Environmental Policy and Planning Comprehensive Program Review

General and Overview

1. Describe your program’s most significant opportunities and significant challenges.

The interdisciplinary nature of the EPP program and faculty present multiple opportunities for university and community collaboration. For each of the three areas of emphasis in the major, students take a range of courses in policy, planning, economics, and geography. Through community partnerships and collaborations, EPP students also complete internships that give them the chance to apply course content and gain valuable work experience.

EPP connects well to UWGB’s current strategic themes of commitment to community, diversity, meeting the needs of students, and sustainability. Program faculty are actively engaged in the greater Green Bay and Wisconsin community through research, service, and connecting community members with UWGB students and classes. In addition to internships, these connections are made through inclusion of high-impact practices in nearly every EPP course, internships, and guest speakers. EPP faculty also teach in multiple graduate programs, serving as instructors, advisors, and thesis chairs.

EPP faces several challenges related to workload and course coverage. Due to multiple faculty departures in recent years, we are unable to offer a several courses in the major and rely on external/ad hoc faculty to cover some upper-level planning courses. There are courses listed in the major such as PU EN AF 450 Advanced Geographic Systems that we do not have faculty to regularly offer. Prof. Christopher Houghton, a faculty member in NAS, has taught our lower-level GIS courses (250 and 350) each semester and worked to accommodate students with independent studies to substitute for 450, but EPP needs to be able to consistently offer the course to students and his full schedule does not always permit time for independent studies. Other upper-level elective courses including PU EN AF 321 Coastal Resources Policy and Management cannot be offered due to a lack of faculty. Given the environment surrounding Green Bay and student interest, coastal issues are important to students and EPP needs an additional planning faculty who can teach this and GIS as part of their load. A final challenge related to workload is the involvement of EPP faculty in multiple graduate programs. The Environmental Science and Policy (ES&P) program is growing, including an accelerated track from EPP to the graduate program, but this places additional advising and teaching demands on EPP faculty. Several EPP courses are cross listed for the graduate program, but Prof. Wheat and Helpap also teach graduate-only courses as part of their teaching load.

2. What are some things that would help make your program and its students more successful?

There are three areas where additional support would enhance the success of our program, students, and faculty. First, two additional faculty are needed—one to cover GIS courses and environmental planning, replacing faculty who have left UWGB, and one to teach courses in international environmental policy/politics, replacing a faculty member who left the institution. GIS is an essential skill for students pursuing careers in EPP and is part of most graduate curriculums. We offer courses in basic GIS skills, but
do not have anyone in the program who can cover the upper-level or independent research projects students may be interested in pursuing.

Second, funding to support student opportunities including internships, research, and conference attendance would have a tremendous impact on our students’ undergraduate experiences and make them more competitive for both employment and graduate school. PEA students participate in a wide range of internships, some of which are paid. Additional funding would expand these opportunities to more students who might not have the financial means on their own. With regards to conferences and research, many students in EPP courses conduct research that translates well to an academic conference. We have had students present at multiple campus, Wisconsin, and national conferences including the Southern Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, and the WI Sustainability Conference. Students have also attended the Solid Waste conference, WI Political Science Association conference, American Planning conference, and the Water Resources Association conference.

Third and finally, we would like to expand and formalize connections to regional agencies and organizations for student internships and positions. EPP students often complete multiple internships for credit during their time in the major and additional connections would hopefully create more internship opportunities and potentially build relationships for employment upon graduation.

3. What are some program accomplishments worth highlighting?

Using their interdisciplinary foundation from the major, EPP students are successfully able to transition from their undergraduate classrooms to employment and graduate school opportunities. The EPP program is proud of the internships completed by students in the major, employment secured upon graduation, and placement in leading graduate and law school programs including the University of Madison, University of Milwaukee, Indiana University, Marquette Law School, Vermont Law School, the University of Southern Oregon, and Vrije University in Amsterdam.

