



**FLORIDA
ATLANTIC
UNIVERSITY**

NEW/CHANGE PROGRAM REQUEST Graduate Programs

Department School of Interdisciplinary Studies

College Arts & Letters

UGPC Approval _____

UFS Approval _____

Banner _____

Catalog _____

Program Name

Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

☒ **New Program***

☐ **Change Program***

Effective Date

(TERM & YEAR)

Spring 2025

Please explain the requested change(s) and offer rationale below or on an attachment.

Program coordinator:

Stacey Balkan, Associate Professor, English & Environmental Humanities

The Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies introduces students to the intersecting fields of Environmental and Climate Science, Environmental Humanities (inclusive of Literature, Languages, and Linguistics) and Environmental Social Science (inclusive of Political Science, Anthropology, Sociology, History, and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies). Careers in Environmental Journalism, Environmental Consulting, Climate Change Mitigation, and Postsecondary Education in Environmental Humanities and Environmental Studies require interdisciplinary study across the Humanities, Geosciences, and Social Sciences; and the expanding academic disciplines of Environmental and Energy Humanities, which recognize that our environmental dilemmas are fundamentally problems of ethics and political power, demand fluency in these expanding fields of study.

The graduate certificate in Environmental Studies provides an academic forum for understanding environmental issues in their historical and material contexts. Students may earn this certificate by completing 12 credits (four courses) in relevant disciplines. *Admission to this certificate program is open to students currently enrolled in graduate programs at Florida Atlantic University as well as to non-degree seeking students. Credits earned for graduate degree programs may also count for the certificate if approved by advisors in both programs.

*All new programs and changes to existing programs must be accompanied by a catalog entry showing the new or proposed changes.

Faculty Contact/Email/Phone

Stacey Balkan, sbalkan@fau.edu, 7-3830

Consult and list departments that may be affected by the change(s) and attach documentation

English, Political Science, Sociology, History, WGSS, SCMS, Comparative Studies, Geosciences, Anthropology, LLCL, CEGE

Approved by

Department Chair

William Trapani

College Curriculum Chair

College Dean

Eric Berlatsky

UGPC Chair

UGC Chair

Graduate College Dean

Paul W. Smith

UFS President

Provost

Date

8/27/24

8-28-24

08/28/2024

09/05/2024

09/05/2024

09/11/2024

Email this form and attachments to UGPC@fau.edu 10 days before the UGPC meeting.

Environmental Studies

Graduate Certificate

(Minimum of 12 credits required)

Program coordinator:

Stacey Balkan, Associate Professor, English & Environmental Humanities

The Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies introduces students to the intersecting fields of Environmental and Climate Science, Environmental Humanities (inclusive of Literature, Languages, and Linguistics) and Environmental Social Science (inclusive of Political Science, Anthropology, Sociology, History, and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies). Careers in Environmental Journalism, Environmental Consulting, Climate Change Mitigation, and Postsecondary Education in Environmental Humanities and Environmental Studies require interdisciplinary study across the Humanities, Geosciences, and Social Sciences; and the expanding academic disciplines of Environmental and Energy Humanities, which recognize that our environmental dilemmas are fundamentally problems of ethics and political power, demand fluency in these expanding fields of study.

The graduate certificate in Environmental Studies provides an academic forum for understanding environmental issues in their historical and material contexts. Students may earn this certificate by completing 12 credits (four courses) in relevant disciplines.

Admission to this certificate program is open to students currently enrolled in graduate programs at Florida Atlantic University as well as to non-degree seeking students. For degree-seeking students, credits earned for graduate degree programs may also count for the certificate if approved by advisors in *both* programs. Applications for the Graduate Certificate should be submitted to the Coordinator of the Environmental Studies Certificate Program upon successful completion of the required courses with a minimum grade of "B" in each course.

**Students may need permission to enroll in courses outside of their stipulated curriculum. Please check with your departmental graduate advisor as well as the departmental coordinator or instructor for the desired course.*

The following list of courses represents current and past course offerings in relevant departments. Please contact the program coordinator for current course offerings, or refer to FAU's Registration Portal.

ANG 6587: Seminar in Biological Anthropology

AMH 5905: Reading in American History: American Environmental History

AMH 6939: Seminar in U.S. History: American environmental History

ENV 6932: Sustainability and Pollution Prevention

FRW 6775: French Caribbean Idea(l)s

ITW 6938: Poetic Geography of Italy

ITW 6938: Italo Calvino's World

JOU 6931: Environmental Crises Discourse

POS 6934: African Politics

SPW6775: Spanish Caribbean Idea(l)s

SYD 6517: Seminar in Global Environmental Perspectives
SYD 6934: Seminar in Globalization and Development
WST 6348: Ecofeminism and Environmental Justice

Special Topics courses are also offered most terms in relevant departments.

