Environmental Design, Policy, and Planning (EDP)

Major and Minor in Environmental Design, Policy, and Planning

Director: Dr. Harold Quigley, Psychology A # 346 B
Email: hquigleyjr@gmail.com
Program Office: W0511 Melville Library
Program Coordinator: Ginny Clancy
Phone: (631) 632-9404
Email: ginny.clancy@stonybrook.edu
Website: http://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/sustainability/majors_edp.html

Environmental Design, Policy, and Planning (EDP)

The Environmental Design, Policy, and Planning major, leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree, provides the skills, knowledge, and preparation for students to understand and address complex issues related to development, land-use, urbanization, and suburban sprawl. The curriculum integrates principles and methodologies from social sciences, natural sciences, and humanities. The goal is to address the complex scientific, legal, ethical, political, environmental, and socio-economic issues that surround the development, management, and use of the built environment.

The B.A. degree prepares students for entry-level employment in the public, private, or non-profit sectors in a variety of fields including urban and regional planning, community planning, environmental consulting, land and real estate development, and public administration. The major prepares students for graduate study in environmental design, planning, architecture, law, management and business.

The major builds on the interdisciplinary sustainability core curriculum. Students will enroll in major-specific courses in their junior and senior year. As part of the preparation, students will work in teams with students enrolled in related majors to collaboratively solve problems. A design project is an essential part of the curriculum to provide real-world experience. Internships and independent research courses provide additional real-world experiences. Seniors are required to present their Design Project at an Annual Gathering of Researchers and Scholars.

Requirements for the Major and Minor in Environmental Design, Policy, and Planning (EDP)

A. Required Foundation Courses for Major (33-34 credits)

• MAT 131 or MAT 125 Calculus
• ECO 108 Introduction to Economics
• SBC 111 Introduction to Sustainability
• SBC 115 Introduction to Human Demography
• ENV 115 Chemistry, Life, Environment
• SBC 113/SBC 114 Physical Geography
• SBC 117 Drawing for Design
• AMS 102 Elements of Statistics
• SBC 201 Systems and Models
• POL 102 Introduction to American Government
• SBC 205 Introduction to Geospatial Analysis
• SBC 206 Economics and Sustainability

B. Career Leadership Skills (5 credits)

• CSK 102 Career Leadership Skills: Working in Teams
• CSK 101, CSK 103, CSK 104, CSK 105, CSK 106, CSK 107, CSK 108, or CSK 109
• CSK 302 Technical Writing and Communication

C. Core Courses (31 credits):

(Students are required to take: the 10 credits in Group 1; 6 credits from each of Groups 2 through 4; and 3 credits from Group 5)

1. Core Courses (10 credits)

• GSS 313 GIS Applications and Design
• GSS 314 GIS Laboratory (for students enrolling in GSS 313 Spring 2013 or later)
• SBC 354 Drawing for Design--CAD
• EDP 303 Spatial Economics

2. Historic and Theoretical Perspectives 300-level courses (6 credits)

• SBC 200 Human Settlements: History and Future
• EDP 307 Theories and Design of Human Settlements

3. Physical and Built Environment Upper Division Block (6 credits)

• EDP 301 The Built Environment I
• EDP 302 The Built Environment II
4. Policy, Politics and Regulations (6 credits)
   - EDP 309 Planning: Policies and Regulations
   - One of the following courses: EDP 305 Risk Assessment and Sustainable Development; SBC 308 American Environmental Politics; SBC 309 Global Environmental Politics

5. Societal and Cultural Aspects (3 credits)
   - SUS 303 Demographic Change and Sustainability
   - SBC 307 American Environmental History
   - SBC 310 Migration, Development and Population Redistribution
   - SBC 312 Environment, Society and Health

One of the following can be substituted for any of the courses in Group 5.
NOTE: each course below has a prerequisite outside the major.
   - SUS 301 or PHI 366 Environmental Ethics
   - SBC 331 City Suburb Sprawl
   - EHI 322 Human Ecology

D. Design Project Course (3 credits)
   - EDP 404 Environmental Design Project (see notes)

E. Communications and Writing requirement

Proficiency in writing, oral communication, and computer literacy will be encouraged in all students. In addition to CSK 302, these skills will be developed within the context of other formal coursework and no additional credits are required. To meet the upper-division writing requirement, students must submit two papers from any 300-level or 400-level course in the major to the Director of the EDP Undergraduate Program.