EPP students actively engage in research through campus opportunities such as the Academic Excellence Symposium at UWGB and Research at the Rotunda held in the Wisconsin State Capitol building in Madison. They have also presented at and attended conferences including the Southern Political Science Association, Midwest Political Science Association, WI Sustainability Conference, Solid Waste conference, WI Political Science Association conference, American Planning conference, and the Water Resources Association conference. Prof. Marcelo Cruz and students in his planning courses have presented their joint projects to community clients in Green Bay including the following: Revised Neighborhood Master Plan for the Broadway District (2020), Green Bay Waterfront District Visioning Project (2017), City of Green Bay’s Public Arts Commission Public Art Inventory Project (2017), Art Garage Placemaking Project (2106), State Award Winning Master Plan for Wisconsin’s Main Street Program (2015), Green Bay Neighborhood GREEN BIKES project, City of Green Bay (2015), and Developing a Community Profile for Stockbridge, Wisconsin (2014).
In addition to faculty research and community accomplishments noted in later questions, several EPP faculty have been recognized for student-nominated teaching awards including Prof. David Helpap, Prof. Elizabeth Wheat, and Prof. Karen Dalke.

4. Have there been any significant changes that have affected your program?

During the time period of review, the EPP program has experienced three significant changes. First, there have been four faculty departures that reduced course offerings available to students. Professor Dallas Blaney left UWGB for a non-academic opportunity and many of his international political and international environmental courses are unable to be offered. Professors Rachel Russell and Adam Parillo both taught courses in GIS and planning, key components of two emphasis areas in EPP. While we have been able to offer some of the GIS courses through Prof. Christopher Houghton in NAS, EPP students are limited in upper-level GIS offerings. Prof. Karen Dalke passed away in 2018 following a tragic accident. In addition to her tremendous impact on faculty and students, Karen taught first-year seminar courses, the unit’s ethics capstone, and additional large introductory courses that helped attract students to the EPP program. None of these faculty lines have been replaced.

A second significant change is limited funding for faculty professional development and for students interested in pursuing advanced research opportunities at conferences. EPP faculty actively engage in scholarship and often present at conferences including the Midwest Political Science Association, Southern Political Science Association, and international opportunities. Several EPP students have also presented at these conferences, often using research from one of their courses and supervised by an EPP faculty member. Funding remains a challenge for both faculty and students, but it is particularly important for students to have consistent funding to support conference expenses.

A third change affecting EPP is the merging of the Urban and Regional Studies unit and Public and Environmental Affairs Unit in 2016. At this time, several faculty members, including EPP faculty Professor Marcelo Cruz, joined PEA. The merged unit revised tenure standards, reviewed EPP’s areas of emphasis, and began operating as a larger faculty unit.

5. Where do you want your program to be 5 to 7 years from now?

In 5-7 years, we want the program to continue its interdisciplinary perspective. EPP faculty have backgrounds in Political Science, Geography, Environmental Planning, and Public Administration. This provides students with diverse academic perspectives and experiences through our classes. We strive to connect our backgrounds to work in the community, particularly with regional planning, policy analysis, and community development opportunities.

As UWGB starts to have more open discussions of diversity and equity, EPP wants to continue its efforts to attract diverse students, diverse faculty, expand course offerings in
both domestic and international environmental policy and planning, and build connections to programs including EMBI, the accelerated Environmental Science and Policy Master’s, Political Science, and Public Administration.

**Demand**

Based on the given data from 2013-2020, 96 students across all three areas of emphasis graduated with an EPP major. The data does not separate students who may have completed more than one emphasis, leading to potential double-counting of individuals in the final total. The most recent number of majors (43) from the 2020-2021 year is down slightly from previous years, but as noted below, numbers have fluctuated in recent years and 43 majors is close to where we have been for most of the review period. The recent decline may be due to COVID affecting students and changes in course delivery modes. The number of minors is also down slightly in 2020-2021, but this may be due to more students choosing the redesigned major and revised areas of emphasis. It is relatively easy to double-major with Public Administration or Political Science and EPP with planning and advising.

