



Lewis & Clark Moodle

Jim Proctor 

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[Information Technology Home](#)

[Moodle Help](#)



[Dashboard](#) / [College of Arts and Science](#) / [Environmental Studies Program](#) / [ENVS295-01/17SP](#) / [General](#) / **Syllabus**

This syllabus may be slightly updated through the semester to provide further information; the last revised date is at bottom.

General information

Class meetings: Wed 3:00–4:30 pm

Location: J.R. Howard 260

Credits: 2 credits graded

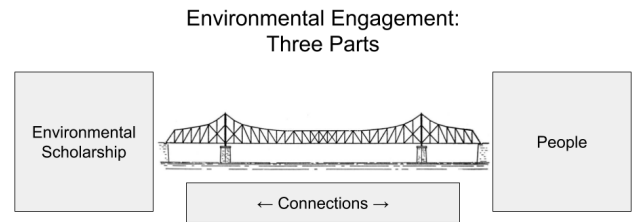
Instructor: Prof. Jim Proctor (jproctor@lclark.edu, 503.768.7707)

Office hours: MW 11–1 or TTh 1–3, Howard 348; drop in/make appointment

Objectives

ENVS 295 is a new, two-credit graded core course in the ENVS curriculum, with ENVS 160 and sophomore standing as prerequisites. The course will be offered every fall and spring semester, and is required of all ENVS majors entering 2016–17 and after. Here is the catalog description: “Faculty-directed student engagement, connecting environmental scholarship to people in a variety of settings. Identification and finalization of engagement opportunities; development of communication, cultural competency, and related skills; reflection on engagement experiences: and authoring and sharing of outcomes.”

We define environmental engagement as a wide range of actions that connect environmental scholarship to people. All three dimensions of this definition—environmental scholarship, people, and the connections that bridge scholarship to people—require careful research, judicious choice, thoughtful integration, and empirical assessment in engagement projects. As such, the course builds upon all ENVS Program learning outcomes.



Course content

As a two-credit, faculty directed, project-based learning course, ENVS 295 primarily involves supervised pursuit of engagement projects. Some are original projects students devise themselves or in conjunction with ENVS faculty collaboration: as one of many possible examples, a student with a concentration in forest conservation may convene focus groups of Oregonians to receive information and exchange views on management of the Elliott State Forest. Other engagement projects are organized by the ENVS Program and faculty (see here for a current list), including ENVS Symposium, the Environment Across Boundaries showcase site, and a collaboration with the Environmental Action Living-Learning Community (the list also includes ENVS faculty projects with which students may collaborate for their own projects). Students will participate in both original and existing projects, with time expectations commensurate with a two-credit course. Students will do a variety of readings, discussions, and skill-building activities to ensure greater degrees of project success and enjoyment. Projects will be routinely documented via student DS sites, and students will provide regular updates and seek peer guidance in class. We will discuss ways to promulgate final project outcomes at the end of the semester, including Lewis & Clark's annual Festival of Scholars on Friday April 14. Additionally, ENVS 295 students will consult with ENVS 160 students doing small engagement projects toward the end of the semester.

This ENVS site page compares ENVS 295 with ENVS 244 and 499, two other project-based ENVS courses.

Tentative class schedule

Below is a tentative class schedule, to be finalized in consultation with student participants.

- Week 1: What is engagement, and environmental engagement (EE)? + existing ENVS-organized projects
- Weeks 2-4: ENVS project work; background readings/discussions and skill building in

three dimensions of EE

- Scholarship: Process and outcome
- People: The "unexotic underclass" and others
- Connections: Communication models and more
- Week 5: Original engagement project workshop + ENVS faculty feedback
- Weeks 6-12: ENVS and original project work; readings/discussions and skill building in EE related topics, e.g.:
 - Considering cultural cognition in EE
 - The relative effectiveness of humor vs. protest in EE
 - Engagement in PDX (ENVS alum panel)
 - Engagement with rural America; engagement with distant (international) others
 - Engagement in times of adversity (a.k.a. President Trump)
 - Engagement and identity vs. class vs. communitarian politics
 - Engagement case studies: Standing Rock; Malheur; PDX heavy metals; Inconvenient Truth; etc.
- Weeks 13-14: Project presentations and follow-through

Readings

Readings are available online, or on a private Zotero course library in good-faith compliance with fair use copyright law. Information on how to use Zotero is here; we'll provide information on group library access in class.

Grading

As ENVS 295 is project based, with significant work done during class sessions, your ENVS 295 grade largely depends on process and outcome elements of your projects, with another portion devoted to in-class participation. There are no exams in ENVS 295; the Registrar's Office, however, advises that all classes must meet during the final exam session, so do plan on some sort of final activity. Here is a general breakdown of grade elements:

- 33%: Contribution to ENVS sponsored projects (Symposium, ENVX, EALLC collaboration)
- 33%: Your own engagement project
- 33%: Preparation for, and participation in, class activities

Grades are assumed to follow the guidelines of the Lewis & Clark College Undergraduate Catalog; e.g., an A constitutes "Outstanding work that goes beyond analysis of course material to synthesize concepts in a valid and/or novel or creative way." I am happy to consult with you on your progress in class relative to these grade elements above. You will receive an in-progress grade roughly halfway through the semester as well.

You are encouraged to bring a laptop or digital device to each class session. Invoking our digital devices policy, we will provide you guidance and training to ensure that your use in

the classroom contributes to your learning.

If you have a disability that may impact your academic performance, you may request accommodations by submitting documentation to the Student Support Services Office in Albany Quadrangle (x7156). Staff in that office will notify me of the accommodations for which you are eligible, and I'm happy to work with you to make sure your learning objectives are met for ENVS 295.

It is worth reminding you that academic integrity is our motto here, and plagiarism in any form is a serious offense at Lewis & Clark College. Your work should be your own, and if you borrow from someone else's work, you should properly cite that resource. Failure to do so may result in serious grade implications, or dismissal from the course. For details, please consult the LC Academic Integrity Policy.

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Lewis & Clark College
0615 S.W. Palatine Hill Road Portland
Oregon 97219 USA
503-768-7000