

UNIV 1200 First Year Seminar, Course Outline: Fall 2017

General Information

Course Title: First Year Seminar: Doing Good in Communities

Course Description:

How can students and researchers meaningfully participate in their local communities to support positive change? This course will grapple with the thought and practice behind this question. The particular 'positive change' that we will explore throughout the course includes, but not exclusive to, sustainable energy transitions. Students will work in collaborative teams to develop policy recommendations to address actual problems faced by practitioners, non-profits and City of Guelph staff in their transition towards a sustainable energy future. Students will use multidisciplinary methods to research solutions and employ different knowledge mobilization tools to publicly communicate their policy recommendations.

Credit Weight: 0.5

Academic Department (or campus): University Wide

Semester Offering : Winter 2018

Class Schedule and Location:

Wed, Fri

10:00AM - 11:20AM

MCKN, Room 306

Instructor Information

Instructor Name: Abhilash Kantamneni

Instructor Email: akantamn@uoguelph.ca

Office location and office hours: Hutt Building 124, Wednesday and Friday, noon-1:00 pm (or by appointment)

GTA Information

GTA Name: -NA-

GTA Email: -NA-

GTA office location and office hours:-NA-

Course Content

Specific Learning Outcomes:

- Develop a sense of 'community', and the (potential) role of individuals in facilitating positive community change
- Foster skills in teamwork, community collaboration and capacity building.
- Develop experience using entrepreneurial tools for developing policy recommendations.
- Develop knowledge mobilization and public communication skills (ie, informed, but in a non-academic style)
- Grounding students in the principles and practices of community engaged scholarship that will hopefully endure for the length of their studies.

Lecture Content:

The content of the course will be driven by discussion, collaboration and team based with very little lecturing by the instructor.

Labs:

-None-

Seminars:

-None-

Course Assignments and Tests:

Assignment or Test	Due Date	Contribution to Final Mark (%)	Learning Outcomes Assessed
Attendance & participation	Throughout the semester	25%	Teamwork & collaboration
Visioning Exercise	Jan 22	15%	Sense of community
Policy Model Canvas	Feb 16	15%	Using tools for policy
Volunteer Reflection	March 04	15%	Positive community change
Final editorial/brief/presentation	April 06	30%	Knowledge mobilization

Additional Notes (if required):

-None-

Final examination date and time:
This course has no final exam

Final exam weighting:
-None-

Course Resources

Required Texts:

-None-

Recommended Texts:

Please indicate availability on library reserve. Please include Call Number if available.

Lab Manual:

-None-

Other Resources:

Occasionally, we may use Wikipedia, YouTube or other publicly available sources.

Field Trips:

Occasionally, we may venture beyond the hallowed walls of the classroom to immerse ourselves in community-based experiences. To the extent possible, field trips will be organized during regular class hours. In the event that the field trip is organized outside of class hours, students that cannot attend will not be penalized.

Course Policies

This course will follow the grading policies outlined here - [Undergraduate Grading Procedures](#).

Please note that these policies are binding unless academic consideration is given to an individual student.

Course Policy on Group Work:

Students will be expected to work together in groups no larger than 3-4 students. The success of this course hinges on group work, which requires *active* participation, which includes

attendance, active listening, allowing room for others to speak, asking thoughtful questions, reflection and meaningful deliberation. A component of participation (upto 10%) of the participation grade will be anonymous peer-review. A smaller component of participation (upto 5%) will be based on a pre and post survey (details in class)

Course Policy regarding use of electronic devices and recording of lectures:

Electronic recording of classes is expressly forbidden without consent of the instructor. When recordings are permitted they are solely for the use of the authorized student and may not be reproduced, or transmitted to others, without the express written consent of the instructor.

University Policies

Academic Consideration

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the academic calendar for information on regulations and procedures for

Academic Consideration:

[Academic Consideration, Appeals and Petitions](#)

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community, faculty, staff, and students to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring.

University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection. Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

The Academic Misconduct Policy is detailed in the Undergraduate Calendar:

[Academic Misconduct Policy](#)

Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact [Student Accessibility Services](#) as soon as possible.

For more information, contact SAS at 519-824-4120 ext. 54335 or email accessibility@uoguelph.ca or the [Student Accessibility Services Website](#)

Course Evaluation Information

Please refer to the [Course and Instructor Evaluation Website](#) .

Drop date

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is March 9th, 2018. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the [Schedule of Dates in the Academic Calendar](#).
[Current Undergraduate Calendar](#)

Additional Course Information

Course instructors are allowed to use software to help in detecting plagiarism or unauthorized copying of student assignments. Plagiarism is one of the most common types of academic misconduct on our campus. Plagiarism involves students using the work, ideas and/or the exact wording of other people or sources without giving proper credit to others for the work, ideas and/or words in their papers. Students can unintentionally commit misconduct because they do not know how to reference outside sources properly or because they don't check their work carefully enough before handing it in. Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

In this course, your instructor will be using Turnitin.com to detect possible plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration or copying as part of the ongoing efforts to prevent plagiarism in the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences.

A major benefit of using Turnitin is that students will be able to educate and empower themselves in preventing misconduct. In this course, you may screen your own assignments through Turnitin as many times as you wish before the due date. You will be able to see and print reports that show you exactly where you have properly and improperly referenced the outside sources and materials in your assignment.