



MIEH 699: UMD Global STEWARDS: Seminal Findings, and Research and Policy in Progress at the Food, Energy, Water Nexus

Semester:	Fall 2020
Classroom and Time:	Wednesdays 12:00-1:00pm, on Zoom
Organizers:	The UMD Global STEWARDS Seminar Committee
Instructor:	Dr. Amy R. Sapkota
Office:	2234P, SPH Building (255)
Phone:	301-405-1772
Email:	ars@umd.edu
Office Hours:	By Appointment

Course Description:

Engaging discourse covering seminal findings, as well as research and policy in progress at the food-energy-water (FEW) nexus. Course meetings will include presentations by students and faculty members, followed by interdisciplinary discussions; and presentations by visiting leaders working at the FEW nexus across career sectors.

Course Pre-requisites:

Required: Graduate status and permission of the instructor.

Course Learning Objectives:

After successfully completing this seminar course you will be able to:

- 1) Become familiar with the terminology of multiple disciplines working at the food, energy, water nexus
- 2) Critically evaluate the study designs and methods of food, energy, water-related research discussed during the semester
- 3) Critically evaluate the results and implications of food, energy, water-related research discussed during the semester

UMD Global STEWARDS Competencies Addressed in this Course:

The following competencies for the UMD Global STEWARDS program are addressed in this seminar course:

- 2) Identify strengths and critique weaknesses of multiple disciplines
- 3) Synthesize the approaches and tools from multiple disciplines to evaluate and address a research problem
- 5) Communicate research based in one discipline or field of study to academic researchers trained in different disciplines

Required Readings:

Readings, if applicable, will be listed and available on the course website.

Additional Materials Required: None**Course Requirements:**

Seminars will consist of presentations by students, faculty members, and guest speakers.

Expectations:

Students are expected to carefully complete any assigned readings prior to the seminar class for which they are assigned and be prepared to discuss, analyze and critique the topics during seminar. Attendance and active participation during every seminar is expected. The instructor welcomes meetings with students outside of class to discuss questions and to gain more insights about the materials presented during seminar. Students may e-mail, call, or ask during class for an appointment.

Complete Zoom Meeting Information:

All seminar meetings will be held on Zoom until further notice. The complete join/call-in information is as follows:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://umd.zoom.us/j/XXXXXXXXXX>

Grade Weights and Grading

Assignment	Grade (%)
Attendance and active participation	100
Total	100

Number Grade	Letter Grade
96-100%	A+
93-95%	A
90-92%	A-
86-89%	B+
83-85%	B
80-82%	B-
76-79%	C+
73-75%	C
70-72%	C-
66-69%	D+
63-65%	D
60-62%	D-
<60%	F

Course Policies:

Email – The Official University Correspondence:

Verify your email address by going to www.my.umd.edu.

All enrolled students are provided access to the University's email system and an email account. *All official University email communication will be sent to this email address* (or an alternate address if provided by the student). Email has been adopted as the primary means for sending official communications to students, so email must be checked on a regular basis. Academic advisors, faculty, and campus administrative offices use email to communicate important and time-sensitive notices.

Students are responsible for keeping their email address up to date or for redirecting or forwarding email to another address. Failure to check email, errors in forwarding email, and returned email (from "full mailbox" or "unknown user" errors for example), will not excuse a student from missing University announcement, messages, deadlines, etc. Email addresses can be quickly and easily updated at www.my.umd.edu or in-person at the Student Service Counter on the first floor of the Mitchell Building.

For technical support for University email: www.helpdesk.umd.edu or call 301-405-1400.

Absence Policy:

In accordance with University policy if you are absent for a single (1) lecture due to illness or some form of personal or family emergency, this absence will be considered "excused" and the instructor will accept a note from you attesting to the date of the illness/incident, along with an acknowledgement that the information is true. Whenever feasible, you should try to contact the instructor in advance.

Multiple or prolonged absences, and absences that prevent attendance at a major scheduled grading event (like the presentation of a case study) will require written documentation from an appropriate health care provider/organization.

A link to pull information on the new policy covering absences from class can be found at <http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/v100q.html>

Late work and Missed Exams / Assignments:

All work is due when assigned. Any work not completed and handed in by the beginning of class on the due date will receive **a reduction of one letter grade**. Work not handed in by 5pm the following day will receive **an additional letter grade reduction**. Work will not be accepted beyond this point except in extreme circumstances approved by your instructor. You must prearrange with the instructor to miss a class deadline.

Missed classes (in the absence of a documented medical, personal or family emergency) where you were scheduled to provide your student-led interdisciplinary case study may not be made up.

Course Evaluations

The University, the School of Public Health, and the Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health are committed to the use of student course evaluations for improving the student experience, course and curriculum delivery, and faculty instruction. Your evaluations help instructors improve their courses; help deans and department chairs decide on merit pay for faculty, renewal of contracts, and support tenure and promotion decisions; and help current and future students decide on classes. **The system (www.CourseEvalUM.umd.edu) will open at the end of the semester** for course evaluations.

