

Rochester INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Minor Program proposal form

COLA

**STS/Public Policy Department**

**Name of Minor:** Environmental Studies

**Brief description of the minor to be used in university publications**

|  |
| --- |
| This minor provides students with opportunities for the in-depth analysis of global and regional environmental issues, their causes, and their potential solutions. The minor features an emphasis on sustainability and holistic thinking. In particular, a required 500-level seminar will serve as a capstone experience, helping students to integrate knowledge from several disciplinary perspectives, including socio-cultural, historical, political, economic, ethical, scientific, and/or technological factors. Having completed the minor, students will possess a high level of environmental literacy, an important component of many professional fields within the sciences, engineering, law, journalism, and public affairs. |

**1.0 Minor Program Approvals**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Approval request date: | Approval granted date: |
| Academic Unit Curriculum Committee |  | 2/3/12 |
| College Curriculum Committee | 2/10/12 | 2/10/12 |
| Inter-College Curriculum Committee | 2/27/12 | 2/27/12 |

**2.0 Rationale:**

A minor at RIT is a related set of academic courses consisting of no fewer than 15 semester credit hours leading to a formal designation on a student's baccalaureate transcript

How is this set of academic courses related?

|  |
| --- |
| This minor provides students with opportunities for the in-depth analysis of global and regional environmental issues, their causes, and their potential solutions. |

**3.0 Multidisciplinary involvement:**

If this is a multidisciplinary minor spanning two or more academic units, list the units and their role in offering and managing this minor.

|  |
| --- |
| STS/Public Policy is the primary academic unit for this minor. We do include a few relevant courses from other departments as optional courses (see below). |

**4.0 Students ineligible to pursue this minor:**

The purpose of the minor is both to broaden a student's college education and deepen it in an area outside the student’s major program. A minor may be related to and complement a student’s major, or it may be in a completely different academic/professional area.   It is the responsibility of the academic unit proposing a minor and the unit’s curriculum committee to indicate any home programs for which the minor is not a broadening experience.

Please list below any home programs whose students will not be allowed to pursue this minor, provide the reasoning, and indicate if this exclusion has been discussed with the affected programs:

|  |
| --- |
| none |

**5.0 Minor Program Structure, Sequence and Course Offering Schedule:**

Describe the structure of the proposed minor and list all courses, their anticipated offering schedule, and any prerequisites.

* All minors must contain at least fifteen semester credit hours;
* Minors may be discipline-based or interdisciplinary;
* In most cases, minors shall consist of a minimum of two upper division courses (300 or above) to provide reasonable breadth and depth within the minor;
* As per New York State requirements, courses within the minor must be offered with sufficient frequency to allow students to complete the minor within the same time frame allowed for the completion of the baccalaureate degree;
* Provide a program mask showing how students will complete the minor.

Narrative of Minor Program Structure:

|  |
| --- |
| Students have a choice of any four courses from the list of approved courses (one must be 300 level or higher) and are required to take the capstone seminar (STSO-510). |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Course Number & Title | SCH | Required | Optional | Fall | Spring | A/B | Prerequisites |
| STSO-510 Seminar in STS | 3 | X |  | X | X | A |  |
| STSO-120 Introduction to Environmental Studies (p) | 3 |  | X | X | X | A |  |
| STSO-220 Environment and Society (p) | 3 |  | X | X | X | A |  |
| STSO-321 Face of the Land (WI) | 3 |  | X | X | X | A |  |
| STSO-325 History of Environmental Science | 3 |  | X | X | X | A |  |
| STSO-326 History of Ecology and Environmentalism | 3 |  | X | X | X | A |  |
| STSO-330 Energy and the Environment | 3 |  | X | X | X | A |  |
| STSO-421 Environmental Policy | 3 |  | X | X | X | A |  |
| STSO-489 Special Topics in STS | 3 |  | X | X | X | A |  |
| STSO-521 Biodiversity | 3 |  | X | X | X | A |  |
| STSO-522 Great Lakes | 3 |  | X | X | X | A |  |
| STSO-550 Sustainable Communities | 3 |  | X | X | X | A |  |
| PUBL-530 Energy Policy | 3 |  | X | X | X | A |  |
| Interdisciplinary courses below |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| COLA-ECON-420 Environmental Economics | 3 |  | X |  |  |  | COLA-ECON-101 Principles of Microeconomics |
| COLA-ECON-421 Natural Resource Economics | 3 |  | X |  |  |  | COLA-ECON-101 Principles of Microeconomics |
| COLA-HIST-345 Environmental Disasters | 3 |  | X |  |  |  |  |
| COLA-PHIL-308 Environmental Philosophy | 3 |  | X |  |  |  |  |
| COLA-SOCI-320 Population & Society | 3 |  | X |  |  |  | ANTH-102 or SOCI-102 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Total credit hours: | 15 |

