

**North Carolina State University Course Action Form**

**ES 595 – Special Topics**

**Proposal Type:** New Course

**Proposed Date:** Jan. 11, 2010

**Department/Program:** Environmental Science Academic Program

**Abbreviated Title:** Special Topics

**Scheduling:** Fall / Spring, in Every Year

**Offerings:** On-Campus

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Contact Hours**

**Lecture/Recitation:** 3

**Grading:** ABCDF

**Enrollment Per Semester:** 20

**Enrollment Maximum Per Section:** 20

**Multiple Sections:** TBD

**Repeatable:** Yes

**Catalog Description**

This course offers instruction on a special topic not currently covered in the graduate curriculum. The course also provides instruction to students on an experimental basis before it is finally incorporated into the curriculum.

The new course, ES 595 Special Topics, will allow students to earn credit while learning about new and ever changing topics about the environment. The special topics course is needed so faculty members can offer courses on quickly emerging themes in environmental science, and can introduce new courses prior to proposing them as permanent offerings.

**Course Justification**

This course offers instruction on a special topic not currently covered in the graduate curriculum. The course also provides instruction to students on an experimental basis before it is finally incorporated into the curriculum.

The new course, ES 595 Special Topics, will allow students to earn credit while learning about new and ever changing topics about the environment. The special topics course is needed so faculty members can offer courses on quickly emerging themes in environmental science, and can introduce new courses prior to proposing them as permanent offerings.

**Previous Enrollment**

This course has never been offered and therefore has no enrollment data.

**Resources Statement**

No additional resources are required.

### Consultation With Other Departments

Materials describing the course are posted on the ESNR website, and notices inviting comments sent to all colleges.

### Prerequisites & Co-Requisites

None.

### Instructors Responsible for Course

William E. Winner

### Dual-Level Course

Yes, course is a dual-level course.

### Course Syllabus

#### ES 595 – Special Topics

**Section 001**  
**SPRING 2010**  
**3 Credit Hours**

### Special Notes

The content will vary depending upon the subject of the course and the instructor. It is not possible to specify a single syllabus and textbook because this is a special topics course.

### Course Description

The courses offered as ES Special Topics will allow instructors to provide new courses on a trial basis. The topics of courses will differ between instructors, but allow the ES Academic Program to address rapidly emerging issues in environmental sciences.

### Learning Outcomes

Students will learn aspects of new environmental themes not covered in existing courses.

### Course Structure

Course structure will differ among ES Special Topics course offerering. In some cases, courses will be lecture based with traditional examinations. In other cases, courses may involve debate formats, case studies, and other educational approaches. Each instructor will propose a grading structure for their course.

### Instructors

**William E Winner** (wewinner) - *Instructor*  
**Email:** [wewinner@ncsu.edu](mailto:wewinner@ncsu.edu)  
**Web Page:** [www.ncsu.edu/esnr](http://www.ncsu.edu/esnr)  
**Phone:** 919-515-5780  
**Office Location:** 2231 Jordan Hall Addition  
**Office Hours:** By Appointment

### Course Materials

None.

### Requisites and Restrictions

None.

### General Education Program (GEP) Information

#### GEP Category

This course does not fulfill a General Education Program category.

#### GEP Co-requisites

This course does not fulfill a General Education Program co-requisite.

### Transportation

This course will not require students to provide their own transportation. Non-scheduled class time for field trips or out-of-class activities is NOT required for this class.

### Safety & Risk Assumptions

None.

### Grading

#### Grade Components

#### Letter Grades

**This Course uses Standard NCSU Letter Grading:**

97 ≤ **A+** ≤ 100

93 ≤ **A** < 97

90 ≤ **A-** < 93

87 ≤ **B+** < 90

83 ≤ **B** < 87

80 ≤ **B-** < 83

77 ≤ **C+** < 80

73 ≤ **C** < 77

70 ≤ **C-** < 73

67 ≤ **D+** < 70

63 ≤ **D** < 67

60 ≤ **D-** < 63

0 ≤ **F** < 60

### Requirements for Credit-Only (S/U) Grading

Performance in research, seminar and independent study types of courses (6xx and 8xx) is evaluated as either "S" (Satisfactory) or "U" (Unsatisfactory), and these grades are not used in

computing the grade point average. For credit only courses (S/U) the requirements necessary to obtain the grade of "S" must be clearly outlined.

#### **Requirements for Auditors (AU)**

Information about and requirements for auditing a course can be found at [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/pols\\_regs/REG205.00.5.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/pols_regs/REG205.00.5.php).

