Course Syllabus

Department: Environmental Conservation

Date: 12/12/12

I. Course Prefix and Number: CON 100

Course Name: Introduction to Environmental Conservation

Credit Hours and Contact Hours: 3 credit hours and 3 contact hours

Catalog Description including pre- and co-requisites: supporting data required for grade prerequisite of ‘C’ or higher. This course is designed to provide a broad overview of the field of environmental conservation. Students are expected to improve their writing and critical thinking skills throughout the semester. Topics include current issues, management techniques, a history of the conservation movement in the U.S. as well as underlying principles of environmental conservation.

Relationship to Academic Programs and Curriculum including SUNY Gen Ed designation if applicable:

This course is required for all environmental degrees.

II. Course Student Learning Outcomes: State the student learning outcome(s) for the course (e.g. Student will be able to identify…)

1. Students will apply critical thinking skills to a conservation topic.
2. Students will demonstrate knowledge of sustainability and its practice.
3. Students will locate and utilize appropriate resources and references for a writing assignment.

College Learning Outcomes Addressed by the Course: (check each College Learning Outcome addressed by the Student Learning Outcomes)

- [ ] writing
- [ ] oral communications
- [ ] reading
- [ ] mathematics
- [ ] X critical thinking
- [ ] computer literacy
- [ ] ethics/values
- [ ] citizenship
- [ ] X global concerns
- [ ] X information resources
III. Assessment Measures (Summarize how the college and student learning outcomes will be assessed): For each identified outcome checked, please provide the specific assessment measure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>List identified College Learning Outcomes(s)</th>
<th>Specific assessment measure(s)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical thinking</td>
<td>Exam questions that ask students to identify, analyze and evaluate arguments on a specific conservation topic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global concerns</td>
<td>Students will define sustainability, provide examples of actions that are and are not sustainable and apply the concepts of sustainability to actions in their own life.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information resources</td>
<td>For a specific writing assignment, students will identify, locate, evaluate, use and share peer reviewed information.</td>
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IV. Instructional Materials and Methods

*Types of Course Materials:*

Journal articles, readings in conservation

*Methods of Instruction (e.g. Lecture, Lab, Seminar ...):*

Lecture, field experiences

V. General Outline of Topics Covered:

- Introduction to taxonomic keys and field guides
- Succession
- A Sand County Almanac: discussion and readings from the book and the life of Aldo Leopold
- Natural History of the Whitetail Deer
- Endangered, introduced, and naturally returning species - timber wolf, moose, and coyote
- Birds of Prey
- Program requirements - employment and transfer to 4-year colleges
- Invasive species
- Critical thinking: Are there mountain lions in NY?
- History of conservation

7/12