**Minor Course Conversion Table: Quarter Calendar and Semester Calendar Comparison**

|  |
| --- |
| **Directions: The tables on this page will be used by the registrar’s office to aid student’s transitioning from the quarter calendar to the semester calendar.**  **If this minor existed in the quarter calendar and is being converted to the semester calendar please complete the following tables.**  **If this is a new minor that did not exist under the quarter calendar do not complete the following tables.**  Use the following tables to show minor course comparison in quarter and semester calendar formats. Use courses in the (2011-12) minor mask for this table. Display all required and elective minor courses. If necessary clarify how course sequences in the quarter calendar convert to semesters by either bracketing or using some other notation. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name of Minor in Semester Calendar: | Environmental Studies |
| Name of Minor in Quarter Calendar: | Environmental Studies |
| Name of Certifying Academic Unit: | STS/Public Policy Department |

| **QUARTER: Current Minor Courses** | | | **SEMESTER: Converted Minor Courses** | | |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Course # | Course Title | QCH | Course # | Course Title | SCH | **Comments** |
| 0508-530 | Seminar in Science, Technology, and the Environment | 4 | STSO-510 | Seminar in STS | 3 |  |
| 0508-570 | Environmental Studies Seminar | 4 | STSO-510 | Seminar in STS | 3 |  |
| 0508-212 | Introduction to Environmental Studies (p) | 4 | STSO-120 | Introduction to Environmental Studies (p) | 3 |  |
| 0508-460 | Environment and Society (p) | 4 | STSO-220 | Environment and Society (p) | 3 |  |
| 0508-443 | Face of the Land (WI) | 4 | STSO-321 | Face of the Land (WI) | 3 |  |
| 0508-489 | History of Environmental Science | 4 | STSO-325 | History of Environmental Science | 3 |  |
| 0508-488 | History of Ecology and Environmentalism | 4 | STSO-326 | History of Ecology and Environmentalism | 3 |  |
| 0508-482 | Energy and the Environment | 4 | STSO-330 | Energy and the Environment | 3 |  |
| 0508-484 | Environmental Policy | 4 | STSO-421 | Environmental Policy | 3 |  |
| 0508-447 | Special Topics in STS | 4 | STSO-489 | Special Topics in STS | 3 |  |
| 0508-490 | Biodiversity | 4 | STSO-521 | Biodiversity | 3 |  |
| 0508-463 | Great Lakes | 4 | STSO-522 | Great Lakes | 3 | Combining 0508-463/464 |
| 0508-464 | Great Lakes | 4 | STSO-522 | Great Lakes | 3 | Combining 0508-463/464 |
| 0508-491 | Sustainable Communities | 4 | STSO-550 | Sustainable Communities | 3 |  |
| 0521-451 | Energy Policy | 4 | PUBL-530 | Energy Policy | 3 |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0511 481 | Environmental Economics | 4 | COLA-ECON-420 | Environmental Economics | 3 |  |
| 0511 484 | Natural Resource Economics | 4 | COLA-ECON-421 | Natural Resource Economics | 3 |  |
| 0507-464 | Environmental Disasters | 4 | COLA-HIST-345 | Environmental Disasters | 3 |  |
| 0509-453 | Environmental Philosophy | 4 | COLA-PHIL-308 | Environmental Philosophy | 3 |  |
| 0515-449 | Population & Society | 4 | COLA-SOCI-320 | Population & Society | 3 |  |

Policy Name: **D1.1 MINORS POLICY**

 1. Definition

A minor at RIT is a related set of academic courses consisting of no fewer than 15 semester credit hours leading to a formal designation on a student's baccalaureate transcript.

The purpose of the minor is both to broaden a student's college education and deepen it in an area outside the student’s major program. A minor may be related to and complement a student’s major, or it may be in a completely different academic/professional area.   It is the responsibility of the academic unit proposing a minor and the unit’s curriculum committee to indicate any home programs for which the minor is not a broadening experience.

In most cases, minors shall consist of a minimum of two upper division courses to provide reasonable breadth and depth within the minor.

2. Institutional parameters

1. Minors may be discipline-based or interdisciplinary;
2. Only matriculated students may enroll in a minor;
3. At least nine semester credit hours of the minor must consist of courses not required by the student's home program;
4. Students may pursue multiple minors.  A minimum of nine semester credit hours must be designated towards each minor; these courses may not be counted towards other minors;
5. The residency requirement for a minor is a minimum of nine semester credit hours consisting of RIT courses (excluding "X" graded courses);
6. Posting of the minor on the student's academic transcript requires a minimum GPA of 2.0 in each of the minor courses;
7. Minors may not be added to the student's academic record after the granting of the bachelor's degree.

3. Development/approval/administration processes

* 1. Minors may be developed by faculty at the departmental, inter-departmental, college, or inter-college level. As part of the minor development process:
     1. students ineligible for the proposed minor will be identified;
     2. prerequisites, if any, will be identified;
  2. Minor proposals must be approved by the appropriate academic unit(s) curriculum committee, and college curriculum committee(s), before being sent to the Inter-College Curriculum Committee (ICC) for final consideration and approval.
  3. The academic unit offering the minor (in the case of interdisciplinary minors, the designated college/department) is responsible for the following:
     1. enrolling students in the minor (as space permits);
     2. monitoring students progress toward completion of the minor;
     3. authorizing the recording of the minor's completion on student's academic records;
     4. granting of transfer credit, credit by exam, credit by experience, course substitutions, and advanced placement;
     5. responding to student requests for removal from the minor.
  4. As per New York State requirements, courses within the minor must be offered with sufficient frequency to allow students to complete the minor within the same time frame allowed for the completion of the baccalaureate degree.

4. Procedures for Minor revision

It is the duty of the college curriculum committee(s) involved with a minor to maintain the program’s structure and coherence.  Once a minor is approved by the ICC, changes to the minor that do not have a significant effect on its focus may be completed with the approval of the involved academic unit(s) and the college curriculum committee(s).  Significant changes in the focus of the minor must be approved by the appropriate academic unit(s) curriculum committee(s), the college curriculum committee(s) and be resubmitted to the ICC for final consideration and approval.