Community Resilience: Assessment, Planning, and Action

“At the heart of resilience thinking is the very simple notion – things change – and to ignore or resist this change is to increase our vulnerability and forego emerging opportunities.” – Brian Walker & David Salt

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Lecturer | Program in Sustainability and the Built Environment (SBE)
College of Design, Construction, and Planning (DCP) | University of Florida

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Office Correspondence: 352-294-6781 | Canvas email (preferred) | hknowles@ufl.edu (alternative)

Course Term & Credits: Fall 2019 | 3 Credits
Course Time & Location:
- Tuesdays | Period 4 | 10:40 – 11:30 | RNK 0210 | UF Building #0272
- Thursdays | Period 3-4 | 09:35 – 11:30 | RNK 0210 | UF Building #0272

Course Co/Prerequisite: N/A | However, DCP 3210 and DCP 3220 may be helpful to take in advance.
General Education Credit: N/A
Final Exam Schedule: N/A
Estimated Additional Costs: ~ $30 textbooks | ~ $150-250 field trip | $0 materials & supplies | ~ $0-10 incidentals

Course Summary
In the midst of the Anthropocene, humanity is the dominant force of a rapidly changing Earth. Leveraging the Wayfinder process guide for resilience assessment, planning, and action in social-ecological systems, this course explores strategies for building adaptive capacity and transformative change as we navigate towards more sustainable, safe, and just futures...together.

Course Overview & Purpose
Teaching and learning strategies include theoretical and applied readings, civic discourse, real world case studies, individual and group projects, and field tours (with some potentially overnight). Successful students are inquisitive, adaptable, creative, collaborative, self-directed, and willing to make manageable mistakes and learn lessons for iterative improvement in the “lab of life.” Course content revolves around the books, web tools, online articles, SDG Academy courses, EdX courses, and videos developed by the Resilience Alliance, the Stockholm Resilience Centre, and other prominent publications, researchers, and institutions at the forefront of resilience science.

Source: https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Panarchy-model-Gunderson-Holling-2002_fig2_257434071
Course Goals & Objectives
Through readings and reflections, student engagement, leadership skill building, games, role playing, and awareness raising activities this course aims to create a sense of empowerment, connection, and reciprocity in our relationships and stewardship of planet, people, and profit. During the semester, students will be...

- Exploring planetary boundaries and the human experience in the Anthropocene epoch;
- Discovering the dynamics of complex systems;
- Learning principles of resilience thinking and practice;
- Considering the contexts and challenges of uncertainty and transformation in social-ecological systems;
- Assessing agency and building coalitions for change;
- Evaluating multiscale spatial and temporal interactions and adaptive management strategies;
- Collaborating, curating, and communicating core concepts and case studies;
- Learning and playing table-top strategy games; and
- Developing and deploying a community resilience game in a competitive, entrepreneurial environment.

The interdisciplinary course environment will be supported by in-class discussions, multi-media exploration, online engagement, and individual and collaborative team assignments.

Required & Optional Text(s)
The required and optional text(s) for this course are as follows:

  - [http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/1013540226](http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/1013540226)
  - Cost | ~ $28 (MSRP paperback)
  - [http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991761832](http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/991761832)
  - Cost | ~ $28 (MSRP paperback)
  - [http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/808419665](http://www.worldcat.org/oclc/808419665)
  - Cost | ~ $28 (MSRP paperback)

In addition to the required text(s), various supplemental, free publications identified for class discussion and/or assignments may be supplied via the UF Canvas e-Learning portal ([https://lss.at.ufl.edu/](https://lss.at.ufl.edu/)).

See Canvas for Additional Course Information
Additional information about the course is available on Canvas, including: instructional methods, tips for success, personal conduct policies, mobile communications and computing policies, and/or other relevant student guidance.
Course Modules (CM)
General course module main topics and sub-topics are summarized below. Official weekly readings, assignments, and course content will be posted within Canvas and are subject to change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modules</th>
<th>Module Main Topics</th>
<th>Module Sub-Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CM.CiC</td>
<td>Crises in Context</td>
<td>Welcome to the Anthropocene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM.RT</td>
<td>Resilience Thinking</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CM.RP</td>
<td>Resilience Practice</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CM.CRCS</td>
<td>Community Resilience Strategies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Assignments and Grading
Assignment details, deliverables, due dates, and grades will be published on Canvas and may be subject to change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grading Category</th>
<th>Additional Details</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance &amp; Punctuality</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparation &amp; Participation</td>
<td>Readings, Discussions, &amp; Class Activities (points vary)&lt;br&gt;• Weekly &amp; Module-Based</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal Reflections (PR)</td>
<td>Individual (50 points/each)&lt;br&gt;• PR.01 &gt; CM.CiC&lt;br&gt;• PR.02 &gt; CM.RT&lt;br&gt;• PR.03 &gt; CM.RP&lt;br&gt;• PR.04 &gt; CM.CRCS</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Praxis (SP)</td>
<td>Individual and Group (75 points/each + 200 points/SP.05)&lt;br&gt;• SP.01 &gt; Individual &gt; Emergencies Fast &amp; Slow&lt;br&gt;• SP.02 &gt; Individual &gt; Thresholds &amp; Transformations&lt;br&gt;• SP.03 &gt; Individual &gt; Wayfinder Guide Activities&lt;br&gt;• SP.04 &gt; Team &gt; Role Playing &amp; Facilitation&lt;br&gt;• SP.05 &gt; Team &gt; Community Resilience Strategy Game</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total 1000 100%

