COURSE CONTENT

Course Code	DP5001 (DP2010)
Course Title	Art and Ecology Workshop
Pre-requisites	Nil
No of AUs	3
Contact Hours	39 hours studio contact

Course Aims

The Ecology and Art Intermediary Workshop will provide environmental science and art students with an opportunity to engage in cross-disciplinary practice. You will expand your knowledge of the mutually beneficial relationship between Environmental Science and Art by engaging in cross-disciplinary art/science practice. You will use as well as share your specific expertise in which you major as you create individual and collaborative projects that address ecological processes and remediation. You will create ecologically focused works that combine art and science. This course will provide more diverse options and tools for employment in your chosen fields. It will give you a strong background to work collaboratively with issues of deep concerns for the Environmental Sciences as well as the Arts and Design fields.

This is an intermediate cross-disciplinary ADM /ASE elective. Entry priority will be given to ASE and ADM students.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of this course, you should be able to:

1. Describe a range of art and scientific research as it relates to ecological systems.
2. Develop a proposal that promotes interdisciplinary ecologically creative production.
3. Explore new materials and techniques from an interdisciplinary and ecological point of reference.
4. Apply techniques and processes to create interdisciplinary ecologically focused art/science works for private and public venues.
5. Collaborate effectively with other artists and/or scientists in an interdisciplinary mode.

Course Content

The overarching theme of this new century is the rapid rate of change on the planet and its hastening effect on climate change. The challenge is to learn to collaborate and develop cross-disciplinary partnerships as well as new skills to engage with these complex problems.

How can art open minds and hearts in order to act? How can scientists use research in a compelling and approachable matter for all to be concerned? How can artists learn to use scientific research for creative outcomes? How can scientists be artists and artists be scientists? This is the challenge of this course.

Renowned artist/scientists who focus on ecological issues will be discussed. Field trips will include visits to areas concerned with ecological restoration and preservation e.g. waste and water

remediation sites, wetlands, gardens, and nature preserves. Students will be required to read, research, and explore media and studio techniques beyond their known disciplines. Art studio as well library research time is required.

The first meeting will outline ecological issues and cutting-edge research; the second meeting will discuss ecologically focused artists' work and critical responses. Simple studio practices including drawing and other design tools, collage, and photography will be introduced guided by ADM students and faculty. Key readings and scientific practices will be guided by ASE students and faculty. This course addresses two of NTU's main concerns: Sustainable Earth and Interdisciplinary Practice.

You will begin this course with an overview of the terms and contexts you will use. The first weeks cover a range of ecological topics, and how art and science work together to examine, critique, raise awareness and explore solutions.

From week 4 you will experience a more closely focused examination of ecology, loosely grouped under 5 elements: earth, air, fire, water, and energy sources. You will also be conducting research, written and visual, and forming a research topic portfolio.

From week 8 collaboration between artists and scientists begins. You will examine at a range of examples as a range of collaboration methods are discussed.

Throughout the entire course, you, in collaboration with others, will be gradually forming a project. In weeks 11 to 13, the focus intensifies to the resolution of this project, with a final 15-minute presentation in week 13.

Assessment (includes both continuous and summative assessment)

Component	Course LO Tested	Programme LO	Weighting	Team/ Individual
Continuous Assessment: Preparation and Presentations of Assignments	1,2,3,4		40%	Team
Final Project	1,2,3,4		40%	Team
Participation	2,3,4,5		20%	Team
Total			100%	

Reading and References

Note; Students will be required to read selections from all required texts pertinent to their individual and group interests and assignment research. There will be weekly class reading assignments determined as the class evolves.

1. Spaid, Sue. *Ecovention: Current art to transform ecologies.* Greenmuseum. org, 2002.
2. Available online at no cost at http://greenmuseum.org/c/ecovention/intro_frame.html
3. Tharp, Twyla. *The collaborative habit: life lessons for working together.* Simon and Schuster,

2009.

4. Weisman, Alan. *The world without u*s. Macmillan, 2008.
5. Weintraub, Linda, and Skip Schuckmann. *Environmentalities: twenty-two approaches to eco-art*. Rhinebeck,New York,USA, 2011.

Suggested Reading:

1. Frailey, Stephen. "'Ecotopia': The second ICP triennial of photography and video." Eds. Brian Wallis, Christopher Phillips, Edward Earle, Carol Squiers. International Center of Photography, New York City, exhibition catalogue, 2006
2. Lovelock, James. *The vanishing face of Gaia: A final warning.* Basic Books (AZ), 2010.
3. Solnit, Rebecca. Wanderlust: A history of walking. Verso Books, London, UK. 2001.
4. Vernadsky, V. I. *The Biosphere. Complete Annotated Edition*. Copernicus. (1998).

Course Policies and Student Responsibilities

(1) General

You are expected to complete all assigned readings, activities, assignments, attend all classes punctually and complete all scheduled assignments by due dates. You are expected to take responsibility to follow up with assignments and course related announcements. You are expected to participate in all project critiques, class discussions and activities.

(2) Punctuality

You are expected to be punctual for all classes. If you are more than 30 minutes late, you will be deemed as absent and will not be able to sign on the attendance register.

(3) Absenteeism

In-class activities make up a significant portion of your course grade. Absence from class without a valid reason will affect your participation grade. Valid reasons include falling sick supported by a medical certificate and participation in NTU's approved activities supported by an excuse letter from the relevant bodies. There will be no make-up opportunities for in-class activities.

Academic Integrity

Good academic work depends on honesty and ethical behaviour. The quality of your work as a student relies on adhering to the principles of academic integrity and to the NTU Honour Code, a set of values shared by the whole university community. Truth, Trust and Justice are at the core of NTU's shared values.

As a student, it is important that you recognize your responsibilities in understanding and applying the principles of academic integrity in all the work you do at NTU. Not knowing what is involved in maintaining academic integrity does not excuse academic dishonesty. You need to actively equip yourself with strategies to avoid all forms of academic dishonesty, including plagiarism, academic

fraud, collusion and cheating. If you are uncertain of the definitions of any of these terms, you should go to the academic integrity website for more information. Consult your instructor(s) if you need any clarification about the requirements of academic integrity in the course.

Planned Weekly Schedule

Week	Topic	Course LO	Readings/ Activities
1-3	**Definitions of Nature and Ecology** **Climate Change and Solutions** **Overview of Contemporary Art focused on ecological issues and remediation**	1,2,3,5	IS There an Ecological Unconscious? Daniel lB. Smith, New York Times Magazine, Jan 27, 2010
4-7	**Study of Ecological Issues and Processes with visits to related NTU and outside programs** Section I Earth The Biosphere, The Rainforest Section 2 Air The Atmosphere Section 3 Fire The Volcano Cycle/waste Section 4 Water The Ocean Cycle/Clean Water Section 5 also Metal,Wood, Space, Energy Remediation and Problem Solving Individual Portfolio	1,2,3,5	See note below
8-10	**Collaboration** -between artists and scientists (combining skills, media, and concepts), -creating as an artist/scientist -between artist/scientists and the public (Public art projects)	1,2,3,4,5	
11-13	**FINAL Art Projects: Refining and Presentation** To be accompanied by a 3-page research paper and bibliography. Choice of working collaboratively or as a solo artist/scientist Collaborative Projects:	1,2,3,4,5	

	Create a 15-minute Multimedia presentation or installation that presents a strategy for lessening climate change. Let the 4-6 elements help inspire your choice of inquiry: earth, air, fire, water. Use local examples. Solo projects: Explore in depth one of the ecological /carbon cycles from which to make an extended art/science work, consider private versus public space for presentation.		