- Declared number of majors across all EPP areas of emphasis:
  - 2020-2021: 43
  - 2019-2020: 49
  - 2018-2019: 52
  - 2017-2018: 44
  - 2016-2017: 45
  - 2015-2016: 46
  - 2014-2015: 45
  - 2013-2014: 56

- Declared number of minors across all EPP areas of emphasis:
  - 2020-2021: 10
  - 2019-2020: 14
  - 2018-2019: 17
  - 2017-2018: 16
  - 2016-2017: 14
  - 2015-2016: 13
  - 2014-2015: 21
  - 2013-2014: 16

**Internal**

1. Program goals
   - Learning Outcomes for Environmental Policy and Planning
     - Exhibit an understanding and ability to implement sustainability as an engaged citizen (PU EN AF 102, 323, 324)
     - Demonstrate basic knowledge of environmental science and selected other areas of natural science (ENV SCI 102 and both lower- and upper-level environmental science, biology, geography, and geology courses).
     - Express knowledge of the concepts, principles, and theories of environmental policy, law, and planning (PU EN AF 202, 408, 301, 322, 350, and 378).
iv. Engage in ethical decision making and critical thinking in environmental policy and planning (PU EN AF 430).

v. Communicate clearly and effectively about environmental policy and planning (all courses).

vi. Use technical skills in environmental policy and planning (PU EN AF 301, 378, 322, and other upper-level courses).

vii. Qualify for graduate work in schools of environmental studies, public policy, public affairs, planning, or related fields, or to qualify for entry level professional employment in environmental policy and planning (all courses).

2. Curriculum development
   • The unit redesigned the program’s three areas of emphasis in March 2019 to reflect course availability, necessary skills for graduates, the unit’s interdisciplinary nature, and to ensure students developed a well-rounded background.
   • Additional curriculum changes:
     o Green Lives Matter (later renamed Green Justice) (Freshman Seminar, GPS)
     o Paw-sibilities (Freshman Seminar on Animal Rescue)
     o SimCity Civics (Freshman Seminar)
     o Online versions of PU EN AF 301, 378, 379, and 380
     o Online versions of PU EN AF 102, 202, 322, 323, 324, 351, 431
     o New course PU EN AF 324 Transitioning to Sustainable Communities
     o New course PU EN AF 431 Building Sustainable Landscapes
     o New course PU EN AF 412 Urban Planning Theory
     o New Course PU EN AF 452 Urban Planning Methods
     o New Course PU EN AF 454 Designing for Communities and Neighborhoods

3. Connections to other programs
   • Many courses in the EPP emphases areas are cross listed in Political Science, Public Administration, the Sustainability minor, and Environmental Science and Policy graduate program. Examples include, but are not limited to, the following:
     o PU EN AF 202/POL SCI 202 Introduction to Public Policy
     o PU EN AF 301/POL SCI 301 Environmental Politics and Policy
     o PU EN AF 306/POL SCI 306 Regulatory Policy and Administration
     o PU EN AF 408/POL SCI 408 Public Policy Analysis
     o PU EN AF 314/POL SCI Administrative Law
     o PU EN AF 378/578 Environmental Law
     o PU EN AF 379/579 Natural Resources Policy, Law, Administration
     o PU EN AF 380/580 Global Environmental Politics
     o PU EN AF 406/POL SCI 406 State and Local Government
   • Courses in other programs such as POL SCI 101 American Government and GEO 102 are prerequisites for several EPP courses.
There is considerable overlap with EPP students in Public Administration, Global Studies, and Political Science. With planning, students can triple major and complete the university requirements in four years.

PEA’s Organizational Leadership major includes an environmental policy emphasis as one of options available to students.

