

New Course Proposal

New course proposals at the undergraduate level must be approved by the Department Curriculum Committee, Department Chair, College Curriculum Committee, and College Dean before being presented to the Undergraduate Curriculum and Catalog Review Committee. Proposals for new courses intended for inclusion in the Core Curriculum must also be approved by the General Education Curriculum Advisory Committee before being presented to the Undergraduate Curriculum and Catalog Review Committee. Courses recommended by the Undergraduate Curriculum and Catalog Review Committee to the Vice President for Academic Affairs must be approved before they can be scheduled.

I. Catalog Entry

a. Department Prefix (three or four capital letters): **ECO**

b. Course Number (three numbers): **200**

c. Course Title: **ECO Experiences**

d. Prerequisites: **ECO-specific UNIV 100 section or permission of the instructor**

e. Credit Hours: **1**

f. Brief Description: **Students will prepare for, participate in, discuss, and evaluate ECO Connections living-learning community activities and projects.**

II. Detailed Description of Course

a. Content

This course is designed to provide students with structure for the activities and assignments they undertake as part of their participation in the ECO Connections Living-Learning Community. As such they will research the projects and activities, participate in them, and then debrief once the activities are over. Additionally they will engage with professors from across the campus community who will present to them. The activities will change each semester, but will be a mix of outdoor-leadership activities, on-campus outreach and service projects, and community-service projects and activities on campus, in Radford, and across the New River Valley.

For instance, students might go on an “Adventures for Change” service trip to clean up parts of the Appalachian trail. Before going they will meet with professors to talk about the trail and any sustainability issues associated with it. Then they will participate in the trip. After the trip is over, we will discuss in class their experiences, what they learned, and what they might do differently. Students will record their reflections in journals; these journals will be the basis of a presentation about sustainability they will make at the end of the semester.

b. Detailed Description of Conduct of Course: **The course will be taught in one 50 minute classroom session a week. The sessions will be interactive, combining classroom discussion, presentations by the instructor, and visiting guests to talk about particular issues.**

c. Student Goals and Objectives of the Course: **At the conclusion of the course the students will be able to: 1) Identify major sustainability and environmental issues on campus and in the region.**

2) Present findings on these issues formally.

d. Assessment Measures: **Students will be evaluated on their attendance, participation, a journal, and a presentation. They will receive a grade based on these evaluations.**

e. Other Course Information

III. Background and Justification

a. Need for the Course: **This course is needed to support the Environment/Community (ECO) Connections living-learning community. ECO does not currently have a requirement for the Spring semester, and this has limited the effectiveness of the program. This course will allow for better retention across semesters, and will contribute to both better participation in the program and better program outcomes.**

b. Students for Whom Course is Offered: **New students to Radford University who identify an interest in sustainability and a desire to be a part of the ECO community.**

c. Anticipated Enrollment: **Initial maximum of 20 students.**

d. Frequency of Course Offerings: **One section each Spring semester.**

e. Level and Prerequisites: **This course is intended for students in their second semester at Radford.**

IV. Rationale for Resources Required

a. Faculty Resources: **There are no additional faculty resources necessary for the course. The faculty of record will be one of the co-directors of the ECO LLC and part of that faculty's reassigned time is in support of this program and course.**

b. Effect on Existing Curricula: **None anticipated**

c. Facilities, Equipment and Supplies: **Current facilities, equipment, and supplies are sufficient for this course.**

d. Library Resources

1. Describe the adequacy of materials available to support this course. **Current library resources are sufficient for this course.**

2. List in priority order the additional materials to be purchased. **None anticipated.**

Attach additional sheets as needed.

Prepared by:

Signature of Faculty Member:

Signature of Librarian assigned
to requesting department:

e. Computer Resources: **No additional computer resources are anticipated.**

f. Other Anticipated Resources: **None**

* Approval of new courses only. Resources required for new courses must be approved through the college resource allocation process.