Grades are based on evidence that students have completed assigned readings, participated actively in all class discussions and activities, completed writing and presentation assignments, and completed both in-class and outside-of-class activities throughout the semester. Completed tasks will be evaluated based on pertinence of content, critical thinking, creativity, and communication. Details and due dates for assignments are posted on Canvas. The University standard suggests students might expect to study outside of class for up to 3 times the weekly class contact periods (e.g., a 3-credit course might be 3 x 3 periods = 9 hours in Fall/Spring or 3 x 6 periods = 18 hours in Summer A).
### Teaching Philosophy & Expectations

I have experience in commercial construction management, planning, facilitation, systems ecology, and temporal and spatial analytics of land use change. I am passionate about the technologies and thought processes, policies, procedures, and decision-support strategies necessary to establish and sustain equitable, empowered, safe, healthy, and resilient communities adaptive to uncertainty.

- **Student expectations of instructor:**
  - Enthusiasm for the course; engaging lectures and discussions; application of knowledge through classroom activities and fieldwork; organized and neat course materials; unbiased guidance; encouragement of critical thought; and reasonable availability to meet with students outside of class.

- **Instructor expectations of students:**
  - Compassionate curiosity; positive attention and intention; willingness to learn with open heart, open mind, and open will; consistent attendance; punctual arrival; active participation in our class discussions and activities; advance reading of class content; on-time completion and submission of assignments; proper citation management; adherence to proper netiquette and all University rules and regulations.

### Attendance Policies

Attendance is mandatory and participation is graded based on each class period (i.e., missing a multi-period day of class will count as multiple absences in accordance with the number of periods). **Students may miss up to the equivalent number of class periods as the course credits (e.g., 3 credits = 3 periods @ 50 minutes/each in Spring/Fall & 2 periods @ 75 minutes/each in Summer A) without penalty and with no need for an excuse.** Beyond those “waived” absences, students must provide a valid, and properly documented, excuse. Otherwise, unexcused points will be deducted proportional to the total number of periods where attendance was taken. Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with University policies as found at: [https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/](https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/)

### Additional Expenses

A small lab fee (for in-class activities and materials), as well as a multiday (with overnight) field are required components of this course, as they provide a mix of classroom and field-based learning, extend professional networks, and build peer-to-peer interpersonal skills and collegiality among participating students. The field trip typically takes place the second half of the semester and includes estimated fixed costs (e.g., transportation, lodging, tour fees) in the $150 to $250 range, with variable student-specific costs (e.g., meals, evening entertainment) in the $50 to $100 range. The final firm cost of the trip, and an instructor signed excused absence request letter with the purpose and logistics of the trip, will be shared with students within the first 4 weeks of class. All students taking the course must share the letter with, and receive approval from, their other instructors, employers, organizational administrators, and/or athletic coaches and pay the University of Florida via check or money order by the end of the 3rd week of class.

Beyond the required overnight field trip, minor, out-of-pocket student incidental expenses may include those associated with local field trip logistics (e.g., personal vehicle fuel costs, bus fees) and/or personal mobile computing and file storage/transfer device(s) or web-based services to research, present, and share information in class.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points (GPA)</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points (GPA)*</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>930-1000 (4.00)</td>
<td>93.0-100.0%</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>730-769 (2.00)</td>
<td>73.0-76.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>900-929 (3.67)</td>
<td>90.0-92.9%</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>700-729 (1.67)</td>
<td>70.0-72.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>870-899 (3.33)</td>
<td>87.0-89.9%</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>670-699 (1.33)</td>
<td>67.0-69.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>830-869 (3.00)</td>
<td>83.0-86.9%</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>630-669 (1.00)</td>
<td>63.0-66.9%</td>
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<td>B-</td>
<td>800-829 (2.67)</td>
<td>80.0-82.9%</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>600-629 (0.67)</td>
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<td>C+</td>
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<td>E</td>
<td>600-599 (0.00)</td>
<td>0.0-59.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
University and General Policies

Student Responsibilities:
“In 1995 the UF student body enacted an honor code and voluntarily committed itself to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. When students enroll at the university, they commit themselves to the standard drafted and enacted by students...”