In addition to teaching and advising in EPP, faculty also have appointments in Political Science (Wheat, Helpap), Public Administration (Wheat, Helpap), Economics (Stoll), Geography (Cruz, Phoenix), the graduate program in Environmental Science and Policy program (Wheat, Stoll, Helpap, Phoenix), and the graduate UW-collaborative program in Sustainability (Wheat). Prof. Wheat is also one of the university Pre-Law advisors.

EPP faculty advise and teach in multiple graduate programs (Wheat, Helpap, Phoenix, and Stoll.) EPP faculty also serve on and chair thesis committees for the Environmental Science and Policy (ES&P) graduate program and teach multiple graduate student-only courses. Professor Wheat created a new ES&P course, ENV SP 750 Fish and Wildlife Law and Policy, which was offered for the first time in Fall 2019 and will continue to be a fall course offering. This course addition will expand policy options for the graduate program which had been very limited in the past.

4. Number of courses offered

- The EPP minor requires 25-26 credits with approximately 17 different courses in Public and Environmental Affairs to choose from.
- The EPP major requires selection of an area of emphasis from Environmental Policy, Environmental Planning, or Regional Planning and Environmental Design. Some students opt to major in multiple emphases.
  - The Regional Planning and Environmental Design emphasis requires completion of 49-50 credits with approximately 32 qualifying courses in EPP, Economics, Sociology, Communications, Geography and Mathematics.
  - The Environmental Planning emphasis requires completion of 46-47 credits with approximately 29 qualifying courses in EPP, Geography, Political Science, Environmental Science, Sociology, Communications, and Mathematics.
  - The Environmental Policy emphasis requires completion of 56-57 credits with approximately 33 qualifying courses in EPP, Political Science, Geography, Business Administration, Economics, Communications, Environmental Science, and Mathematics.
  - The accelerated track from EPP to the ES&P Master’s is 56-57 credits and requires acceptance into graduate program. Students enroll in the same EPP courses but take them under the graduate listing with the additional work required.
- The course catalog lists 66 courses with the PU EN AF prefix, 16 courses under GEOG, and 20 under ECON.
5. Diversity of students, faculty, and curriculum

During the period of review, an average of 58% of EPP majors are female. 47% of EPP majors are first-generation students. An average of 87% of EPP students during this time period indicate their race as White. The lack of diversity among EPP students is not unique to the program and is a growth area for the unit and campus.

From 2013-2017, a slight majority of students were over the age of 25. Beginning in the 2018-19 academic year, students ages 20-24 were nearly double the number of those over 25. Measurement of students 19-20 did not begin until the 2019-2020 academic year and since that time, there have been 11 students in that age range. The data does not indicate if students count twice during any of the time periods.

Among tenured faculty who teach most of the EPP courses, 66% are women.

In multiple EPP courses, issues of diversity, inclusion, and equity are included. Prof. Wheat’s FYS Green Justice (PU EN AF 198) discussed issues of environmental justice and the disproportionate effects of environmental harm faced by minority communities. Additional courses regularly covering these issues include the following: PU EN AF 301 (Environmental Politics and Policy), PU EN AF 380 (Global Environmental Politics), PU EN AF 408 (Public Policy Analysis), URB STU 324 (Latino Communities), URB STU 323 (Asian American Communities), and URB STU 216 Native American Landscapes: Imagined and Lived Places.

6. Gen Ed, FYS/GPS, CCIHS

- Gen Ed
  - PU EN AF 102, 215, 225, 315, 323, 324, 326, 345, 360, 425, and 428 all fulfill Social Sciences General Education Requirements
  - GEO 102, 210 both fulfill Social Sciences General Education Requirements

- FYS/GPS
  - PU EN AF 198 (taught by multiple instructors and used for the GPS program). Examples of FYS courses include Green Lives Matter (later renamed Green Justice), Pawsibilities, and SimCity Civics.

