COURSE OUTLINE

1. **Title Of Course And Course Number**: WS 430 - Ecofeminism

2. **Description Of Course Consistent With The WPUNJ Catalog**: In this course students explore the connections between women and nature from an ecofeminist perspective. The course encompasses the history, theory and praxis of ecofeminism, considers the variety of positions within ecofeminism, investigates political, social and developmental impacts of ecofeminism, and provides students with the opportunity for activism in their own lives.

3. **Course Prerequisites**: None

4. **Course Objectives**
   
   The main objectives of this course are to introduce students to the theory and praxis of ecological feminism, or ecofeminism.
   
   General course objectives are to:
   
   - introduce students to the precepts of Western ecofeminism
   - engender a better understanding of ecofeministic theory and practice
   - examine the major ecological, ethical, scientific and feministic roots of ecofeminism
   - understand ecofeminism from political, societal, and developmental perspectives
   - explore the connections between ecofeminism, environmental ethics and radical ecology
   - provide an opportunity for activistic practice in students’ own lives

5. **Student Learning Outcomes**
   
   At the end of this course, students will be able to accomplish the objectives listed below. Specifically, they should be able to:
   
   - understand the philosophy of ecofeminism
   - be familiar with terminology and concepts used in ecofeminism
   - examine the major ecological, ethical, scientific and feministic roots of ecofeminism
   - understand the complex interconnectedness between women, animals and the environment
   - develop the ability to read and evaluate academic ecofeminist writing and research
   - integrate principles of respect for all life into their lives
   - understand principles and techniques for preservation of the earth’s natural resources

6. **Topical Outline Of Course Content**
   
   In this sixteen week course, the following material will be covered:
   
   - Week 1: Introductions – to each other, to this class, and to ecological feminism
   - Week 2: Introduction to ecofeminist philosophy
7. Guidelines For Teaching Methods And Students Learning Activities
While lecture and discussion constitute the principal teaching methods in this course, these techniques will be complemented with experiential learning experiences, collaborative work and service learning. Students will also engage in projects designed to integrate and apply ecofeminism in their lives.

8. Guidelines/Suggestions For Methods Of Student Assessment
Assessment of student learning will be multi-pronged, with both formative and summative assessment used in this course. Formative assessment will be through evaluation of: (i) writing weekly reading response papers (ii) timely completion of assigned readings (iii) active involvement in class discussions and (iv) class activities. Summative assessment will be through evaluation (i) either a service learning OR research project (ii) a comprehensive final exam and (iii) a presentation.

9. Suggested Readings, Texts, Objects Of Study:

Required texts:

Reading Packet, containing selected essays from the texts listed in the Bibliography below.

Suggested Journals:
Ecofem.org- The eJournal
10. Bibliography Of Supportive Texts And Other Materials:


11. **Preparer’s Name And Date**: Sharmila Pixy Ferris, February 5, 2003

12. **Original Departmental Approval Date**: 

13. **Reviser’s Name And Date**: N/A

14. **Departmental Revision Approval Date**: N/A