

## College of Arts and Sciences: Environmental Initiative

### Proposed New Course

**1. Proposed new course number and course description (as it will appear in course catalogue):** ES 402: **Scientific Foundations for Environmental Policy Design** (3 credits): This course explores the science behind the environmental issues that bear on the policy process at local, national and global scales. Scientific concepts will be explored with the goal of understanding ways in which they can better inform the policy process at all scales. The course delves into the science of selected environmental issues that have either arisen from anthropogenic activities, or that impact social systems. (SAHAGIAN)

**2. Instructional mode (lecture, recitation, laboratory, seminar, independent study, or other) and number of contact hours per week:** Lecture, reading and discussion. Three contact hours per week

**3. Rationale for proposed new course:** Required course for anticipated degree program, MA Environmental Policy Design, elective offering for EES graduate programs, and ES graduate certificate, developed by new faculty member Sahagian. It will delve into the scientific literature that is most relevant to policy issues so that students can better understand the scientific basis for environmental decision making.

**4. Academic impact on programs affected by new course:** The newly proposed M.A. in Environmental Policy Design will depend on this required course being offered. It will also enhance the curricula of other related M.A. curricula on campus. No programs will be adversely affected.

**A. Is the proposed course to be cross-listed?** Yes. (with EES402)

**B. Identify any known effects of the proposed new course on other programs at the University.**  
The course will provide additional electives for EES graduate students, giving policy-relevance to their course work and research.

**C. If there are known effects, individuals in charge of the affected programs must be consulted about the proposed new course and the following information provided:**

(1) Who was consulted? EES faculty

(2) Is the proposed new course acceptable to all other programs affected? YES

(3) Will any changes be required in the affected programs? If so, please describe below:

**D. Does the proposed new course affect the University's commitment to diversity in any way?**  
If so, please describe below: No.

### **5. Resource Impact**

**A. Provide impact statements in the four areas listed below:**

**(1) Library impact statement** Covered in EI library impact statement, in which it was stated that there will need to be some increased spending on books and reference works covering environmental policy, recycling, and environmental management. No additional impact from this proposal.

**(2) Computer impact statement** None

**(3) Faculty impact statement** The course is part of the expected course load for the joint EI faculty.

**(4) Facilities impact statement** No impact.

**B. Provide a statement indicating who will assume financial responsibility for any new resources required:** EI