- CCIHS
  - None

- Sustainability
  - PU EN AF 102, 103, 323, 324, and 380 all fulfill the Sustainability Gen Ed requirement

7. Program support and staffing

- The Public and Environmental Affairs unit has experienced several departures during the time of review, all of which directly affected courses in the EPP program. These include the following:
  - Retirement of William Niedzwiedz (Geography) in 2012
  - Retirements of Mike Kraft (EPP, Political Science) and Denise Scheberle (EPP, Political Science) in 2012
  - Departures of Rachel Russell, Adam Parillo (GIS positions)
o Departure of Dallas Blaney (International Environmental Policy courses in EPP)
o Passing of Karen Dalke (Anthropology, FYS, Capstone) in 2018

External

1. Outreach: student/faculty partnerships, collaborations, participation with organizations or individually
   - Faculty-supervised teaching assistants
   - Faculty-supervised research assistants and honors projects
   - Faculty-supervised student research presentations at the Midwest Political Science Association’s Annual Meeting (Chicago, IL) and the Southern Political Science Association’s Annual Meeting (New Orleans, LA)
   - Faculty Conference Presentations
     - Professor Cruz:
       - “Una Alternativa Visión Urbana/Regional del Cantón Tena” presented at the International Conference I Foro Contested Cities Ecuador, Amazonic State University, El Puyo, Ecuador February 13-15, 2020
       - “Gestión y Uso Turístico del Patrimonio en Centros Históricos: Estudio Comparado en Quito (Ecuador) y La Habana Vieja (Cuba)” Presented at the 9th International Conference of Latin American Geography, September 14, 2018, Toledo, Spain.
       - “Planning with Indigenous Communities: Agropolitan Planning revisited in Tena, Ecuador” Presented at the NCCLA Conference, Madison WI, October 5-8, 2017
       - “Challenges for Regional Planning in the 21st Century: planning for or with indigenous communities in the Ecuadorean Amazon?” Presented at the NCCLA Conference, University of Wisconsin at La Crosse, November 4-6, 2016.
       - Invited to give a guest Lecture on “Agropolitan Planning revisited in Tena, Ecuador, planning with indigenous communities” University of Central Michigan, March 30, 2018
       - Presenting “Challenges for Regional Planning in the 21st Century: the case of Tena in the Ecuadorean Amazon” as part of a panel in the Latin American Studies: Present and Future Conference held at the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee sponsored by the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS) at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee. December 4 and 5, 2015
       - Invited to give a guest Lecture on “Community and Regional Planning in Tena, Ecuador” Department of History, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico. November 25, 2014.
• Invited to give a guest lecture on “The challenges and opportunities of urban growth in the Ecuadorean Amazon” Geography lecture series, University of Central Michigan, Mt. Pleasant, MI February 24, 2013

Professor Wheat

• Midwest Political Science Association. “Present and Voting: Using Model UN in a 100-level General Education Political Science Course”. April 2019
• Southern Political Science Association. “Citizens Suits under the Clean Air Act: Does Increased Access Level the Playing Field?” and “Honorable Chair and Fellow Delegates: Using Model UN in the Classroom”. January 2018

Professor Helpap

2. Contributions to regional infrastructure
   - Professor Wheat serves on the City of Green Bay’s Water Commission and regularly participates in the Great Decisions series hosted by the Manitowoc Public Library and the Mead Public Library (Sheboygan)
   - Professor Wheat
     - Sheboygan Public Library’s Great Decisions 2018 Series. October 4, 2018. Invited speaker for a talk titled “Media and Foreign Policy”
     - Manitowoc Public Library’s Great Decisions 2018 Series. March 5, 2018. Invited speaker for a talk titled “Media and Foreign Policy”
   - Professor Cruz has also been active in revitalizing Broadway commercial district. Students working on this on-going project have won state-wide awards for their creativity and insights
   - Professor Cruz contributed to the Neville Public Museum’s exhibit on Latinos in Northeast Wisconsin Estamos Aquí and is part of an on-going advising committee for the Museum permanent exhibition: Generation Gallery the telling of the evolving environments that make up Northeast Wisconsin.
   - Professor Cruz has coordinated the following projects with students and community clients:
     - Revised Neighborhood Master Plan for the Broadway District, 2020
     - Green Bay Waterfront District Visioning Project, 2017
     - City of Green Bay’s Public Arts Commission Public Art Inventory Project, 2017
     - Art Garage Placemaking Project, 2106
     - State Award Winning Master Plan for Wisconsin’s Main Street Program, 2015
     - Green Bay Neighborhood GREEN BIKES project, city of Green Bay, 2015
     - Developing a Community Profile for Stockbridge, Wisconsin, 2014

