



Masters of the Environment University of Colorado **Boulder**

SPRING 2026 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:

New MENV course

Industry Internship (1-3cr)

ENVM 5086

[Alice Reznickova](#)

This class provides a structure for MENV graduate students to receive academic credit for internships with industry partners that have an academic component to them suitable for graduate-level work. Participation in the program will consist of an internship agreement between a student and an industry partner who will employ the student in a role that supports the academic goals of the internship. Instructor participation will include facilitation of mid-term and final assessments of student performance as well as support for any academic-related issues that may arise during the internship period. May be taken during any term of enrollment at MENV. May be repeated up to 3 total credit hours.

801 (34739) - NA

Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) (3cr)

ENVM 6100

Quinn Antus & Elias McCain Middleton

How do we remove billions of tones of CO₂ from the atmosphere... and do it fairly, affordably, and fast enough to matter? This course plunges into the cutting edge of Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR), from direct air capture to ocean-based innovations, mineralization, biomass, and soils. Through case studies, hands-on analysis, and conversations with leading innovators, students will grapple with the technical, political, and justice dimensions of CDR and leave prepared to lead in one of the most urgent and rapidly evolving frontiers of climate action.

002 (34687) – M 4:05-6:35pm, SEEC N125

Climate Action Planning for Cities; Designing for Delivery (3cr)

ENVM 6100

[Angela Fyfe](#)

Notwithstanding inaction at the federal level, local and regional climate initiatives continue to gain momentum, spurred by public support and clear economic benefits. To move beyond conventional planning, cities must adopt new logic and tools that bridge the gap between ambitious objectives and the practical realities of infrastructure, institutions, finance, and time.

This course presents the "Dual Lens of Transition Planning," the Shift Lens and Intervention Lens, through which cities design climate-transition projects that are community supported and investable

because their delivery is visible and measurable from the start. This repeatable, systems-oriented approach fosters trust, improves coordination, and strengthens buy-in.

003 (34688) – M, 4:05-6:35pm, SEEC N128

Campus Climate Action Planning and Implementation (3cr)

ENVS 4100/5100-005

[Josh Radoff](#)

This class is intended to walk students through the climate action planning and implementation process, focusing on Scope 1 and 2 emissions (a companion class focusing on Scope 3 is also being offered) and covering topics ranging from developing an emissions inventory, analyzing building and transportation data, conducting cost-benefit analysis on specific decarbonization proposals, and hearing from a variety of on-campus experts and outside consultants and engineers who are working on these projects. The class will use real campus data to teach the skills and build the knowledge that will be useful in any future climate action work.

005 (40852) – W, 3:35-6:05pm, HLMS E160

Returning MENV courses

Legislative Analysis, Writing, and Advocacy (3cr)

ENVM 5008

[Emmett Kaplan & Rebecca Siever](#)

This course will provide students with the skills and knowledge necessary to operate within the legal and policy framework of the United States. Students will learn how to locate and interpret federal and state statutes, municipal and county codes, agency policy documents, and judicial decisions at all levels. With this foundational knowledge established, the course then focuses on practical legislative drafting exercises, wherein students create clear and concise frameworks for the government and private parties to act while avoiding potential pitfalls in judicial interpretation. Formerly offered as a special topics course.

001 (34732) – W, 4:05-6:35pm, SEEC N136

Environmental Governance: Actors & Institutions (3cr)

ENVM 5013

[Cassandra Brooks](#)

This course will incorporate a theoretical understanding of how policies are made, what decisions are enacted, and which actors seek to influence policy outcomes. Students in this class will assess frameworks for understanding policy formation and decision-making and apply this understanding to cases of environmental and natural resource policy. This course will provide a baseline understanding of concepts including: Common Pool Resource Management, Social Ecological Systems, Local and Traditional Ecological Knowledge, Treaties, Compacts, Storymaps, Public Engagement, and Media Engagement.

001 (34726) – TH, 4:00-6:30pm, SEEC N124

Communicating for Sustainability & Impact (3cr)

ENVM 5022

[Meghan McCarroll](#)

Sustainability professionals interface with a broad range of audiences, making effective communication challenging. Good communication considers the needs, interests, and a priori knowledge of the audience. It weaves science and technical details into the art of storytelling. In this course, students will practice and improve their written, visual, and oral communication using audience analysis, storytelling, active listening, and other essential tools. By the end, each student will showcase their communication skills in a personal portfolio.

001 (34733) – TTH, 10:00-11:15am, SEEC N125

GIS for Sustainability Professionals (3cr)

ENVM 5023

[Meghan McCarroll](#)

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are increasingly important for tackling environmental change and sustainability challenges. This introductory course in GIS will provide a broad foundation of spatial thinking and geo-technologies. We will consider spatial data, learn about real-world applications of GIS within the field of sustainability, and work through hands-on exercises in ArcGIS Online and QGIS to build confidence utilizing such software in your future careers. A personal laptop is required; prior GIS experience is not.