#### **Policies on Incomplete Grades**

If an extended deadline is not authorized by the Graduate School, an unfinished incomplete grade will automatically change to an F after either (a) the end of the next regular semester in which the student is enrolled (not including summer sessions), or (b) by the end of 12 months if the student is not enrolled, whichever is shorter. Incompletes that change to F will count as an attempted course on transcripts. The burden of fulfilling an incomplete grade is the responsibility of the student. The university policy on incomplete grades is located at [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/grades\\_undergrad/REG02.50.3.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/grades_undergrad/REG02.50.3.php). Additional information relative to incomplete grades for graduate students can be found in the Graduate Administrative Handbook in Section 3.18.F at [http://www.fis.ncsu.edu/grad\\_publicns/handbook/](http://www.fis.ncsu.edu/grad_publicns/handbook/)

#### **Late Assignments**

Students are responsible for completing assignments and submitting them by the deadlines given by instructors. Late assignments will only be accepted in the case of verified/documented emergencies. See the University Attendance Policy [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/courses\\_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php)

#### **Attendance Policy**

##### **Attendance**

Attendance is required. After two unexcused absences, two points may be deducted from the final score for each additional absence. This policy is based upon the NCSU Attendance Policy: [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/courses\\_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php)

##### **Absences**

In case of emergencies (serious illness, injury, death, or illness in the family, university duties, court attendance, or religious observance), please notify the instructor as soon as possible. This policy is based upon the NCSU Attendance Policy: [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/courses\\_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php)

##### **Makeup Work**

You are responsible for all work missed and for any assignment announced on the day you were absent. This policy is based upon the NCSU Attendance Policy: [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/courses\\_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.3.php)

## **Academic Integrity**

### **Academic Integrity**

Students are required to comply with the university policy on academic integrity found in the Code of Student Conduct found at [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/student\\_services/student\\_discipline/POL11.35.1.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/student_services/student_discipline/POL11.35.1.php). Students are bound by the academic integrity policy as stated in the NCSU Code of Student Conduct.

### **Academic Honesty**

See [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/student\\_services/student\\_discipline/POL11.35.1.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/student_services/student_discipline/POL11.35.1.php) for a detailed explanation of academic honesty. Students are required to uphold the University Pledge of Honor and exercise honesty in completing every assignment.

### **Honor Pledge**

Your signature on any test or assignment indicates "I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this test or assignment."

## **Electronically-Hosted Course Components**

Students may be required to disclose personally identifiable information to other students in the course, via electronic tools like email or web-postings, where relevant to the course. Examples include online discussions of class topics, and posting of student coursework. All students are expected to respect the privacy of each other by not sharing or using such information outside the course.

**Electronically-hosted Components:** <http://vista.ncsu.edu>

## **Accommodations for Disabilities**

Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with verifiable disabilities. In order to take advantage of available accommodations, student must register with the Disability Services Office (<http://www.ncsu.edu/dso>) located at 1900 Student Health Center, Campus Box 7509, 515-7653. For more information on NC State's policy on working with students with disabilities, please see the Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities Regulation at [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic\\_affairs/courses\\_undergrad/REG02.20.1.php](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/academic_affairs/courses_undergrad/REG02.20.1.php).

## **Policy on Discrimination**

NC State University provides equality of opportunity in education and employment for all students and employees. Accordingly, NC State affirms its commitment to maintain a work environment for all employees and an academic environment for all students that is free from all forms of discrimination. Discrimination based on race, color, religion, creed, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation is a violation of state and federal law and/or NC State University policy and will not be tolerated. Harassment of any person (either in the form of quid pro quo or creation of a hostile environment) based on race, color, religion, creed, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, or sexual orientation also is a violation of state and federal law and/or NC State University policy and will not be tolerated. Retaliation against any person who complains about discrimination is

also prohibited. NC State's policies and regulations covering discrimination, harassment, and retaliation may be accessed at [http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/campus\\_environ](http://www.ncsu.edu/policies/campus_environ) or [http://www.ncsu.edu/equal\\_op](http://www.ncsu.edu/equal_op). Any person who feels that he or she has been the subject of prohibited discrimination, harassment, or retaliation should contact the Office for Equal Opportunity (OEO) at 515-3148.

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**Course Schedule**

TBD

DRAFT

**SIGNATURE PAGE**

**COURSE ACTION FOR ES 595**

**Recommended By**

\_\_\_\_\_  
HEAD, DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Endorsed By**

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR, COLLEGE COURSES & CURRICULA COMMITTEE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
COLLEGE DEAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Approved By**

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR, UNIVERSITY COURSES & CURRICULA COMMITTEE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR, COUNCIL ON UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
DEAN OF UNDERGRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approved Effective Date