Themes vary per term; please check with department coordinators. Past and current courses include:

CRW 6024: Writing the Environment (“Genre and Form”)
CST 7309: New Materialisms: Nature, Culture, Environment (“Theory and Criticism”)
CST 7931: Biological Borderlines - Bioethics and Biotechnology (“Interdisciplinary Perspectives”)
CST 7931: Atmosphere, Aura, Mood (“Interdisciplinary Perspectives”)
CST 7936: Theorizing Infrastructures (“Interdisciplinary Perspectives”)
LIT 6105: Petrocultures (“World Literature in English”)
LIT 6934: The Literature of Extraction/Reading Energy Culture (“Special Topics”/Literature)
LIT 6934: Postcolonial Environments (“Special Topics”/Literature)
LIT 6934: Global Climate Fictions (“Special Topics”/Literature)

DIS: Directed independent study in any supporting department.

****Limited to one course.***

**Current course syllabi may be accessed through the university's [Simple Syllabus](#) database.*

New courses will be added to the program in the future.

For more information, or to register for the program, please [contact us](#).

Environmental Studies

Graduate Certificate

(Minimum of 12 credits required)

Standing faculty committee for program operations:

Stacey Balkan, Associate Professor, English & Environmental Humanities

*The core group of faculty consultants for the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies include:

Stacey Balkan (English)

Annette LaRocco (Political Science)

Patricia Widener (Sociology)

Evan Bennett (History)

Jane Caputi (Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies)

Colin Polsky (CES & Geosciences)

Andrew Furman (English)

Why Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies?

The field is flourishing internationally, with new programs appearing almost weekly. The justification for Environmental Humanities, and the intersecting study of Environment and Society, is powerfully made by cultural critic Imre Szeman (University of Waterloo, Minister of Environment) and anthropologist Dominic Boyer (Rice University): “our energy and environmental dilemmas are fundamentally problems of ethics, habits, values, institutions, beliefs, and power—all areas of expertise of the humanities and humanistic social sciences” (2014).

Why Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies at FAU?

The university, aligned with the belated national consensus regarding climate science and the climate emergency, has designated several relevant disciplinary areas as part of its strategic “pillars” and “platforms” for its 2015-2025 strategic plan. These include: Environmental Science, a “Healthy and Environmentally Sustainable Campus,” and “Peace, Justice, and Human Rights.” The last has been channeled into a Certificate program for the Center for Peace, Justice, and Human Rights as well as the Undergraduate Minor in Environment and Society that we passed in Spring 2024 and which will already be awarded to four students in Fall 2024. The graduate certificate would allow for students in our M.A. and Ph.D. programs to pursue a similar course of study. Toward that end, one M.F.A. student and one Ph.D. student have already completed the requirements for this proposed certificate.

It also ought to be noted that a certificate in Environmental Studies had been created many years ago; perhaps because of the institutional climate, or inability to promote the program at the time, the certificate was not adequately supported and thus not successful. Given our ongoing collaborations within and across departments and disciplines—as is evidenced by the successful creation of our new minor, not to mention that all four of our new hires in the Department of English

(unsurprisingly) include Environmental Humanities work in their scholarly pursuits and pedagogical practices—it is clear that this is the right time to get this certificate back on the books.

The strategic plan also stresses relevance and marketability: this course of study is, without question, amongst the most popular and marketable fields of study both nationally and internationally. Questions around energy consumption, and the “greening” of the “energy” sector, are surely central to any discussion pertaining to the nation’s economic (and political) well-being. Consequently, students are virtually guaranteed employment in, for example, Environmental Consulting, Climate Change Mitigation, and the (exponentially increasing) academic discipline of Environmental Humanities.

Not only do the available courses for next year (2024-2025) also speak to the viability of pursuing this field, it is also worth noting that I was approached by a representative from the National Academy of the Sciences—an engineer explicitly seeking a humanist—who is keen on FAU becoming an affiliate institution for the National Gulf Scholars Program, which seeks to cultivate new leaders in areas related to climate, energy, and sustainability. We are now at work on the application. (My colleagues at Rice are affiliate members as well, and we hope to cultivate a more concrete disciplinary and institutional relationship with them.)

Beyond FAU, as an Environmental Humanist and Environmental Justice worker, I work with a core group of international faculty (<https://www.petrocultures.com>) on similar programming; and several members of the Petrocultures community have constructed such degrees, which have been wildly successful. Quite a few of their students have also expressed interest in FAU’s Ph.D. program in Comparative Studies owing to the possibility of pursuing such interdisciplinary work.

Of course, as an Environmental Humanist in South Florida, which many have deemed “ground zero” for the climate crisis in the United States, I also feel that it is a moral imperative to bolster study in areas related to planetary habitability.

Are there peer institutions working on similar degrees?

There are many peer institutions working on similar degree and/or certificate programs: Michigan State University, UC Davis, the University of Oregon, University of Utah, Arizona State University, and many more—too many to list here. Notably, institutions like the University of Oregon and the University of Delaware (a very famous program) fall within the category of aspirational peer as we become an R1 institution in line with FAU100 as well as FAU’s strategic plan, both of which mandate that we work toward institutional inclusion in the nation’s top 100 public schools.

