Inter-HE 201: Belonging, Purpose and the Ecology of Human Happiness: EcoYou
Lecture 001: Tuesdays 2:30 – 3:45 PM
Sections with seats reserved for First-Year CeO Scholars:
  302 Thursdays 2:30 – 3:45 PM or
  304 Thursdays 9:30 – 10:45 AM

EcoYou is an introductory blended learning class that orients students to concepts of identity, purpose and belonging, financial skills, personal presentation, romantic, peer and family relationship dynamics, and power and privilege – all in a way that’s real and relevant to the lives of first-year students. Instructors will use online resources, including videos, interactive lectures, audio files and more, to free up meeting time for in-depth discussions and peer-to-peer learning.

This course is a true interdisciplinary effort, with contributions from the four School of Human Ecology (SoHE) departments: Consumer Science, Human Development and Family Studies, Design Studies and Civil Society and Community Studies. Students will be exposed to multiple learning methodologies to develop a deeper understanding about how they fit into the larger UW community, the state and the world.

Students will address “big questions” like: Who am I? What is my passion and purpose? Where do I belong? How am I connected to others and to larger systems? And what brings happiness and works for the “greater good” in human lives? An overarching goal of the course is to help students understand themselves as embedded in a web of ever-evolving inter-connected networks, an “EcoYou.”

ECOYOU QUICK FACTS
An introductory, interdisciplinary blended learning course that orients students to concepts of identity, purpose and belonging, financial skills, personal presentation, romantic, peer and family relationship dynamics, and power and privilege – all in a way that’s real and relevant to the lives of first-year students.

- 3 credit course
- High Impact course
- Learning communities
- Enrollment is 80 with 20-person seminars
- First-year students
- Offered Fall and Spring
- L&S Credit
- Social Science Breadth

ECOYOU IS A HIGH IMPACT COURSE
Using principles of liberal arts education and high-impact educational practices, this course is designed to create an educational experience that meets UW-Madison’s essential learning outcomes. Students will:

- Gain exposure to interdisciplinary academic content, including knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world, through studies in the social sciences and the arts and the application of the interdisciplinary lens of human ecology.
- Develop skills that are real and relevant to their lives right now, including intellectual and practical skills like:
  Inquiry, analysis, critical and creative thinking
  Written and oral communication
  Information, media, and technology literacy
Teamwork, social justice issues and problem solving

- Engage in self-exploration and belonging, developing knowledge and skills in personal and social responsibility including:
  - Civic knowledge and engagement
  - Intercultural knowledge and competence
  - Ethical reasoning and action

WHAT WILL STUDENTS LEARN?

- Students will be empowered with foundations and skills for lifelong learning, including the ability to:
  - Critically analyze the relationships between people and their natural, built, and social environments;
  - Communicate respectfully and learn effectively in both face-to-face and on-line environments;
  - Practice critical thinking, dispassionate deliberation, and informed decision-making;
  - Learn proactive problem-solving skills for personal, professional, and public life;
  - Apply lessons from the science of well-being to their personal and professional lives, enhancing self-awareness, self-understanding and self-determination;
  - Understand and evaluate the ways scientific methods are applied to understand the individual and group quest for purpose, happiness, and the greater good;
  - Identify key psychological, economic, social, and biological factors in human happiness and well-being;
  - Articulate the Human Ecology perspective and explain related concepts and principles, such as interdisciplinary, systems and design thinking, and interdependencies among living, material and mediated systems;

WHAT IS BLENDED LEARNING?

Blended learning is a great way to free up class time for more community building and in-depth, in-person, peer-to-peer discussions.

Today’s students arrive on campus as ready consumers of multimedia digital content. By creating easy-to-navigate pages that offer interactive assignments, short videos, and readings, we prepare students to make the most of in-class discussion time.

REGISTRATION

Students will be able to register for Inter-HE 201 during SOAR. If for some reason the section requested is waitlisted, students should enroll in the waitlist, and then e-mail a request to enroll with the student name and ID number to CeO Advisor Megan McGarry, megan.mcgarry@wisc.edu.