Notes:
1. Internship with significant practical experience in planning and/or environmental design may be substitute for EDP 404 with permission of Undergraduate EDP Program Director.
2. One course passed with a C- may be applied to the major; all other courses offered for the major must be passed with a letter grade of C or higher. Course taken with the Pass/NC option may not be applied to the major.

Minor in Environmental Design, Policy, and Planning (EDP)

The Environmental Design, Policy, and Planning minor is intended for students who seek to complement their chosen major with a foundation in complex scientific, legal, ethical, political, environmental, and socio-economic issues that surround the development, management, and use of the built environment.

Requirements for the Minor in Environmental Design, Policy, and Planning (EDP)

No more than two courses that are used to satisfy your major can be applied to this minor. No more than one three-credit course in the minor may be taken under the Pass/No Credit option. All upper-division courses offered for the minor must be passed with a letter grade of C or higher. Completion of the minor requires 21 credits.

1. Required four introductory courses:
   - SBC 111 Introduction to Sustainability Studies
   - SBC 113 Physical Geography
   - SBC 200 Human Settlements: History and Future
   - SBC 206 Economics and Sustainability

2. Required two advanced courses:
   - EDP 301 The Built Environment I
   - EDP 302 The Built Environment II

3. Required one advanced course from the following:
   - EDP 303 Spatial Economics
   - EDP 309 Planning: Policies and Regulations
   - SBC 307 American Environmental History
   - SBC 309 Global Environmental Politics
   - SUS 350 Contemporary Topics in Sustainability

Declaration of the Minor
Students should declare the Environmental Design, Policy, and Planning minor no later than the middle of their sophomore year, at which time they should consult with the minor coordinator or undergraduate director and plan their course of study for fulfillment of the requirements.

**Sample Course Sequence for the Major in Environmental Design, Policy, and Planning**

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<th>Freshman Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tr>
<td>D.E.C. A</td>
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<td>CSK 102</td>
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<td>ARS 154</td>
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<td>ENV 115</td>
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<td>SBC 205</td>
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<td>CSK 109</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreign language or elective</td>
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<td>CSK 10x selection</td>
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EDP 307: Theories and Design of Urban Settlements
The course introduces students to the underlying economic, social and physical forces that shape the development of human settlements, with an emphasis on urban conurbations, and the typical United States metropolitan region.
Prerequisite: SBC 111 and SBC 200
3 credits

EDP 309: Planning: Policies and Regulations
An introduction to the process of planning and development of regulations necessary for the implementation of planning objectives.
Prerequisite: SBC 200
3 credits

EDP 404: Environmental Design Project
The Environmental Design Project is the culmination of the EDP Major. Each student should produce an individual work, that is a thoughtful analysis of a real-world problem addressing one of four central themes of the major's core: 1) historic and theoretical perspectives; 2) the physical and built environment; 3) policy, politics and regulation; or 4) societal and cultural change. Allowing that there may be some overlap among these four themes, each project must focus on a specific place, process or object. Students are expected to produce a final project portfolio—which may include audio-visual materials, drawings, models, posters, artifacts, etc.-- and a written report. Each student is expected to make a presentation to faculty and students before the close of the semester.
Prerequisites: EDP 301 and EDP 302 and EDP 307 and CSK 102
3 credits

EDP 487: Research in Environmental Design, Policy, & Planning
Qualified advanced undergraduates may carry out individual research projects under the direct supervision of a faculty member. May be repeated.
Prerequisite: Permission of instructor
1-6 credits, S/U grading

SBC 104 - B: Introduction to Moral Reasoning
An introductory inquiry into the formation and evaluation of moral judgments and reasoning.

The major theories and problems of ethics are surveyed, such as utilitarianism, Kant's categorical imperative, ethical relativism, egoism, and various concepts of the good and virtue. Readings from historical and contemporary figures.