Are there models for academic scholarship that stress interdisciplinarity in a way that would benefit faculty teaching in this area and thus also serve FAU100 in terms of bolstering our research profile?

Amongst the many scholarly collectives within the academy, the Petrocultures Research Group and the After Oil school have been particularly successful in terms of publication on top university presses, securing funding for conference programs and residencies, and mentoring graduate students in the field. As an example, we boast two (soon to be three!) collaboratively authored Environmental

Humanities/Environmental Studies volumes (published on top university presses—e.g., <https://www.upress.umn.edu/book-division/books/solarities>); and I have received several queries from international students regarding such an emphasis for study at the B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. level. It is perhaps also relevant that my own edited anthology, *Oil Fictions: World Literature and our Contemporary Petrosphere*, which is an interdisciplinary Energy Humanities project, has just received its 8th review in a top interdisciplinary journal; and scholarly series like WVU Press's "Energy and Society" along with similarly focused series at MIT, Fordham, Princeton, Duke, and Minnesota, are popping up everywhere.

Subject: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies
Date: Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 11:00:36 AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: GraduateDean
To: Christine Kraft
Priority: High

From: John Baldwin <jbaldwin@fau.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2024 9:35 AM
To: William Trapani <wtrapan1@fau.edu>
Cc: Colin Polsky <cpolsky@fau.edu>; sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>
Subject: Re: F/U additional document for the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

Bill,
The School of Environment, Coastal, and Ocean Sustainability (ECOS) in the College of Science is not a degree granting entity and its members have already signaled their support through their respective department affiliations. We are in full support of the graduate certificate in Environmental Studies proposed by Stacey Balkan in the College of Arts and Letters. Please let me know if you have any further questions. Thank you.
John

John D. Baldwin, Ph.D.
ECOS Interim Director - School of Environmental, Coastal, and Ocean Sustainability
Associate Dean for Faculty
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science
Florida Atlantic University
Office: 561-297-3333 (Boca)
Office: 954-236-1151 (Davie)
Email: jbaldwin@fau.edu

Monday, August 26, 2024 at 07:59:46 Eastern Daylight Time

Subject: RE: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

Date: Sunday, August 25, 2024 at 4:31:07 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Masoud Jahandar Lashaki

To: sbalkan

CC: Dan Meeroff, Evangelos Kaisar

Dear Stacy,

Thank you for involving our department in the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies. As the instructor of "ENV 6932: Sustainability and Pollution Prevention" which is included on your course list, and in my capacity as the Graduate Director of the Department of Civil, Environmental and Geomatics Engineering, I express our strong departmental support for this certificate program. I'm copying our Department Chair (Dr. Kaisar) and Dean Meeroff to keep them in the loop.

Please let me know if you need any additional information from us.

Best regards,
Masoud

From: Dan Meeroff <dmeeroff@fau.edu>

Sent: Saturday, August 24, 2024 11:47 AM

To: Masoud Jahandar Lashaki <mjahandarlashaki@fau.edu>

Subject: Fw: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

Dear Masoud, I think she meant to send this to you.

--

Daniel E. Meeroff, Ph.D.
Dean of Undergraduate Studies
Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Road SU 216
Boca Raton, FL 33431-0991

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>

Sent: Saturday, August 24, 2024 10:21 AM

To: Dan Meeroff <dmeeroff@fau.edu>

Subject: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

Hi Dan,
I hope that you are well!

I write with the updated graduate certificate information and an updated web [site](#).

Would you send a quick note of departmental support for the certificate? I know that I circulated everything last term, but we had to wait for administrative reasons and I am now updating all.

Thank you again for your support! I wish that I could take your class; indeed, I would love to see the syllabus.

Subject: Re: Environmental Studies Graduate Certificate

Date: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 at 10:08:43 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Meredith Ellis

To: sbalkan

Dear Stacey,

Comparative Studies is pleased to support the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies. We believe it will be very beneficial to our PhD students!

Best Wishes,
Meredith

Meredith A.B. Ellis, PhD
Associate Professor of Anthropology
Interim Director, PhD Program in Comparative Studies
Faculty Affiliate, Peace, Justice, and Human Rights Initiative
Faculty Affiliate, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters
Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Road, SO185
Boca Raton, Florida, 33431
ellism@fau.edu
(561) 297-4768
Pronouns she/her

**Please note that unless otherwise requested, all advising meetings are schedule for 30 minute periods.*

[The Children of Spring Street: The Bioarchaeology of Childhood in a 19th Century Abolitionist Congregation](#), Springer Press 2019.

[Nineteenth Century Childhoods in Interdisciplinary and International Perspectives](#), coedited with Jane Eva Baxter, Oxbow Books 2018.

<http://springstreetarchaeology.syr.edu/>

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>

Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 10:07 AM

To: Meredith Ellis <ellism@fau.edu>

Subject: Re: Environmental Studies Graduate Certificate

Thank you!! And I just need an email saying that you support the program. Nothing fancy, thank you! And Alexander Veal is our first customer :)

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 21, 2024, at 9:58AM, Meredith Ellis <ellism@fau.edu> wrote:

Of course! To whom do I send it? And does it need to be on letterhead?

