

From: [Neff, Jennifer](#)
To: [Fries, Sara](#); [Osborne, Jeanne](#)
Cc: [Cravens-Brown, Lisa](#); [Conroy, Maria](#); [Vankeerbergen, Bernadette](#); [Steele, Rachel](#); [Hilty, Michael](#)
Subject: ENR 2210
Date: Monday, September 16, 2024 1:20:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Good afternoon,

On Thursday, September 5th, the Themes II Subcommittee of the ASC Curriculum Committee and the Theme Advisory Group for Sustainability reviewed a GEN Theme: Sustainability request for ENR 2210.

The reviewing faculty declined to vote on the request at this time as they ask that the following feedback be addressed in a revision:

- The reviewing faculty acknowledge the use of sustainability terminology in the syllabus, but they ask that the course engage students in the defining of sustainability as it pertains to the topics of the course.
- There are several elements referenced in the GE form that are not covered in the syllabus, such as the sharing and discussion of the reflective writings. For the reviewing faculty to ensure that students will fully engage with these aspects of the course as they relate to the Theme, it is essential to integrate these explanations into the syllabus as well. Currently, the reviewing faculty are struggling to interpret how the course assignments and materials align with the Theme generic ELOs (1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2). To address this, they ask that the syllabus outline how each component of the course (assignments, activities, assessments) is designed to support these learning outcomes.
- The reviewing faculty ask that the syllabus better connect the assignments and materials to the thematic focus and Theme specific ELOs (3.1, 3.2, and 3.3). For example, while the group assignments mention sustainable practices, additional context is needed to explain how these practices are relevant.
- The reviewing faculty are concerned that the course, at least in the context of the current syllabus, may not meet the advanced level necessary to satisfy the requirements of the Theme. Based on the title of the required text, the reviewing faculty are unable to see how it contributes to the Theme and ask for a brief explanation as to why this text was chosen and how it aligns with Sustainability. The reviewing faculty are also unclear on how the additional course readings establish a link between maple harvesting and sustainability, as most of them are noted as TBD. For example, how will students gain insight as to what constitutes sustainable practices? To provide a better understanding of the level at which students will be engaging with the Theme through the assigned materials, the reviewing faculty ask that the syllabus include the full list of assigned readings, incorporating materials that are a scholarly rather than practical exploration of the Theme.
- The GE submission form talks of inherent human-nature connections but does not take the next step to focus the view on the dimensions provided (e.g., environmental and

earth systems, economy and governance, etc.), of which multiple are applicable. The reviewing faculty ask that this be refined to explicitly focus on one or more of these dimensions.

- The reviewing faculty recommend that the department use the most recent version of the Student Life Disability Services Statement, which was updated in summer of 2024. The updated statement can be found in an easy to copy/paste format on the [Arts and Sciences Curriculum and Assessment Services website](#). [Syllabus pp. 13-14]
- The reviewing faculty ask that the unit provide a cover letter that details the changes that are made to the proposal in response to this feedback.

I will return ENR 2210 to the unit queue via curriculum.osu.edu in order to address the above feedback.

Should you have any questions about the feedback of the reviewing faculty, please feel free to contact Lisa Cravens-Brown (faculty Chair of the Themes II Subcommittee), Maria Conroy (faculty Chair of the Theme Advisory Group: Sustainability) or me.

Best,
Jennifer



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Jennifer Neff

Curriculum and Assessment Assistant

The Ohio State University

College of Arts and Sciences

ASC Curriculum and Assessment Services

306A Dulles Hall, 230 Annie and John Glenn Ave, Columbus, OH 43210

614-292-3901 / ascas.osu.edu

Pronouns: she/her/hers