Issues in the Environment takes a broad look at environmental issues and explores in depth certain global, national, and local environmental problems. In addition to lecture, guest speakers, field trips, and videos may be used.

Prerequisites or Necessary Entry Skills/Knowledge:
STSK 0090 or placement by multiple measures.

FULFILLS MN TRANSFER CURRICULUM AREA(S) (Leave blank if not applicable)
Goal 8: Global Perspective: By meeting the following competencies:
- Describe and analyze political, economic, and cultural elements which influence relations of states and societies in their historical and contemporary dimensions.
- Demonstrate knowledge of cultural, social, religious and linguistic differences.
- Analyze specific international problems, illustrating the cultural, economic, and political differences that affect their solution.
- Understand the role of a world citizen and the responsibility world citizens share for their common global future.

Goal 10: People and the Environment: By meeting the following competencies:
- Explain the basic structure and function of various natural ecosystems and of human adaptive strategies within those systems.
- Discern patterns and interrelationships of bio-physical and socio-cultural systems.
- Describe the basic institutional arrangements (social, legal, political, economic, religious) that are evolving to deal with environmental and natural resource challenges.
- Evaluate critically environmental and natural resource issues in light of understandings about interrelationships, ecosystems, and institutions.
- Propose and assess alternative solutions to environmental problems.
- Articulate and defend the actions they would take on various environmental issues.

Topics to be Covered
- Ecosystems
- Biodiversity - sustaining it and interactions of organisms
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Human population and urbanization</th>
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<tr>
<td>Climate and climate change</td>
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<td>Air pollution and ozone depletion</td>
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<td>Water resources and water pollution</td>
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<td>Energy - Renewable and nonrenewable</td>
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<td>Environmental hazards</td>
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<td>Physical science of matter and biogeochemical cycling</td>
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<td>Food soil and pest management</td>
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<td>Invasive species</td>
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<td>Waste management</td>
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<td>Environmental sustainability</td>
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**Student Learning Outcomes**

Define biodiversity, climate, climate change, sustainability and ecosystems.

Identify the relationship between human actions and air pollution/water pollution/ozone depletion/environmental hazards/ climate change and how these issues impact economies and politics.

Identify renewable/nonrenewable energy sources and environmental hazards and explain how humans can influence the use/nonuse of these resources.

Illustrate biogeochemical cycles, how climate change occurs, and energy flow through ecosystems.

Identify ways to address local, regional and global environmental issues and live more sustainably.

List the factors that influence human population growth, urbanization, environmental politics and environmental economics.

**Is this course part of a transfer pathway:** Yes ☐ No ☒

*If yes, please list the competencies below*

Revised Date: 1/27/2022