Best
M

Meredith A.B. Ellis, PhD
Associate Professor of Anthropology
Interim Director, PhD Program in Comparative Studies
Faculty Affiliate, Peace, Justice, and Human Rights Initiative
Faculty Affiliate, Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
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**Please note that unless otherwise requested, all advising meetings are schedule for 30 minute periods.*

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[Nineteenth Century Childhoods in Interdisciplinary and International Perspectives](#), coedited with Jane Eva Baxter, Oxbow Books 2018.

<http://springstreetarchaeology.syr.edu/>

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 8:59 AM
To: Meredith Ellis <ellism@fau.edu>
Subject: Fwd: Environmental Studies Graduate Certificate

Good morning! Would you mind sending a note of support for the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies? We currently have two customers, and I am trying to get it on the books :). I just need a quick "the Comparative Studies department approves this program" email. Thank you!!!

Stacey Balkan, Ph.D. (she/her)
Associate Professor, Department of English

Subject: Re: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies--Forms and DEADLINES

Date: Thursday, April 11, 2024 at 7:44:35 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Oliver Buckton

To: sbalkan

Dear Stacey,

Is this okay?:

As Department chair of English, I enthusiastically support the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies. This certificate will provide unique opportunities to graduate students across the University to pursue cutting-edge interdisciplinary work in environment and society. The Certificate has a core faculty in place and has already generated student enrollments.

Best wishes,

Oliver

Oliver Buckton, Ph.D.

Professor and Chair

Department of English

Culture and Society CU 97 Ste 306

Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Florida Atlantic University

777 Glades Road

Boca Raton, FL 33431

(561)297-3830

obuckton@fau.edu

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/02684527.2023.2291870>

[The World is Not Enough: A Biography of Ian Fleming](#)

[The Many Facets of Diamonds Are Forever: James Bond on Page and Screen](#)

[Espionage in British Fiction and Film Since 1900: The Changing Enemy](#)

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>

Monday, August 26, 2024 at 08:12:23 Eastern Daylight Time

Subject: Re: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies--Forms and DEADLINES

Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 9:24:27 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Tiffany Roberts Briggs

To: sbalkan

Dear Dr. Balkan,

The Department of Geosciences supports the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies.

Best,

Tiffany

Tiffany Roberts Briggs, Ph.D.

Chair & Associate Professor

Dept. of Geosciences

561-297-4669

Coastal Studies Lab: <http://www.geosciences.fau.edu/coastal>

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>

Sent: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 9:21:40 AM

To: Tiffany Roberts Briggs <briggst@fau.edu>

Subject: Re: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies--Forms and DEADLINES

Just a support statement, thank you!!

Stacey Balkan, Ph.D. (she/her)

Associate Professor, Department of English

Interim Head, CLL Track, Ph.D. Program in Comparative Studies

Program Coordinator, Undergraduate Minor in Environment & Society

Florida Atlantic University

<https://www.fau.edu/artsandletters/english/faculty/balkan/>

www.staceybalkan.com | @sbalkan5

[Rogues in the Postcolony: Narrating Extraction and Itinerancy in India](#) (West Virginia University Press, 2022)

[Oil Fictions: World Literature and our Contemporary Petrosphere](#) (Penn State University Press, 2021)

From: Tiffany Roberts Briggs <briggst@fau.edu>

Date: Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 9:13 AM

To: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>

Subject: Re: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies--Forms and DEADLINES

Hi Stacy,

No prob! Do you have a template? Or just need a statement Geo is in support?

Thanks,

Monday, August 26, 2024 at 08:15:08 Eastern Daylight Time

Subject: RE: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies--Forms and DEADLINES

Date: Monday, April 8, 2024 at 10:07:45 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Douglas Kanter

To: sbalkan, Evan Bennett

Dear Stacy,

The Department of History supports the creation of a Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies.

Best,

Douglas Kanter, PhD, FRHistS
Associate Professor and Chair
Department of History
Florida Atlantic University

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>

Sent: Monday, April 8, 2024 10:05 AM

To: Douglas Kanter <Dkanter1@fau.edu>; Evan Bennett <ebennett@fau.edu>

Subject: Re: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies--Forms and DEADLINES

Thanks Doug! I actually just need an email stating that you support this program.

