

June 1, 2020

Dear ENSP Students,

We understand that this global health crisis is impacting job availability, including the amount of internships that are available to you. While we continually express how important internship experiences are, we understand that not everyone will be able to have one during this unprecedented time.

Therefore, if your concentration is one where ENSP386 (internship) is required, and you are unable to find an internship during the pandemic, the ENSP Program will allow you to take another 300- or 400-level course in its place, with ENSP Program approval.

Which concentrations require ENSP386?

- Culture and the Environment (although ENSP386 is an *option* in the Applied Field Methods category, most of the alternatives are other experiential learning courses)
- Environment and Agriculture
- Environmental Geosciences and Restoration
- Global Environmental Change
- Land Use
- Marine and Coastal Management
- Wildlife Ecology and Management

What kind of course can I take?

1. Another 300- or 400-level course: You may choose another 3-credit 300-level ENSP course, or one in a related discipline that addresses a relevant topic in environmental science (think PLCY, BSCI GEOG, PLSC, ENST, etc). You can use your list of Restricted Electives as a guiding point. Students are responsible for finding a course and getting it approved (in advance) by the ENSP Program.
 - **NOTE:** This course **cannot** double count with another major requirement (ex. Applied Science and Policy, Restricted Elective, etc). It will still satisfy the Internship (ENSP386) requirement.
2. Independent Study or Research experience (3 credits) under the guidance of an on-campus faculty member. Students will be responsible for finding these experiences.
 - Independent Study: A faculty member must agree to supervise your independent study activity before applying for course credit. Click [HERE](#) for a great article by Dickenson U. on what an Independent Study is.
 - Research experience: Click [HERE](#) for information on finding research opportunities on campus. Many faculty members may be developing remote opportunities.
 - **NOTE:** Some departments on campus have their own existing course for these experiences. If the faculty member you are working with is in another department on campus, and you enroll in their department's experiential learning or research course, ENSP will accept it (example: BSCI399 - Biology Department Research). However, ENSP399 (Special Topics) is available as well for faculty affiliated with the ENSP program.

How long will this new policy last?

As of June 2020, this policy will be in place only for students planning to graduate Fall 2020, Spring 2021, and Summer 2021. Therefore, Freshmen and Sophomores should wait to complete their internship requirement until Junior/Senior year when internship experiences are expected to become available again. This is subject to change in accordance with current events.

For your reference, this information will be posted on the blog and the [ENSP webpage](#).

Thank you for your understanding and flexibility.