

**From:** [Cody, Emily](#)  
**To:** [Fries, Sara N.](#); [Osborne, Jeanne](#)  
**Cc:** [Fredal, James](#); [Conroy, Maria](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Hilty, Michael](#); [Cody, Emily](#)  
**Subject:** ENR 3400  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 30, 2022 4:47:09 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Good afternoon,

On Thursday, August 11, the Themes Panel of the ASC Curriculum Committee reviewed a new GE Theme: Sustainability request for ENR 3400. Please see below for the Panel's feedback.

ENR 3400 | Unanimously approved with **four (4) contingencies** and *one (1) recommendation*:

- The reviewing faculty recognize and appreciate the effort to show specific sustainability links along with human/environment considerations in the course goals, although the former is not always as explicitly stated as the latter. In general, the syllabus reflects an ongoing preference for the term "environment" to the exclusion of the term "sustainability" in topics and title; the reviewing faculty are concerned that this might suggest, from a sustainability standpoint, that this course is focused only on environment in a way that seems to work at cross-purposes with the point of having a sustainability theme. To remedy this, the reviewing faculty ask that the department:
  - **CONTINGENCY: Implement slight revisions in the course goal language; there are points where the instructor could substitute "sustainability" in place of "environment" without changing the meaning of the course intent, and would better align with the sense of being a GE Sustainability course.**
  - **CONTINGENCY: Add brief language to the syllabus about how "sustainability" is to be understood amid this description of the emergence/evolution of "conservation biology" — since if students are taking the course in partial fulfillment of the GE Theme requirement, they may wonder if that is the same thing as sustainability.**
- Additionally, the reviewing faculty:
  - **CONTINGENCY: Kindly request that the syllabus include a bibliography of projected reading assignments so the committee might better evaluate if the class is an advanced-level critical-thinking course on the theme in question.**
  - **CONTINGENCY: Request a cover letter that details all changes made in response to this feedback.**
  - *RECOMMENDATION: The reviewing faculty recommend removing any reference to an "OSU standard grading scheme," as Ohio State does not have a standardized grading scheme.*

I will return ENR 3400 to the departmental queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the Panel's feedback.

Should you have any questions regarding this feedback, please do not hesitate to contact Jim Fredal, faculty Chair of the ASCC Themes Panel, Maria Conroy, faculty Chair of the Theme

Advisory Group: Sustainability, or myself.

Best,  
Emily



**Emily K. Cody, Ph.D.**

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