Warmly,
stacey

Stacey Balkan, Ph.D. (she/her)
Associate Professor, Department of English
Interim Head, CLL Track, Ph.D. Program in Comparative Studies
Program Coordinator, Undergraduate Minor in Environment & Society
Florida Atlantic University
<https://www.fau.edu/artsandletters/english/faculty/balkan/>
www.staceybalkan.com | @sbalkan5

[Rogues in the Postcolony: Narrating Extraction and Itinerancy in India](#) (West Virginia University Press, 2022)

[Oil Fictions: World Literature and our Contemporary Petrosphere](#) (Penn State University Press, 2021)

From: Douglas Kanter <Dkanter1@fau.edu>

Date: Monday, April 8, 2024 at 8:40 AM

To: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>, Evan Bennett <ebennett@fau.edu>

Subject: RE: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies--Forms and DEADLINES

Hi Stacy,

Subject: Re: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

Date: Thursday, August 22, 2024 at 1:32:47 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Eric Berlatsky

To: sbalkan, William Trapani, Julia Mason, Oliver Buckton,
mhorswell@fau.edu

CC: Annette LaRocco, Patricia Widener, Evan Bennett, Jane Caputi, Colin
Polsky, Andrew Furman

Dear Stacey,

Apologies for the late response. Why are we limiting this to students already in our graduate programs? Often, certificates can be fulfilled by non-degree seeking students. There might be an audience out there for such students---who are already working in these fields (or hoping to), but who want some kind of "certificate" to make them more marketable. I'm not sure why we would want to restrict those who want to fulfill the certificate.

Also, I do think we're going to be better off if we are only listing courses that are in the catalog. (Many grad courses tend to have variable titles. As long as the prefix/number you list is still in use, I think it's fine. But if there are courses listed that are completely absent from the catalog, I don't think we should include them in the list. If there are new courses to be added, we could try to put them through the committees at the same time.)

Also...I can lend my support as Interim Chair of LLCL if you want/need it. LLCL supports the certificate.

Sincerely,

--

Eric L. Berlatsky

Interim Chair, Department of Languages, Linguistics, and Comparative Literature (LLCL)

Professor, Department of English

Associate Dean of Graduate Studies

Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

Florida Atlantic University

561-297-0928

eberlats@fau.edu

masculine pronouns

[Mixed-Race Superheroes](#)

[The Real, The True, and The Told: Postmodern Historical Narrative and the Ethics of Representation](#)

[Alan Moore: Conversations](#)

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>

Date: Thursday, August 22, 2024 at 11:36 AM

To: William Trapani <wtrapan1@fau.edu>, Eric Berlatsky <eberlats@fau.edu>, Julia
Mason <jmason32@fau.edu>, Oliver Buckton <obuckton@fau.edu>,

Thursday, August 22, 2024 at 10:49:52 Eastern Daylight Time

Subject: Re: Environmental Studies Graduate Certificate
Date: Thursday, August 22, 2024 at 10:40:08AM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Kevin Wagner
To: sbalkan, Ann Branaman
Attachments: Outlook-goe1e1d4.png
Sorry, had to check with the Department. Political Science Supports.

KMW

Kevin M. Wagner, J.D., PhD
Associate Dean of Research and Creative Achievement
Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters
Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Road
Boca Raton, FL 33431
tel: 561-252-1794
fax: 561-297-2997
kwagne15@fau.edu
Twitter: @kevinwagnerphd
www.fau.edu/politicalscience



Florida has a very broad public records law. As a result, any written communication created or received by Florida Atlantic University employees is subject to disclosure to the public and the media, upon request, unless otherwise exempt. Under Florida law, e-mail addresses are public records.

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 8:56 AM
To: Kevin Wagner <kwagne15@fau.edu>; Ann Branaman <branaman@fau.edu>
Subject: Re: Environmental Studies Graduate Certificate

Dear Kevin and Ann,

I write to follow up (with apologies given the time of year!). I hope that you will consider supporting the resurrected Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies as you both generously supported the minor. Also, I have a couple of sociology courses listed on the site; I likely need to update the Political Science courses if there is a current or future grad offering that you would like me to add.

Thanks so much again,
Stacey

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>

Subject: Re: Environmental Studies Graduate Certificate
Date: Monday, August 19, 2024 at 12:40:58 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Carol Mills
To: sbalkan, Kevin Wagner, Ann Branaman
CC: Eric Berlatsky, Oliver Buckton

It is a great certificate, Stacey. Let me know if you need anything else.

Warmly,
Carol

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>
Sent: Saturday, August 17, 2024 9:45 AM
To: Kevin Wagner <kwagne15@fau.edu>; Ann Branaman <branaman@fau.edu>; Carol Mills <millsc@fau.edu>
Cc: Eric Berlatsky <eberlats@fau.edu>; Oliver Buckton <obuckton@fau.edu>
Subject: Environmental Studies Graduate Certificate

Dear chair friends in Political Science, Sociology and SCMS,
I write this morning regarding the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies housed in the College of Arts and Letters. I am working to resurrect the certificate, which I have updated to align with the minor (that you have also kindly supported!) as well as a potential major. Attached are the formal proposal and rationale; and here is a [link](#) to the program where you will see several of your department's current courses listed. Your colleagues have shared their offerings; if I have been remiss, I will update accordingly.