3 credits
and the number of people in a society of a given age, sex, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic levels, marital status, and gender, are reviewed. Major issues related to sustainability (such as economic development, food and pollution, urbanization, gender and minority empowerment, and the human relationship and ecology with other organisms and species) are reviewed.

**Prerequisite:** MAT 125, MAT 131, MAT 132, or level 6 or higher on math placement exam. 3 credits

**SBC 116: Introduction to Human Geography**

Survey course introduces geography as a social science by emphasizing the relevance of geographic concepts to human problems. Course emphasizes globalization and cultural diversity.

3 credits

**SBC 117 - D: Design Drawing**

This introductory course exposes the student to the fundamental theories and practices employed in visually representing design concepts from observational through technical and speculative drawing. The course content introduces the student to contour drawing, rendering, orthographic projection, and pictorial drawing. Project work engages the student in the application of the above-mentioned drawing techniques and develops skills through the solution of student tailored problems.

3 credits

**SBC 200 - F: Human Settlement: History and Future**

The history of city growth over the millennia affected by technological change is a basis for understanding the future of human settlement. More than half of the world’s population currently lives in cities and urbanization continues on a global scale. The universality of urban development and resulting patterns will be presented as well as limits on growth of cities. Architectonic and socioeconomic planning theories and strategies for sustainable growth are presented. The development of Long Island, which is a microcosm of national and global patterns, will be discussed in detail.

3 credits

**SBC 201: Systems and Models**

Introduction to the dynamic modeling of complex systems. Students will learn to use simulation software that facilitates the visualization, formulation, and analysis of systems. Students will learn about systems with positive and negative feedbacks, the effects lags on system performance, and the difference between stocks and flows. Systems studied will include ecological models, economic models, chemical models, population models, epidemiological models, and models that include the interactions between population, economic development, and the environment.

**Prerequisite:** AMS 151 or MAT 125 or MAT 131 or MAT 141
1 credit

**SBC 203 - G: Interpretation and Critical Analysis**

An introduction to interdisciplinary inquiry and representation in arts, culture, and theory with emphasis on the roles of analysis, argument, and imagination in multiple media. Requires serious engagement with sophisticated texts.

**Pre- or corequisite:** WRT 102
3 credits

**SBC 204 - E: Population Studies**

The course will present basic mathematics of population growth and introduce various approaches for modeling populations, including population viability analysis (PVA). PVA, the quantitative assessment of the extinction risk of rare species or populations, takes biological information (habitat requirements, birth and death rates, population size) and makes predictions about future population sizes. Real examples will be discussed for a range of organisms, from bacteria to plants and mammals. This course will provide also the background for understanding human population growth. The impacts of human population growth in the developed and developing world on the ecology of other organisms, habitats and systems will also be discussed.

**Prerequisite:** MAT 125 and SBC 201
3 credits

**SBC 205: Introduction to Geospatial Analysis (lab course)**

Introduction to geographic information systems (GIS) and remote sensing techniques as applied to documenting, mapping, analyzing, interpreting, and managing natural and cultural resources. Overview of types of GIS data, computer hardware and software used for geospatial analysis, basic cartography, and global positioning system (GPS).

1 credit

**SBC 206 - F: Economics and Sustainability**

Introduction to the basic economic concepts used in sustainability analysis. Students will learn the basic concepts and how to apply them in various contexts. Topics include the analysis of situations in which the behavior of individuals indirectly affects the well-being of others, strategic behavior and the environment, and the use of market-oriented policies to help in the stewardship of the environment.

**Prerequisite:** ECO 108
3 credits

**SBC 307 - K: American Environmental History**

This course provides an overview of the history of how Americans have used, viewed and valued the natural environment. Beginning with the Indians and the early colonists (15th-16th centuries), the course will examine the cultural, social, economic, political, and technological currents that shaped North Americans’ relationships with their environment in early and later industrial eras, after World War II, and finally, in the late 20th and early 21st centuries. Historical snapshots will center on people living in more natural places, such as farms and forests, as well as more built places, such as factories, cities, and suburbs. Events in the northeastern U.S. will provide a geographic focus, but the course will also look at related happenings elsewhere on the North American continent and beyond. Finally, it will examine at the growing array of movements that have identified themselves as ‘environmental,’ at the ‘greenness’ of modern culture, and at the environmental dimensions of a globalizing era.

