

ENVS 350 Collaborative Environmental Problem Solving

Fall 2022

Instructor: Dr. Dan Ferguson

Tuesday and Thursdays, 12:30pm – 1:45pm

Credits: 3

Are you interested in the big environmental challenges of our era? Do those problems sometimes seem overwhelming because they are so complicated? It turns out, you're not alone. To address complicated problems like climate change, environmental degradation, and biodiversity loss requires many different ways of understanding the world to come together collaboratively. If you're motivated to learn about how



different ways knowing can be brought together to address big environmental problems, this course is for you. The course starts with a basic grounding in two primary knowledge systems relevant for environmental problem solving (Indigenous and western science). From there we move on to understanding how what YOU know fits into collaborative environmental problem solving. This course does not require a specific scientific background, but it does require you to be open-minded about different ways of understanding the world and be prepared to actively contribute your knowledge and skills—whatever those are—to a collaborative team.

OBJECTIVES:

In this course you will learn:

- To situate your expertise and knowledge in a team in the broader context of different knowledge systems.
- To understand the basic rationale for collaborative approaches in environmental problem solving and the necessity of matching specific types of knowledge and expertise to the environmental problem or project.
- Several techniques for developing and carrying out a collaborative environmental project.
- To develop a collaborative written, structured plan for a collaborative environmental project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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