
PORTFOLIO in Fall 2020 (SC4075)

Course Code	SC4075	Professor(s)	Elena Berg
Prerequisites	None	Office Number	C-202
Class Schedule	: 01:00-01:30 in RMOTE-00	Office Hours	by appointment, on Teams
Credits	1	Email	eberg@aup.edu
Semester	Fall 2020	Office Tel. Ext.	

Course Description

The aim of the portfolio is for you to plan your trajectory in this major, and to think about how you will apply what you are learning here to a career in the environmental realm. In recognition of the fact that we need creative and wide-ranging solutions to today's pressing environmental problems, the Environmental Studies major at AUP is extremely interdisciplinary and flexible. Although there are a number of required core courses, most of the credits are earned from elective courses selected from a list of approved possibilities (see the website for more details):

<https://catalog.aup.edu/undergraduate-requirements/major-requirements/environmental-studies-major>).

Rather than randomly picking electives that seem cool, majors in Environmental Studies are required to craft their specific "curricular pathway" in consultation with their academic advisors and the Portfolio professor (Elena Berg in Fall 2020). When constructing this pathway, think carefully about which five electives fit your particular narrative, and what kind of final project you would like to do during your final year. What do you want to accomplish with this major, and how will it inform your future personal and/or career goals? Are you interested in media and journalism, activism, humanitarian concerns, science outreach, business, consulting? Which courses will help you on this path?

In this class, you will:

1. Put together a "comprehensive curricular pathway" for the major, carefully selecting your

five elective courses and capstone option (senior project, internship, or practicum) in consultation with your Portfolio professor and academic advisor.

2. By mid-semester, submit a form in which you

- list the five electives you plan to take, and during which semesters.
- indicate whether you intend to do a senior project (if so, on what and with whom?), an internship (if so, doing what?), or a practicum in your final year.
- write a short justification of each of your course choices.

Three people must sign off on this form in order for you to get credit for the class: your portfolio professor, another Environmental Studies professor, and the Chair of CSMES.

3. By the end of the semester, submit

- a short 1-3 page summary of your plans, listing the different courses you have taken and plan to take in the major and how all of this will feed into possible future career plans.
- a 10-12 minute presentation that you will submit as a video file (.mp4) for archiving purposes. We'll watch them together, either in person or online. You will not be assessed on your professional editing skills – your presentation can be as simple as a Powerpoint with a voice-over, or you can craft something more elaborate. Totally up to you. When you submit, please indicate whether you are willing to let us share this video with future students interested in the major.

We will meet at least three times this semester: once all together at the beginning of the semester, once before mid-semester for one-on-one consultations with Prof Berg, and a final time at the end of the semester to present the portfolios to the class. The first two meetings will definitely be on Teams, but the venue for the final presentations depends on the health situation.

Course Learning Outcomes

General Education

Course Outline

Textbooks

This course doesn't have any textbook.

Attendance Policy

Students studying at The American University of Paris are expected to attend ALL scheduled classes, and in case of absence, should contact their professors to explain the situation. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of any specific attendance policy that a faculty member might have set in the course syllabus. The French Department, for example, has its own attendance policy, and students are responsible for compliance. Academic Affairs will excuse an absence for students' participation in study trips related to their courses.

Attendance at all exams is mandatory.

IN ALL CASES OF MISSED COURSE MEETINGS, THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMMUNICATION WITH THE PROFESSOR, AND FOR ARRANGING TO MAKE UP MISSED WORK, RESTS SOLELY WITH THE STUDENT.

Whether an absence is excused or not is ALWAYS up to the discretion of the professor or the department. Unexcused absences can result in a low or failing participation grade. In the case of excessive absences, it is up to the professor or the department to decide if the student will receive an "F" for the course. An instructor may recommend that a student withdraw, if absences have made it impossible to continue in the course at a satisfactory level.

Students must be mindful of this policy when making their travel arrangements, and especially during the Drop/Add and Exam Periods.

Grading Policy

Other
