

COURSE CONTENT

Course Code	DP2012 (DP5001)
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.