001 (34734) – TTH, 11:30-12:45pm, SEEC N126

Supply Chain Management for Food and Fiber (3cr)

ENVM 5028

Rachel Bigby & Catherine Compitello

Provides students with an overview and in-depth, engaged analysis of food and fiber specific supply chain management. Using a mix of lecture, group projects, guest lectures students will learn supply chain fundamentals, the challenges facing supply chain managers and develop solutions.

001 (40388) – T, 5:30-8:00pm, SEEC S125

Food & Agriculture Policy in the United States (3cr)

ENVM 5029

[Wendy Moscetti](#)

Examines agricultural and food law and policy in the United States with a focus on enhancing sustainability and equity while ensuring a sufficient food supply. Surveys the history, overlapping mandates, authority, philosophies, and rules of the USDA, FDA, and EPA. Investigates policies pertaining to production, environmental impacts, food constituents, labeling, safety, manufacturing, marketing, retail, nutrition guidance and assistance programs. Previously offered as a special topics course.

001 (34715) – W, 5:45-8:15pm, SEEC N126

Planning for Resilient Futures (3cr)

ENVM 5030

[Gretel Follingstad](#)

Planning for Community Resilience and Climate Action examines the relationships and connectivity between the natural environment, human society and the social ecological systems relevant to community resilience. The increasing demands of a globalizing economy, aging critical infrastructure, changing demographics, and the impacts of climate change increase concerns about the resilience of multiple scales of governance and the importance of social vulnerabilities.

002 (34725) – T, 4:00-6:30pm, SEEC N125

Leading Socio-Environmental Change (3cr)

ENVM 5034

[Songya Kesler](#)

Build essential skills to be a purpose-driven and ethical leader. Students will explore their values, deepen their self-awareness, and practice giving voice to their values in situations where their values clash with other expectations in the workplace. We approach leadership as a practice by exploring the interpersonal dynamics and psychology of high performing diverse teams as the foundation of work.

Previously offered as a special topics course.

001 (34716) – TH, 4:00-6:30pm, SEEC N128

MENV URS Clinic (3cr)**ENVM 5040**

[William Shutkin](#)

Seeks to bring the ideas and resources of supervised MENV students to bear on real-world, real-time resilience and sustainability challenges facing Colorado communities and organizations, with an emphasis on supporting under-served and at-risk populations and places. Through research, written reports, stakeholder interviews and other methods, MENV students gain critical skills and knowledge while providing valuable professional services.

001 (34718) – W, 4:05-6:35pm, SEEC C315

Renewable Energy Development and Project Finance (3cr)**ENVM 5042**

Adam Knoff

Renewable Energy Development & Project Finance will present students with a sampling of the day-to-day work of clean energy industry professionals. The course will focus on the business of decarbonizing the energy sector and deploying clean and efficient energy technologies from several distinct perspectives, including (1) renewable energy project development; (2) corporate renewable energy procurement; and (3) energy solutions for the built environment.

001 (34717) – W, 4:05-6:35pm, SEEC N125

Global Intensive: Sustainable Cities, Sustainable Energy (3cr)**ENVM 5046**

[William Shutkin](#)

This course is intended to explore the way in which different countries and cities around the world are approaching their transition to a sustainable and carbon free economy, highlighting the technologies, policies, economics, that underlie each country and city' approach. The classroom portion of the course will take place throughout the spring semester, meeting weekly for 1 hr. It will set the stage for the travel portion of the trip to a selected location, with the intent of witnessing some of the key urban sustainability and zero carbon technology and infrastructure solutions. The international component of the trip is anticipated to take place over a 10-12 day period (including travel).

802 (34736) – TTH, 2:30-3:45pm, AERO N240.

Transportation, Mobility, & Sustainable Energy (3cr)**ENVM 5052**

Melenie Sloan

The transportation sector is undergoing a revolution, with the sharing economy, new mobility options and technology advances changing not just how we travel but changing the makeup of cities themselves. This course will prepare students to be knowledgeable and effective practitioners in this revolution.

Current transportation topics and policy debates will range from how we design our streets, to managing congestion, and how we price and pay for it all.

001 (34714) – TH, 4:00-6:30pm, SEEC N125

B Impact Clinic (3cr)

ENVM 5061

[Devon Bertram](#) & [Maria McDonald](#)

Evaluate sustainability and social impact performance for client companies using B Lab's B Impact Assessment (BIA). The BIA, a prerequisite for B Corp Certification, is used by over 100,000 businesses worldwide. Weekly workshops train students on the BIA, Certified B Corporations, and client engagement skills. Students offer consulting throughout the semester, culminating with the delivery of impact improvement recommendations.

801 (34721) – M, 4:05-6:35pm, SEEC C315

Zero Carbon Buildings (3cr)

ENVM 5062

Matt Jungclaue & Phil Kuehn

Review of the current standards for Net Zero Energy and Carbon (NZE and NZC). Understanding building efficiency metrics and methods, onsite renewable energy considerations, building electrification, embodied carbon transportation impacts, and offsite renewable energy options. Integration of electric vehicle loads and conducting load shaping to minimize carbon impact on a time of use basis. City and utility policies and programs.

