. It needs to be obvious that the students are critically assessing a data set, including how the data were collected so that they may think of better ways to do it, as per the outcome. Right now, the course just looks like the students are attending a series of seminars. The course happens so fast, its hard to imagine that the students could even absorb all of the information and develop a cogent critique of how the data were collected and presented.

Anyway, there may be some question of this. I'm wondering if you could strengthen the link between your Course Outcomes and the Course Calendar and evaluation sections of the syllabus.

Best wishes,

Jak

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JAK Maier

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Todd A. Radenbaugh, PhD
Associate Professor Environmental Science
UAF Bristol Bay Campus
Bristol Bay Environmental Science Lab
907.842.5109

ENVI 250 syllabus Oct 4.docx
33K