**Prerequisite:** U3/U4 standing
3 credits

**SBC 308 - K: American Environmental Politics**

This course will survey the politics of environmental policy-making in the United States. It examines how contrasting political, economic and social interests and values have clashed and contested with one another, and the exerted power, in the environmental policy realm. The course will explore past precedents and roots, but with a view to explain the shape of this realm in the modern United States, including the many actors and institutions: local, regional and national governments, non-governmental organizations and interest groups, as well as the public. It will look at the main patterns by which these groups have defined environmental problems and formulated and implemented solutions. A chief goal is to illuminate how and why solutions of real-world environmental problems, if they are
to be effective, differ from those of scientific or engineering puzzles.

**Prerequisite:** POL 102

**SBC 309: Global Environmental Politics**

This course will explore the politics of environmental policy-making within the international realm. Focused especially on environmental dilemmas that cross national boundaries (i.e., pollution), or that are shared by multiple nations (i.e., global warming) it will look at the ways that such problems have been defined and their solutions sought, both with and without an over-arching state or governance. It will survey the many groups, interests and values that have clashed and competed with one another to exert power and influence international environmental policies, as well as the variety of international institutions and agreements that have sought to formulate and implement solutions. One goal is to illuminate how and why effective solutions to global environmental problems differ from those to scientific or engineering puzzles. The course also aims to spur student engagement with the sometimes overwhelming nature of global environmental threats, the tenuous and sometimes counterproductive ways that knowledge and power can be linked, and the ways individuals may act powerfully in service of “sustainability.”

**Prerequisite:** SBC 111 or ENV 115 or ENS 101 or GEO 101 or permission of instructor

**SBC 310: Migration, Development and Population Redistribution**

This course draws upon the contributions of various social and natural sciences (including population and urban geography, demography, political science, sociology, history, economics, public health and environmental sciences) to explore the effects of migratory and demographic shifts on the environment, social welfare, public health, economic development, ethnic diversity, urbanization, public policy and planning. It will examine the political, social, environmental, health and economic effects on sustainability.

**Prerequisite:** SBC 115

**SBC 311 - H: Disasters and Society: A Global Perspective**

This class introduces students to the sociological examination of natural, technological, and industrial disasters. Students will explore how and why disasters are fundamentally social events: What do disasters reveal about society? Why are the human consequences of disasters unequally distributed? What are the typical ways in which states, organizations, and communities respond to disasters? Focusing on case studies from around the world, students will discuss: What are the long-term/short-term causes of particular disasters? What forms of suffering the disasters under consideration generated? What state/civil society actions did they trigger? What advocacy networks were put in place in their aftermath?

**Prerequisite:** SBC 111, or ENS 101, or GEO 101; POL 102 or SOC 105

**SBC 312 - F: Environment, Society, and Health**

This class examines the interactions between environment, social structures, and institutions. The first part of the class examines the ways in which environmental issues are perceived and constructed by various social actors (lay public, state officials, scientists, activists, media). The second part of the class will examine the differential impact of class, race, and gender on the distribution of hazards and risks (what is commonly known as ‘environmental inequality’). In the third part of the class, students will be introduced to different cases of ‘contested environmental illnesses’ (cancer, lead-poisoning, asthma).

**Prerequisite:** SBC 111, or ENS 101, or GEO 101; POL 102 or SOC 105

**SBC 320 - J: Sub-Saharan Africa: Geography, Cultures, and Societies**

This course presents a broad perspective on Sub-Saharan Africa, a region of sharp geographic, cultural, and economic contrasts. The legacy of the region’s triple heritage (indigenous, Islamic, and European) is presented as a framework for understanding the complexity and diversity of contemporary Sub-Saharan Africa in terms of distribution of languages, religions, ethnicity, family relations, and governance systems. The influence of globalization, migration, HIV/AIDS, conflicts, population growth, and socioeconomic development policies on modern Sub-Saharan African are discussed.

