Bemidji State University

ENVR 4610: Sustainability: Theory and Practice

A. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Credits: 4
Lecture Hours/Week: 0
Lab Hours/Week: 0
OJT Hours/Week: *.*
Prerequisites: ENVR 2000 - Introduction to Environmental Science
Corequisites: None
MnTC Goals: None

Becoming agents of positive change in our communities requires building many different skill sets. This course will build core competencies of community leadership and focus on sustainability issues in our community. We will integrates theories, principles and practices of sustainability throughout the course and explore how various entities such as the University, the City of Bemidji, local tribes, companies, non-profits and individuals approach sustainability actions and choices. We will explore issues such as energy, water, waste, food and transportation as well as diversity, equity and inclusion in decision making. Students will be asked to identify a specific problem facing our community and utilize Problem and Project Based Learning (PBL) techniques to directly engage with these local issues, connect with the stakeholders involved and work together to propose potential solutions. Prerequisite(s): ENVR 2000 or consent of instructor.

B. COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: 08/26/2019 - Present

C. OUTLINE OF MAJOR CONTENT AREAS

1. Sustainability in Higher Education
2. Waste & Recycling
3. Energy
4. Water
5. Food
6. Transportation
7. Environmental Education
8. Project Design and Management
9. Stakeholder Analyses
10. Cost-Benefit Analyses
11. Interpersonal and Professional Communication
D. LEARNING OUTCOMES (General)
   1. identify their personal strengths and apply them to build core competencies in community leadership.
   2. describe the concept of Sustainability both in theory and practice.
   3. identify key characteristics of human and natural systems as they pertain to sustainability.
   4. communicate how the key characteristics of human and natural systems interact with one another.
   5. identify measurable collective and individual actions to address problems experienced in the community.
   6. analyze sustainability from a multidisciplinary and multi-stakeholder perspective.
   7. utilize Problem and Project Based Learning techniques to actively engage with local problems and help explore and identify sustainable solutions.

E. Minnesota Transfer Curriculum Goal Area(s) and Competencies
   None

F. LEARNER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT
   As noted on course syllabus

G. SPECIAL INFORMATION
   None noted