



Earth Ethics Institute at Miami Dade College

Global Sustainability and Earth Literacy Studies (GSELS)
Enhancement Contract Information

Guidelines for Global Sustainability and Earth Literacy Studies Enhancement

The Global Sustainability and Earth Literacy Studies (GSELS) enhancement represents a scholarly endeavor exploring key criteria of GSELS that exceeds the academic objectives specified in the standard course curriculum of a course not designated as GSELS. The enhancement provides special opportunities for qualified students to pursue individual study under the ongoing supervision of a GSELS-certified faculty sponsor who periodically monitors the student's progress in achieving the GSELS enhancement contract objectives. Criteria for completing and evaluating the GSELS enhancement and whether the enhancement will meet GSELS-related or GSELS-focused course requirements should be clearly specified on the GSELS Enhancement application form. Requesting credit for a GSELS-focused course requires that the student complete EVERY regular course assignment with an exploration of a GSELS topic or through the lens of Earth Literacy and/or global sustainability.

Students wishing to enhance their learning through the GSELS Enhancement Contract must obtain permission from the Earth Ethics Institute Director or EEI Campus Program Professional. The student must understand that a GSELS Enhancement is an option offered to students of exceptional dedication to learning GSELS course criteria for whom a campus-based GSELS-designated course is not available. This means pursuing advanced coursework and spending additional time conferring with the respective GSELS-certified professor to complete the enhancement objectives. Therefore, the student should plan to meet periodically with the instructor during the semester.

Factors Used in Identifying Potential GSELS Enhancement students:

1. GSELS-certified Faculty recommendation for the GSELS Enhancement option.

Characteristics of GSELS Enhancement

1. Investigation of GSELS topics that are not being covered in regular coursework
2. Research inclusive of GSELS criteria in addition to normal course assignments
3. Research papers must be at least five pages long (if applicable)
4. Extended analysis of GSELS criteria not required in regular coursework
5. GSELS lens applied to a regular course module/assignment (GSELS-related) OR in-depth GSELS project beyond regular requirement of the course (GSELS-related) OR GSELS lens applied to all course assignments (GSELS-focused)

Procedures

1. The GSELS-certified professor specifies the learning objectives for the contract and how he or she will measure the achievements of the learning objectives on the GSELS Enhancement.
2. The student, in consultation with the GSELS-certified professor, negotiates and refines the GSELS enhancement design.
3. The student and instructor sign the GSELS Enhancement Contract.
4. Student registers with the GSELS Learning Network under GSELS Course Enhancement Contract
5. The GSELS Enhancement/contract and the course syllabus are submitted to the Earth Ethics Institute (EEI) Director or EEI Campus Program Professional for signature.
6. If a Campus Program Professional signs the documents, the EEI Campus Program Professional forwards the signed document to the EEI Director for signature.
7. If approved, the EEI Director designates the course as GSELS-related or GSELS-focused for that particular student, as indicated in the contract. Requesting credit for a GSELS-focused course requires that the student complete EVERY regular course assignment through the lens of GSELS criteria.

Deadlines

The signed GSELS Enhancement Contract must be submitted to the Campus EEI Program Professional within five weeks after the first day of class for the Fall and Spring terms, and within two weeks after the first day of class for the Summer term. Courses that follow a non-traditional calendar will have modified deadlines for submitting contracts.

Important Student Reminder

The student who undertakes a GSELS Enhancement understands that after the contract has been approved, GSELS-designated credit for the course is contingent upon completing all terms of the contract. The student must adhere to the time frame agreed upon with the faculty sponsor for the completion of the course enhancement.

Global Sustainability and Earth Literacy Studies (GSELS) Enhancement Contract Application Form for 2024-25

Read the contract before filling it out. Fill in all sections. INCOMPLETE FORMS WILL BE RETURNED TO THE STUDENT.

The signed GSELS Enhancement Contract must be submitted to the Earth Ethics Institute (EEI) Campus Program Professional where the student is taking the course or to the EEI Director five weeks after the first day of class for the Fall and Spring terms, and two weeks after the first day of class for the Summer term.

TO BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT

Last Name	First Name	Student Number	Major
Student Telephone Number	Student E-mail Address	Anticipated graduation date	Campus where taking course
Course Prefix & Number (ex. ENC1101)	Reference #	Course Title (ex. English Composition 1)	GSELS-Focused or Related?

Student Abstract Proposal- must be completed by student and attached to this sheet

On a separate sheet of paper, fully address the questions listed below and attach it to this form. Submit both to the instructor by the end of the third week of class each Fall/Spring and by the third class meeting of each Summer term for approval.

1. What GSELS enhancement will you undertake?
2. How does this enhancement allow for **investigation of GSELS topics that are not covered** in regular coursework?
3. What **GSELS course criteria topics will research** include?
4. What **extended GSELS analysis** will be required for the completion of this course enhancement?

If I undertake a Global Sustainability and Earth Literacy Studies (GSELS) Enhancement, I understand that, after the contract has been approved, GSELS-designated credit for the course is contingent upon my completing all terms of the contract. I agree to adhere to the time frame agreed upon with the faculty sponsor for the completion of the enhancement. I understand that **I will only be awarded GSELS-designation for the course** once this agreement has been signed and I have completed the enhancement in the time specified on the contract.

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY INSTRUCTOR

Instructor Last Name	Instructor First Name	Instructor Telephone Number	Instructor E-mail Address
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Instructor/Student Agreement: In addition to requirements outlined in the course syllabus, the student will complete additional coursework/enhancement of regular coursework/projects described in the attachment. Evaluation of the additional coursework/course enhancement/projects is based on the following criteria (must be completed by instructor):

_____ **GSELS Enhancement Completion Date:** _____

Instructor Signature: _____

Date: _____

Earth Ethics Institute Program Professional Signature: _____

Date: _____

Earth Ethics Institute Director Signature: _____

Date: _____