3. Scholarly activity of faculty
   - Professor Phoenix’ research covers municipal government water infrastructure planning, climate change flooding, and community localism.
   - Professor Wheat’s research examines environmental justice, environmental law at the Court of Appeals, and experiential learning activities including mock trials, policy debates, and Model United Nations simulations.
   - Professor Wheat
     - Publications:

**Grants & Teaching Fellowships:**

- Selected for the Teaching and Learning Community Fellowship—Teaching with Transparency for the 2018-2019 academic year
- Selected for the Teaching and Learning Community Capstone Fellows Program for the 2017-2018 academic year.
- Selected as one of ten faculty members in April 2017 for the UW-Green Bay’s inaugural Inclusivity Scholars program for the 2017-2018 academic year.
- Selected as one of two faculty members in July 2016 for the UW-Green Bay’s inaugural Diversity Scholars program during the 2016-2017 academic year.
- Nominated for the UW-Green Bay Teaching Award (2015, 2017)
- Selected as one of two UW-Green Bay faculty members for the Wisconsin Teaching Fellows and Scholars program through UW System and OPID (June 2015-May 2016).
- Selected as a UWGB Teaching Scholar, 2013-2014. $1000 stipend.

**Professor Cruz**

**Publications:**

- “Gestión y uso turístico del patrimonio en centros históricos: estudio comparado en Quito (Ecuador) y La Habana Vieja (Cuba)” co-authored with Dr. Francisco Javier Jover Martí in América Latina en las últimas décadas: procesos y retos. Ediciones de La Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha, Toledo, 2018.
- “Transformation of intermediate size cities in the U.S. and Spain: the cases of Green Bay (USA) and Albacete (Spain)” co-authored with Dr. Francisco Cebrián Abellán, in Ería Revista Cuatrimestral de Geografía, Vol 2018, no. 2 2018.
- “El contexto de la ciudad difusa desde la realidad de las ciudades medias y pequeñas norte americanas” in Ciudades Medias: Formas de expansión Urbana Eds. Francisco Cebrián Abellán and Miguel Panadero Moya, Editorial Biblioteca Nueva, Madrid 2013

**Grants:**
• 2019-2020 Research in Aid Grant for $900.00 from the University of Wisconsin Green Bay Research Council for research conducted in the state of Wisconsin on the urban Latino experience.
• 2017-2018 Research in Aid Grant for $900.00 from the University of Wisconsin Green Bay Research Council for research conducted in the state of Wisconsin on the urban Latino experience.
• 2015-2016 Project Manager for a grant for $10,000 from the National Endowment of the Arts and the American Library Association to organize activities around the documentary series Latino Americans: 500 years of History.