Thank you so much again for your support for the minor, and for your anticipated support with the certificate.
Warmly,
Stacey

Stacey Balkan, Ph.D. (she/her)
Associate Professor, Department of English
Interim Head, [CLL Track, Ph.D. Program in Comparative Studies](#)
Program Coordinator, [Undergraduate Minor in Environment & Society](#)
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[Rogues in the Postcolony: Narrating Extraction and Itinerancy in India](#) (West Virginia University Press, 2022)
[Oil Fictions: World Literature and our Contemporary Petrosphere](#) (Penn State University Press, 2021)

Subject: Re: Environmental Studies Graduate Certificate

Date: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 at 9:24:03 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Ann Branaman

To: sbalkan

Hi Stacey,

we definitely support it!

ann

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 21, 2024, at 8:56AM, sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu> wrote:

Dear Kevin and Ann,

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Thanks so much again,
Stacey

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>

Sent: Saturday, August 17, 2024 9:45 AM

To: Kevin Wagner <kwagne15@fau.edu>; Ann Branaman <branaman@fau.edu>; Carol Mills <millsc@fau.edu>

Cc: Eric Berlatsky <eberlats@fau.edu>; Oliver Buckton <obuckton@fau.edu>

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Thank you so much again for your support for the minor, and for your anticipated support with the certificate.

Warmly,
Stacey

Stacey Balkan, Ph.D. (she/her)
Associate Professor, Department of English
Interim Head, [CLL Track, Ph.D. Program in Comparative Studies](#)
Program Coordinator, [Undergraduate Minor in Environment & Society](#)
Florida Atlantic University
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[Rogues in the Postcolony: Narrating Extraction and Itinerancy in India](#) (West Virginia University Press, 2022)

[Oil Fictions: World Literature and our Contemporary Petrosphere](#) (Penn State University Press, 2021)

Wednesday, August 21, 2024 at 16:28:37 Eastern Daylight Time

Subject: RE: Environmental Studies Graduate Certificate

Date: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 at 1:33:45 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Michael Harris

To: sbalkan

Dear Stacy,

Anthropology is supportive of this graduate certificate.

Best, Michael Harris

Chair, Anthropology

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>

Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 12:51 PM

To: Michael Harris <mharris@fau.edu>

Cc: Meredith Ellis <ellism@fau.edu>

Subject: Environmental Studies Graduate Certificate

Dear Mike,

I write as the Director of the soon to be resurrected Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies to ask for your support as the chair of Anthropology. The certificate will be offered to graduate students across Arts and Letters and will include at least one Anthropology class. I have updated the [site](#); and attached are the proposal, rationale, and description.

I have spoken with Meredith already regarding course offerings. Please let me know if there is anything else that you would like to add. If this is amenable to you, I just need a brief note/email stating that you support the proposal so that we can move forward to steering.

Thank you for your consideration.

Warmly,

Stacey

Stacey Balkan, Ph.D. (she/her)

Associate Professor, Department of English

Interim Head, [CLL Track, Ph.D. Program in Comparative Studies](#)

Program Coordinator, [Undergraduate Minor in Environment & Society](#)

& [Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies](#)

Florida Atlantic University

<https://www.fau.edu/artsandletters/english/faculty/balkan/>

www.staceybalkan.com | @sbalkan5

[Rogues in the Postcolony: Narrating Extraction and Itinerancy in India](#) (West Virginia University Press, 2022)

[Oil Fictions: World Literature and our Contemporary Petrosphere](#) (Penn State University Press, 2021)

Thursday, August 22, 2024 at 10:12:45 Eastern Daylight Time

Subject: Re: Environmental Studies Graduate Certificate

Date: Thursday, August 22, 2024 at 9:07:05 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Carla Thomas

To: sbalkan

Dear Stacey,

I am delighted to support the proposal. I think it's crucial that WGSS remain a part of this Graduate Certificate, and the proposal looks great to me.

I'm not sure if Jane's course "Gender and Climate Change" is a graduate course, but I will certainly ask and let you know.

Please let me know if there's anything else you need from me!

Warmly,
Carla

**Please be advised that I will not check my work email on Fridays throughout Fall 2024. These days are reserved exclusively for RESEARCH & WRITING. I will respond to your email the following Monday morning or my next availability.*

Dr. Carla María Thomas (she/they)
Director, Center for Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
Assistant Professor of English
Florida Atlantic University
carlathomas@fau.edu
carlamthomas.com

President, Early Middle English Society
EarlyMESociety@gmail.com
emesociety.com

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 12:55 PM
To: Carla Thomas <carlathomas@fau.edu>
Subject: FW: Environmental Studies Graduate Certificate

Dear Carla,

I write as the Director of the soon to be resurrected Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies to ask for your support as the new director of WGSS (woo-hoo!). Bill signed off last term, but we are moving forward this term. The certificate will be offered to graduate students across Arts and Letters and will include at least one WGSS course—Jane's is now on the site, and I "Gender and Climate Change" needs to be added (is this also a graduate offering?). I have updated the [site](#); and attached are the proposal, rationale, and description.

Please let me know if there is anything else that you would like to add. If this is amenable to

Tuesday, August 27, 2024 at 09:04:17 Eastern Daylight Time

Subject: Re: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 at 9:01:54 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Evan Bennett

To: sbalkan

Hi Stacey,

Sorry. The changes are fine with me.