**Prerequisite:** Junior or Senior Standing

**SBC 321 - G: Ecology and Evolution in American Literature**

This course is a review of 19th- and 20th-century American writers who trace the evolution of the US with respect to ecological practices through various multicultural perspectives. Literature covered will include transcendentalist essays, utopian/dystopian novels, ecofeminist fiction, and journalism.

**Prerequisite:** SBC 203 or EGL 204

**3 credits**

**SBC 325: Environmental Writing and the Media**

An examination of multiple genres (including: photo journalism, literary nonfiction, fine art and advertising and documentary film) in order to understand ways in which these genres are utilized to inform and manipulate public opinion regarding the environment. The culmination of the course will be a final project using multiple genres.

**Prerequisite:** WRT 102

**Advisory Prerequisite:** SBC 203

**3 credits**

**SBC 330 - G: Extreme Events in Literature**

A course that examines the depiction of extreme events (both natural and human-related) in literature, journalism, art, and film, with special emphasis paid to the extended political and social issues that are raised by the events in question.

**Prerequisite:** SBC 203 or EGL 204

**3 credits**

**SBC 331 - G: City, Suburb, Sprawl**

A course that traces the shift from city to suburb to sprawl in texts that span the late-nineteenth century through the early twenty-first century, with special attention paid to phenomena such as industrialization, immigration, mass society, globalization, and postmodern hyperspace. An interdisciplinary set of texts will include works by novelists, artists, architects, and literary theoreticians.

**Prerequisite:** SBC 203 or EGL 204

**3 credits**

**SBC 354: Drawing for Design--CAD**

Techniques and Theory of Drawing; Architectural Drawing; Learning Computer Assisted Design (CAD). This course will serve as an introduction to CAD tools relevant to design and architectural rendering.

**Prerequisite:** SBC 117

**3 credits**

**SBC 401: Integrative, Collaborative Systems Studies**

Problem-based capstone course.

**Prerequisite:** U3 or U4 status

**3 credits**
SBC 475: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum
Work with a faculty member as assistant in a regularly scheduled course. The student must attend all classes and carry out all assignments; in addition the student will be assigned a specific role to assist in teaching the course. The student will meet with the instructor on a regular basis to discuss intellectual and pedagogical matters relating to the course.
Prerequisites: Permission of instructor and undergraduate director
3 credits, S/U grading

SBC 476: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum II
Work with a faculty member as an assistant in one of the faculty member's regularly scheduled courses. Students assume greater responsibility in such areas as leading discussions and analyzing results of tests that have already been graded. Students may not serve as teaching assistants in the same course twice.
Prerequisites: Permission of instructor and undergraduate director
3 credits, S/U grading

SBC 487: Sustainability Studies Research
Qualified advanced undergraduates may carry out individual research projects under the direct supervision of a faculty member. Repeatable to a maximum of 3 credits.
Prerequisite: Permission of instructor
0-3 credits, S/U grading

SBC 488: Internship
Participation in local, state, and national public and private agencies and organizations. May be repeated to a limit of 12 credits.
Prerequisites: U3/U4 status and permission of the Undergraduate Program Director
0-12 credits, S/U grading

GSS
Geospatial Science

GSS 105 - F: Introduction to Maps and Mapping
An introduction to the study and design of map formats, symbology, coordinate systems, and how maps record the historical patterns of human behavior. The course will also examine maps as a tool to analyze human activity and societal development, and include important aspects of map data collection, processing, the Global Positioning System (GPS), quantitative mapping, and GIS-based mapmaking techniques.
3 credits

GSS 309: GIS and Cartography
Cartography is the knowledge associated with the art, science, and technology of maps. Digital computer cartography still follows the same fundamental principles and still requires a broad understanding of graphically as a language (as well as numeracy and literacy). This course will provide an introduction to cartographic principles, concepts, software and hardware necessary to produce good maps, especially in the context (and limitations) of geographic information systems (GIS).
Prerequisite: SBC 113 or GSS 105
3 credits

GSS 310: Remote Sensing GIS Data
Provides a basic overview of the technology by which aircraft and satellite images of the Earth are produced as well as hands on experience manipulating and interpreting. Students gain practical experience in environmental analysis using satellite imagery and commonly used sensors and analytical methods for the Earth sciences.
Prerequisite: GSS 105, MAR 104, GEO 102
3 credits

