Bemidji State University

GEOG 2925: People of the Environment: Geography Perspective

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 3  
Lecture Hours/Week: 0  
Lab Hours/Week: 0  
OJT Hours/Week: *.*  
Prerequisites: None  
Corequisites: None  

MnTC Goals: Goal 10 - People/Environment, Goal 07 - Human Diversity

An integrative study of the natural, social, value-based, and citizen-action contexts for environmental awareness. The disciplinary component surveys geographic approaches to and institutional settings for environmental problems and decision making, including our spatial behaviors as either sources or recipients of environmental impacts. Interdisciplinary perspectives are evaluated in light of different geographic concepts of spatial distributions, physical geography, and regional planning. Core Curriculum Goal Area(s) 7 & 10.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/27/2018 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Environmental Education  
2. Wellness: Lifestyle impact  
3. How nature is important for wellness  
4. Treaties/Land Back  
5. Human population: The impact of our growing numbers?  
6. Promoting sustainable behavior  
7. Climate Change  
8. Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency  
9. Indigenous Food Sovereignty  
10. Local Indigenous Plants  
11. Full Cost Pricing, Externalities, and Tragedy of the Commons  
12. Perceived risk: Precautionary Principle  
13. Promoting civic engagement around sustainability  
14. Environmental Worldviews: Our relationship to/with nature  
15. Managing controversial conversations
D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)

1. explain the basic structure and function of various natural ecosystems and of human adaptive strategies within those systems.
2. identify patterns and interrelationships of bio-physical and socio-cultural systems.
3. describe the basic institutional arrangements (social, legal, political, economic, religious) that are evolving to deal with environmental and natural resource challenges.
4. evaluate critically environmental and natural resource issues in light of understandings about interrelationships, ecosystems, and institutions.
5. propose and assess alternative solutions to environmental problems.
6. assess and defend the actions they would take on various environmental issues.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies

Goal 10 - People/Environment

1. Explain the basic structure and function of various natural ecosystems and of human adaptive strategies within those systems.
2. Discern patterns and interrelationships of bio-physical and socio-cultural systems.
3. Describe the basic institutional arrangements (social, legal, political, economic, religious) that are evolving to deal with environmental and natural resource challenges.
4. Evaluate critically environmental and natural resource issues in light of understandings about interrelationships, ecosystems, and institutions.

Goal 07 - Human Diversity

1. Understand the development of and the changing meanings of group identities in the United States' history and culture.
2. Demonstrate an awareness of the individual and institutional dynamics of unequal power relations between groups in contemporary society.
3. Analyze their own attitudes, behaviors, concepts and beliefs regarding diversity, racism, and bigotry.
4. Describe and discuss the experience and contributions (political, social, economic, etc.) of the many groups that shape American society and culture, in particular those groups that have suffered discrimination and exclusion.

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION

None noted