Evan

Evan P. Bennett
Associate Professor
Department of History
Florida Atlantic University
777 Glades Road, AH 107
Boca Raton, FL 33431
(561) 297-0008

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>

Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 8:54:04 AM

To: Evan Bennett <ebennett@fau.edu>

Subject: FW: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

Dear Evan,

Sorry to flood your inbox! I was given two days to get every original stakeholder's approval for two changes to the certificate in order for it to go through; two of our students are hoping to graduate.

Warmly,
stacey

Stacey Balkan, Ph.D. (she/her)
Associate Professor, Department of English
Interim Head, [CLL Track, Ph.D. Program in Comparative Studies](#)
Program Coordinator, [Undergraduate Minor in Environment & Society](#)
& [Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies](#)
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Tuesday, August 27, 2024 at 08:59:34 Eastern Daylight Time

Subject: RE: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 at 8:59:00 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Andrew Furman

To: sbalkan

I approve.

Andrew Furman

(w) www.andrewfurmanwriter.com

(i) www.instagram.com/furman.andrew/

(f) www.facebook.com/andrew.furman.50

Now Available: *Jewfish*, a novel

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>

Sent: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 8:55 AM

To: Andrew Furman <afurman@fau.edu>

Subject: FW: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

Hey Andy,

Sorry to flood your inbox! I was given two days to get every original stakeholder's approval for two changes to the certificate in order for it to go through; two of our students are hoping to graduate. Thank you! And happy bday again!!!

Warmly,
stacey

Stacey Balkan, Ph.D. (she/her)

Associate Professor, Department of English

Interim Head, [CLL Track, Ph.D. Program in Comparative Studies](#)

Program Coordinator, [Undergraduate Minor in Environment & Society](#)
& [Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies](#)

Florida Atlantic University

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[Oil Fictions: World Literature and our Contemporary Petrosphere](#) (Penn State University Press, 2021)

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>

Date: Monday, August 26, 2024 at 2:19 PM

To: Annette LaRocco <laroccoa@fau.edu>, Patricia Widener <Pwidener@fau.edu>, Evan Bennett <ebennett@fau.edu>, Jane Caputi <jcaputi@fau.edu>, Colin Polsky <cpolsky@fau.edu>, Andrew Furman <afurman@fau.edu>

Cc: William Trapani <wtrapan1@fau.edu>

Subject: Fwd: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

Subject: Re: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

Date: Monday, August 26, 2024 at 3:13:22 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Annette LaRocco

To: sbalkan

Hi Stacey,

Thanks for all your work on this, and incorporating the edits and suggestions. A yes from me!

Just an FYI, I will be traveling tomorrow for a conference and not back until early next week. If any decisions need to be made while I'm gone, please feel free to go ahead without my input.

Best,
Annette

Annette LaRocco, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Political Science
Senior Associate Director, Leon Charney Diplomacy Program
Peace, Justice and Human Rights Faculty Affiliate
Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies Faculty Affiliate
Florida Atlantic University
laroccoa@fau.edu
www.annettelarocco.com

2022-2023 U.S. Fulbright Scholar

Author of *[The Nature of Politics: State Building and the Conservation Estate in Postcolonial Botswana](#)*
Ohio University Press, published April 2024

From: sbalkan <sbalkan@fau.edu>

Sent: Monday, August 26, 2024 2:19 PM

To: Annette LaRocco <laroccoa@fau.edu>; Patricia Widener <Pwidener@fau.edu>; Evan Bennett <ebennett@fau.edu>; Jane Caputi <jcaputi@fau.edu>; Colin Polsky <cpolsky@fau.edu>; Andrew Furman <afurman@fau.edu>

Cc: William Trapani <wtrapan1@fau.edu>

Subject: Fwd: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

Dear Environment and Society colleagues,

I write having just attended the College GPC committee where the proposal (for the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies) passed with pending revisions; and I now write to you for your approval of said revisions so that this can move forward to the next level (and I promised Art that I would get the revised proposal to him by Wednesday night if possible!). The College GPC graciously approved its passing pending one major curricular revision and a series of largely cosmetic revisions:

Subject: Re: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 at 10:18:36 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Colin Polsky