• Professor Helpap
  • Publications
  • Grants and Awards
    • Student Nominated Teaching Award, Finalist, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, 2018.
    • National Residence Hall Honorary Region, State, and Institution Faculty/Staff “Of the Month” Award, March 2016.
    • Student Nominated Teaching Award (Early Career), University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, 2014, $100.
    • University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Advanced Online Teaching Fellow, 2014, $2,000.
    • University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Starter Online Teaching Fellow, 2014, $1,500.
    • University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, Teaching Scholar, 2013-2014, $1,000.
1. High-impact practices and individualized-learning opportunities:
   - Examples of specific courses with HIPs include:
     - Mock Trials (PU EN AF 378 and 379)
     - Policy debate simulations (PU EN AF 301 and 379)
     - Proposed federal regulation comment (PU EN AF 306)
     - City council simulation (PU EN AF 406)
     - Model United Nations simulations (PU EN AF 380)
     - Travel Course to Ecuador (PU EN AF 499)
     - Designing for Communities and Neighborhoods (URB STUD/PU EN AF 454)
     - Latino Communities in the United States (URB STUD 324)
     - Urban Geography (GEOG 341)
     - Urban Planning (URB STUD/PU EN AF 412)
   - Faculty-supervised student research presentations at the Midwest Political Science Annual Meeting in Chicago, IL
   - Faculty-led undergraduate travel course to Ecuador, to the Amazon Basin, and the Galapagos Islands.
   - Internships with the following locations/organizations: City of Neenah Planning Department, Green Bay Planning Division, Bay Lakes Regional Planning Commission, Clean Water Action Council, Wisconsin Conservation Voters, Mauhle Center, Village of Bellevue, Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission, NEW Leaf, City of Oconto, NEW Water, and Pioneer Metal Finishing.

2. Retention:
   - The EPP program works with the PEA unit’s social media accounts including a Facebook page to connect with students, alums, and prospective students and a LinkedIn account to share information with current students and alumni. With the assistance of a student engagement internship dedicated to maintaining this social media presence, faculty and students contribute content including job announcements, campus events, “student spotlights”, programming opportunities, and alumni profiles.
   - EPP, through the PEA unit, also hosts events including open houses with faculty and current students, student mentoring workshops where upper-class students help with course advising, and an annual Celebrating Students event at the end of the year where department scholarships are given, graduating students are celebrated, and alumni and/or community guests participate in a panel discussion.
   - Faculty participate in multiple campus preview and CAHSS admission events each year.
   - EPP faculty have taught several FYS and GPS courses.
Mission Relevant

1. Relevance to mission

The interdisciplinary nature of EPP faculty, students, experiences, research, and available opportunities directly connect to the UWGB’s mission. The mission states, “The culture and vision of the University reflect a deep commitment to diversity, inclusion, social justice, civic engagement, and educational opportunity at all levels. Our core values embrace community-based partnerships, collaborative faculty, scholarship, and innovation”. The information presented in this review affirm EPP’s commitment to the mission, particularly our community-based partnerships, social justice, and civic engagement. By its very nature, environmental policy and planning requires collaboration and as faculty, we strive to model that in our teaching, research, and service.

2. Cultural enrichment

- EPP faculty participate as topic experts through media interviews and community outreach events. Examples include presentations to the UWGB Lifelong Learning Institute, Manitowoc Library’s Great Decisions Series, Sheboygan Library’s Great Decision series, and the UWGB Common Cause series.

- Several EPP courses include different kind of cultural enrichment:
  - Prof. Marcelo Cruz (Associate Professor) developed travel courses that made geography come alive to our students. UWGB students gain exposure to urban and regional geographies in Zurich and the Romanche speaking Engadin Region in Switzerland, and the Andean, Amazonian and the Galapagos Islands of Ecuador.
  - Prof. Elizabeth Wheat includes content and simulations on environmental justice in PU EN AF 380 (Global Environmental Politics), PU EN AF 301 (Environmental Policy) and readings on tribal environmental law in PU EN AF 378 (Environmental Law) and PU EN AF 379 (Natural Resources Law, Policy, and Administration). Guest speakers have also been invited to several courses to bring in diverse community perspectives and expertise.

3. Access

- In his role with the geography program, Professor Cruz has an agreement with Universidad Castilla La Mancha, Albacete. UWGB has had visiting two visiting professors, in 2015 and 2016 doing comparative research in Green Bay, and the university had Green Bay faculty as visiting professors in Albacete, in 2016 and 2019.