002 (34722) – TTH, 10:00-11:15am, SEEC S125

Environmental Stewardship: Practice and Law (3cr)

ENVM 5066

[Matt Nadel](#)

Addresses the context in which environmental laws have been created, as well as the customs and laws related to resilience, sustainability, stewardship, and honorable practice. It will concentrate on law as a means of market regulation, cultural expression, health, equity, and justice. Water and land law, property rights, wildlife and public land management, and other topics of historical and ongoing relevance will be discussed.

001 (34723) – TH, 5:30-8:00pm, SEEC S125

Clinic: Building Community Capacity (3cr)

ENVM 5067

[Natalie Ooi](#)

Assist partner communities who are looking to build community capacity through outdoor recreation. Students learn and apply best practices related to building community capital and trust, assessing community strengths, providing strategic planning and guidance, engaging diverse community stakeholders, developing successful partnerships and identifying relevant programs, partners and funding sources to assist with community economic development.

**By application only.*

801 (34724) – TTH, 1:00-2:15pm, SEEC C315

Qualitative Methods for Sustainability (3cr)

ENVM 5068

Damien Thompson

Qualitative Research Methods is oriented to students who are likely to engage in research of any kind, formal or informal, that is concerned with people and the environment. It will cover the methods, employed in social sciences, that help us understand people's perceptions, beliefs, motivations, and actions around environmental issues.

001 (34728) – TTH, 10:00-11:15am, AERO 114

Facilitation for Change (3cr)

ENVM 5071

Christine Ageton

Learn how to guide groups toward agreement while increasing productivity and connection. Facilitation is the process of guiding a conversation with intention and skill toward the desired outcome. It is used for projects ranging from small-scale, brief gatherings to multi-year projects involving hundreds of people. In this class, we will learn the main types of facilitation and how they can be used effectively in varied professional and community settings. This class is open to anyone with an interest in facilitation regardless of current skill.

001 (34729) – T, 4:00-6:30pm, SEEC N128

Sustainable Business Practice (3cr)

ENVM 5078

Matt Abbott

Provide students with the knowledge and tools to drive environmental and social responsibility in the business sector. Focus will be creating the case for a new business model by looking at market failures, the environmental crisis, and the critical role businesses play in being a force for good and exploring the practical tools required to implement sustainable solutions.

001 (34731) – M, 5:45-8:15pm, SEEC N126

Emerging Decarbonization Technologies (formerly Low-Carbon Energy Technologies of the Future)(3cr)

ENVM 5080

Matt Jungclause

Industry, Transportation, the Power Sector and Beyond explores the emerging technologies that will enable broad decarbonization and comprise the future of sustainable power generation. Topics include emerging technologies such as green hydrogen, advanced nuclear, carbon capture and storage (CCS), and enhanced geothermal, as well as breakthroughs in renewable energy and energy storage. We will examine how these systems integrate with the grid and address growing grid challenges arising from data centers, electric vehicle charging, and all-electric building technologies. Students will develop the skills to analyze the technical and financial aspects of these advanced energy systems while they build their understanding of the technology, market drivers, and policy mechanisms that influence technology adoption. The course will also build on students' knowledge of the utility grid to understand the potential effects of emerging technologies on base load, peak demand, and grid transmission capabilities. This course will build skills relevant to careers in ESG (environmental social governance), policy, consulting, energy management, or the utility sector. Recommended prerequisites of [ENVM 5007](#), [ENVM 5042](#), and [ENVM 5072](#).

001 (34735) – TH, 2:30-3:45pm, SEEC S125

GHG Accounting & Carbon Management (3cr)

ENVM 5083

Collette Crouse

Introduces students to the fundamentals of greenhouse gas accounting and management, including market trends, GHG inventory development, data analysis, strategic planning, and carbon markets. A particular focus will be paid to practical knowledge, with students developing and analyzing a detailed, Excel-based inventory model.

001 (34738) – TH, 4:00-6:30pm, SEEC N136

Environmental Justice in Law and Practice (3cr)

ENVM 5088

[Gregor MacGregor](#)

This course will provide students with the skills and knowledge necessary to locate contemporary and historical environmental justice (EJ) issues within the greater framework of American law and policy. Students will examine the history of environmentalism and EJ justice as both have developed, intersected, and been at odds with one another during the last 200 years. They will then learn the contemporary landscape of EJ issues, legal requirements, and societal aspirations through a combination of academic commentary and case studies. Using this knowledge, students will produce advocacy documents that apply conceptual EJ lenses to recommend real-world solutions.

001 (40390) – TTH, 8:30-9 :45am, SEEC N128

Capstone Innovation Lab 2 (1cr)

ENVM 6002

[Alice Reznickova](#)

Providing hands-on, learning-by-doing experiences, while also providing client organizations with solutions to complex problems and useful products. Projects can take place in-residence with a client, when appropriate. Project ideas will be codeveloped by students and industry, government, or non-profit partners and will be guided and evaluated by a committee of ENVS faculty. Required for all MENV students.

001 (34676) – F, 8:30-10:10 am, AERO N250

002 (34677) – F, 2:20-4:00 pm, AERO N250

003 (34678) – F, 12:30-2:10 pm, AERO 114

**Please note, all sections should be similar in size. No exceptions on capacity changes. Each section permits a capacity of 33. No waitlists available.*