As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following responsibilities as delineated at https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/student-responsibilities/.

- Academic Honesty
  - Preamble
  - The Honor Pledge
  - Student Responsibility
  - Faculty Responsibility
  - Administration Responsibility
- Student Conduct Code
- Alcohol and Drugs
  - What the University Community Can Do to Prevent Alcohol Abuse and Drug Abuse
- Relations Between People and Groups
- Service to Others
- Standard of Ethical Conduct

It is assumed that you will complete all work independently in each course unless the instructor provides explicit permission for you to collaborate on course tasks (e.g. assignments, papers, quizzes, exams). Instructors reserve the right to use the TurnItIn app within Canvas to evaluate work originality. Plagiarism is a serious offense and will result in an honor code violation and potential failure of the course. Additionally, any use, access, or handling of technology (e.g., cell phone, smart watch) during an exam will result in an honor code violation and potential failure of the course.

Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information regarding the Student Honor Code, please see: https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/.

Software Use:
All faculty, staff and students of the university are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. As such violations are also against university policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.

Students with Disabilities:
Students requesting accommodation for disabilities must first register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC). The DRC coordinates the needed accommodations of students with disabilities. This includes registering disabilities, recommending academic accommodations within the classroom, accessing special adaptive computer equipment, providing interpretation services and mediating faculty-student disability related issues.

Upon registering, the DRC will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments or taking quizzes or exams. Accommodations are not retroactive, therefore, students should contact the office as soon as possible in the term for which they are seeking accommodations. The DRC may be contacted by visiting 001 Reid Hall, calling 352-392-8565, or viewing www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/.
Course Evaluation:
Students in this class are participating in the pilot evaluation of the new course evaluation system called GatorEvals. The new evaluation system is designed to be more informative to instructors so that teaching effectiveness is enhanced and to be more seamlessly linked to UF’s CANVAS learning management system. Students can complete their evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. Please note your other classes this semester may be evaluated in the current GatorRater online evaluation system at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Thank you for serving as a partner in this important effort.

Netiquette – Communication Courtesy:
All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. Please refer to http://biostat.ufl.edu/resources/e-learning-resources/e-learning-basics/etiquette-online/.

Religious Observances:
Please inform the instructor of any religious holidays or other days of special religious significance that may interfere with your participation in this class so that appropriate accommodations can be made.

Special Consideration:
The principle of equal treatment of all students is a fundamental guide in responding to requests for special consideration. No student shall be given an opportunity to improve a grade that is not made available to all members of the class. This policy is not intended to exclude reasonable accommodation of verified student disability or the completion of work missed due to religious observance, verified illness, or absence due to circumstances beyond your control. Reconsideration of subjective judgments of an individual student’s work will be done only if all students in the class can be and are given the same consideration.

Sexual Harassment:
Sexual harassment is reprehensible and will not be tolerated by the University. It subverts our academic mission and threatens the careers, educational experience, and well-being of students, faculty, and staff. The University will not tolerate behavior between, nor among, members of this community that creates an unacceptable working environment.

Helpful Campus Resources:
Your well-being is important to our University community. Students experiencing crises or personal problems that interfere with their general well-being or academic performance are strongly encouraged to talk to the instructor and/or to utilize the University’s confidential counseling resources, available at no cost to currently enrolled students.

- University Counseling Center & Wellness Center, 3190 Radio Rd., 392-1575. Personal and career counseling, as well as therapy for anxiety, stress and mental health issues. http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/
- Dean of Students Office, 202 Peabody Hall, 392-1261. Among other services, the DSO assists students who are experiencing situations that compromises their ability to attend classes. This includes family emergencies and medical issues (including mental health crises). https://www.dso.ufl.edu/care
- Teaching Center, Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring. http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/
- Library Support. Provides various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources. http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask
- E-Learning Technical Support, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learning-support@ufl.edu. https://elearning.ufl.edu/student-help-faqs/
- UF Information Technology | Computing Help Desk, 352-392-HELP (4357) or e-mail to helpdesk@ufl.edu. http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/
- Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS), Student Health Care Center, 392-1161. Sexual assault counseling.
- University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). http://www.police.ufl.edu/