In addition to submitting evaluations through CourseEvalUM, the students are also expected to participate in additional surveys and interviews with our Global STEWARDS Evaluation Team.

Additional Important University Policies:

Religious Observances:

The University System of Maryland policy provides that students should not be penalized because of observances of their religious beliefs; students shall be given an opportunity, whenever feasible, to make up within a reasonable time any academic assignment that is missed due to individual participation in religious observances. **It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor in advance of any intended absences for religious observance.**

Special Accommodations / Disability Support Services:

If you have a documented disability and wish to discuss academic accommodations for test taking or other needs, you will need documentation from Disability Support Service (301-314-7682). If you are ill or encountering personal difficulties, please let the instructor know as soon as possible. You can also contact Learning Assistance Services (301-314-7693) and/or the Counseling Center (301-314-7651) for assistance.

Academic Integrity:

The University's code of academic integrity is designed to ensure that the principle of academic honesty is upheld. Any of the following acts, when committed by a student, constitutes academic dishonesty:

- CHEATING: intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in an academic exercise.
- FABRICATION: intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.
- FACILITATING ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to violate any provision of this code.
- PLAGIARISM: intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise.

For more information see: <http://www.shc.umd.edu/code.html>.

The Honor Pledge is a statement undergraduate and graduate students should be asked to write by hand and sign on examinations, papers, or other academic assignments. The Pledge reads:

I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this assignment/examination.

The University of Maryland, College Park has a nationally recognized Code of Academic Integrity, administered by the Student Honor Council. This Code sets standards for academic integrity at Maryland for all undergraduate and graduate students. As a student you are responsible for upholding these standards for this course. It is very important for you to be aware of the consequences of cheating, fabrication, facilitation, and plagiarism. For more information on the Code of Academic Integrity or the Student Honor Council, please visit <http://www.shc.umd.edu>.

Inclement Weather / University Closings:

In the event that the University is closed for an emergency or extended period of time, the instructor will communicate to students regarding schedule adjustments, including rescheduling of examinations and assignments due to inclement weather and campus emergencies. Official closures and delays are announced on the campus website (<http://www.umd.edu>) and snow phone line (301-405-SNOW), as well as local radio and TV stations.

Course Schedule Summary			
Session	Date	Topic Area and Speakers	Assignments Due BEFORE class
# 1	9/2/20	Topic Area: COVID-10 and environmental justice Guest Speaker: Dr. David Pellow	Any readings posted on course website
# 2	9/9/20	Topic Area: FEW issues impacting indigenous populations in the U.S. Guest Speaker: Dr. Karletta Chief	Any readings posted on course website
# 3	9/16/20	Topic Area: Food sovereignty, environmental health, and environmental reproductive justice Guest Speaker: Dr. Elizabeth Hoover	Any readings posted on course website
# 4	9/23/20	Topic Area: TBD Student Speaker	Any readings posted on course website
# 5	9/30/20	Topic Area: TBD Guest Speakers	Any readings posted on course website
# 6	10/7/20	Topic Area: Environmental justice in Chesapeake Bay as it relates to water quality and energy sectors Guest Speaker: Dr. Taylor Lilley	Any readings posted on course website
# 7	10/14/20	Topic Area: Renewable energy, food insecurity, policy, environmental health, climate justice	Any readings posted on course website

		Guest Speaker: Dr. Tamara Toles O’Laughlin	
# 8	10/21/20	Topic Area: Risk assessment of food water/policy analysis Guest Speaker: Dr. Devon Payne-Sturges	Any readings posted on course website
# 9	10/28/20	Topic Area: Conservation at Charleston Aquarium Guest Speaker: Mr. Albert George	Any readings posted on course website
# 10	11/4/20	Topic Area: Water quality, water reuse, treatment technologies Guest Speaker: Ms. Lola Olabode	Any readings posted on course website
# 11	11/11/20	Topic Area: FEW issues and dialogue/conflict resolution in the Middle East (Palestine, Israel, Jordan) Student Speaker: Friends of Arava Institute	Any readings posted on course website
# 12	11/18/20	Topic Area: TBD Student Speakers	Any readings posted on course website
None	11/25/20	Thanksgiving Break!	
# 13	12/2/20	Topic Area: TBD Student Speakers	Any readings posted on course website
# 14	12/9/20	Focus Group: What worked well in UMD Global STEWARDS this semester and what could be improved?	

Note: This is a tentative schedule, and subject to change as necessary – monitor the course ELMS page for updates. In the unlikely event of a prolonged university closing, or an extended absence from the university, adjustments to the course schedule, deadlines, and assignments will be made based on the duration of the closing and the specific dates missed.