GSS 313: GIS Design and Application I
Provides the basic concepts underlying modern geographic information science and technology. Emphasis is placed on the principles of GIS for characterizing environmental systems and computer-based techniques for processing and analyzing spatial data. The course is three credit hours of lecture. This lecture course must be taken in the same semester as the associated laboratory, GSS 314.
Prerequisite: MAT 125 or MAT 131
3 credits

GSS 314: GIS Laboratory
Practice using the GIS techniques and tools learned in the lecture (GSS 313), work on exercises, and process and analyze the spatial data for the course project. This laboratory course must be taken in the same semester as GSS 313.
Corequisite: GSS 313
1 credit

GSS 323: GIS Database and Design
Concepts of geodatabase design and management in geographic information systems (GIS), SQL statements, geographic data types and functions, data entry, techniques of geographic information structure applications. This is a Windows based computer class with the majority of students work involving GIS computer software.
Prerequisite: GSS 313
3 credits

GSS 325: GIS Design & Applications II
The course builds upon the topics covered in GIS Design and Application I. It emphasizes the applications of GIS in solving real-world problems. Students are expected to gain an understanding of GIS theory, methodology and most importantly application. Students are also expected to demonstrate abilities of spatial thinking, spatial analysis, and be able to solve practical spatial problems utilizing a GIS. Because GIS is both a tool for analysis and the visual communication of these data, students will be required to develop a GIS presentation, much as would be expected in a professional setting. This independent project will constitute a substantial portion of the final grade. This is a Windows based computer class with the majority of students work involving GIS computer software.
Prerequisite: GSS 313 or equivalent
3 credits

GSS 326: GIS Project Management
The course addresses issues unique to a GIS operation such as implementation issues, decision making procedures, strategies for success, legal issues, involvement of management, marking within an organization, strategic planning, and industry outlook.
Prerequisite: GSS 313
3 credits

GSS 350: Applied Spatial Data Analysis
An introduction to geospatial statistical analysis that aims to provide students with the background necessary to investigate geographically represented data. The specific focus is on spatial data analysis, such as the analysis of autocorrelation, principles of geostatistics and analysis methods that are relevant in the fields of public health, environmental/earth science and social science. An important aspect of the course is to gain hands-on experience in applying these techniques with GIS and spatial analytical software, and essential methodological and practical issues that are involved in sophisticated spatial analyses.
Prerequisite: AMS 102 or equivalent and GSS 313
3 credits

GSS 355: Remote Sensing GIS Data
Provides a basic overview of the technology by which aircraft and satellite images of the Earth are produced as well as hands on experience manipulating and interpreting. Students gain practical experience in environmental analysis using satellite imagery and commonly used sensors and analytical methods for the Earth sciences.
Prerequisite: GSS 105, MAR 104, GEO 102
3 credits

GSS 475: Undergraduate Teaching Practicum
Work with a faculty member as assistant in a regularly scheduled course. The student must attend all classes and carry out all assignments; in addition the student will be assigned a specific role to assist in teaching the course. The student will meet with the instructor on a regular basis to discuss intellectual and pedagogical matters relating to the course.

Prerequisites: Permission of instructor and undergraduate director

3 credits, S/U grading

**GSS 487: Geospatial Science Research**

Qualified advanced undergraduates may carry out individual research projects under the direct supervision of a faculty member. Repeatable to a maximum of 3 credits.

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor

0-3 credits, S/U grading

**GSS 488: Geospatial Science Internship**

The GSS Internship is designed to provide students experience in the real workplace. Interns are expected to function as a GIS/Remote Sensing professional and work within the existing host facility structure or on a free standing project. Interns will complete assigned tasks by hosting facility such as GIS data entry, data retrieval, remote sensing analysis, GPS field work, documentation, or general GIS facility duties. These activities will be monitored by both a representative of the host facility and the instructor. May be repeated to a limit of 12 credits.

Prerequisites: GSS 313 and GSS 325, or instructor consent

0-12 credits, S/U grading