To: sbalkan

I approve. Thank you, Stacey

~~~~~

Colin Polsky, Ph.D.  
Associate Vice President, Broward Campuses  
Professor of Geosciences  
Florida Atlantic University  
3200 College Avenue, LA 212B  
Davie, FL 33314 USA  
954-236-1363  
[www.fau.edu/broward/cpolsky@fau.edu](http://www.fau.edu/broward/cpolsky@fau.edu)

On Aug 27, 2024, at 08:52, sbalkan <[sbalkan@fau.edu](mailto:sbalkan@fau.edu)> wrote:

Dear Colin,

Sorry to flood your inbox, and I realize that you are now in a different office! I was given two days to get every original stakeholder's approval for two changes to the certificate in order for it to go through; two of our students are hoping to graduate. Thank you so much and hope to catch up again some time soon!

Warmly,  
stacey

Dear Environment and Society colleagues,

I write having just attended the College GPC committee where the proposal (for the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies) passed with pending revisions; and I now write to you for your approval of said revisions so that this can move forward to the next level (and I promised Art that I would get the revised proposal to him by Wednesday night if possible!). The College GPC graciously approved its passing pending one major curricular revision and a series of largely cosmetic revisions:

1. The certificate was initially drafted as requiring 15 credits per the original certificate program; the committee suggested 12 in line with other certificates in A&L (and owing to a variety of departmental curricular restrictions that will make 15 quite difficult). Will this body agree to a certificate after 12 credits (in line, for example, with the WGSS and Translation Studies certificate)? (It actually isn't clear why the original ES certificate was 15, and 12 certainly makes sense.)

Tuesday, August 27, 2024 at 08:55:40 Eastern Daylight Time

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**Subject:** Re: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

**Date:** Tuesday, August 27, 2024 at 8:55:23 AM Eastern Daylight Time

**From:** Jane Caputi

**To:** sbalkan

Ok. I definitely approve. is that what you need? Sorry i missed this

Jane Caputi, Ph.D

New Book: *Call Your "Mutha": A Deliberately Dirty-Minded Manifesto for the Earth Mother in the Anthropocene*, Oxford University Press, 2020. <https://global.oup.com/academic/product/call-your-mutha-9780190902711?cc=us&lang=en&>

Professor, Center for Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Communication & Multimedia  
Florida Atlantic University  
777 Glades Rd.  
Boca Raton, FL 33431  
phone: 561 297 3865  
fax: 561 297 2127

(pronouns: she/her/hers)

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**From:** sbalkan <[sbalkan@fau.edu](mailto:sbalkan@fau.edu)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 27, 2024 8:53 AM

**To:** Jane Caputi <[jcaputi@fau.edu](mailto:jcaputi@fau.edu)>

**Subject:** FW: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

Dear Jane,

Sorry to flood your inbox! I was given two days to get every original stakeholder's approval for two changes to the certificate in order for it to go through; two of our students are hoping to graduate. Thank you so much and hope to catch up again some time soon!

Warmly,  
stacey

Stacey Balkan, Ph.D. (she/her)

Associate Professor, Department of English

Interim Head, [CLL Track, Ph.D. Program in Comparative Studies](#)

Program Coordinator, [Undergraduate Minor in Environment & Society](#)

& [Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies](#)

Florida Atlantic University

<https://www.fau.edu/artsandletters/english/faculty/balkan/>

[www.staceybalkan.com](http://www.staceybalkan.com) | @sbalkan5

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**Subject:** Re: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

**Date:** Monday, August 26, 2024 at 2:25:18 PM Eastern Daylight Time

**From:** Patricia Widener

**To:** sbalkan

Hi Stacey,

Yes, I support the changes you have suggested.

The changes make sense to me and lowering the credit hours to 12 may increase the number of students who will be able to earn a certificate.

Thank you for all of your work on making the grad certificate possible.

Patricia Widener  
Professor, Sociology  
Florida Atlantic University

---

**From:** sbalkan <[sbalkan@fau.edu](mailto:sbalkan@fau.edu)>

**Sent:** Monday, August 26, 2024 2:19 PM

**To:** Annette LaRocco <[laroccoa@fau.edu](mailto:laroccoa@fau.edu)>; Patricia Widener <[Pwidener@fau.edu](mailto:Pwidener@fau.edu)>; Evan Bennett <[ebennett@fau.edu](mailto:ebennett@fau.edu)>; Jane Caputi <[jcaputi@fau.edu](mailto:jcaputi@fau.edu)>; Colin Polsky <[cpolsky@fau.edu](mailto:cpolsky@fau.edu)>; Andrew Furman <[afurman@fau.edu](mailto:afurman@fau.edu)>

**Cc:** William Trapani <[wtrapan1@fau.edu](mailto:wtrapan1@fau.edu)>

**Subject:** Fwd: Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies

Dear Environment and Society colleagues,

I write having just attended the College GPC committee where the proposal (for the Graduate Certificate in Environmental Studies) passed with pending revisions; and I now write to you for your approval of said revisions so that this can move forward to the next level (and I promised Art that I would get the revised proposal to him by Wednesday night if possible!). The College GPC graciously approved its passing pending one major curricular revision and a series of largely cosmetic revisions:

1. The certificate was initially drafted as requiring 15 credits per the original certificate program; the committee suggested 12 in line with other certificates in A&L (and owing to a variety of departmental curricular restrictions that will make 15 quite difficult). Will this body agree to a certificate after 12 credits (in line, for example, with the WGSS and Translation Studies certificate)? (It actually isn't clear why the original ES certificate was 15, and 12 certainly makes sense.)
2. The committee suggested moving any special topics courses into a separate category to clarify that they are not offered consistently. For example, the courses that I teach in CST and LIT vary every term; and all of them are relevant, but not always the same. Thus, I shall place CST7309 and LIT6934 in a separate category.
3. I also need to delete a few courses that are no longer taught--e.g., CST7309.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and please let me know your vote ASAP!