**FN 451/651 Sustainable Food System Final Project-Syllabus**

**Description:**  
Community-based collaborative project that strengthens the sustainability and/or resiliency of the food system and demonstrates system thinking and problem-solving skills.

Instructor: Dr. Jasia Steinmetz, RD, CD. Email: [jsteinme@uwsp.edu](mailto:jsteinme@uwsp.edu) (cell-715-498-9446)

Meeting: Monday is reserved for meeting with Dr. S as necessary

Wednesday, we meet as a class every other week (see bolded dates in the schedule)

Course Objectives:

* Analyze a sector of the food system for sustainability that enhances community development
* Communicate effectively with community stakeholders
* Describe policies that support sustainable food systems
* Plan and implement a project which addresses an issue in the local food system with the goal of improving the local effort.
* Create and execute an evaluation plan for the project and summarize the results.
* Create and execute an effecting reporting plan for project results to stakeholders.
* Present a professional portfolio that includes the project

Project: Students will identify a community partner to investigate an aspect of the food system and identify an areas of improvement that benefits the community partner and contributes to a more sustainable and resilient food system. The project includes conduct a research review and analysis to understand the issue, create and execute the project and evaluate the results. A summary of the project will be reported to the community stakeholders and the instructor.

FN 651: Graduate students: Please meet with the instructor for project development requirements.

At the end of this project, you should be able to demonstrate the following **SNEB Nutrition Education**

**Competencies:**

5.5 Describe ways to collaborate with community members and other professionals to create communities and settings in which healthy food options are easy, affordable, and desired and unhealthy foods are less prominent and less desired.

6.3 Explain the relationships between natural resources (e.g. soil, water, biodiversity) and the quantity and quality of the food and water supply.

6.4 Describe ways to collaborate with other stakeholders to promote policies supporting systems that produce healthy food.

8.1. Assess the nutritional and behavioral needs of the population (to establish behavior change goals).8.8. Apply inclusive participatory approaches that enable the target population to effectively communicate, share experiences, identify personal needs, and manage personal food behaviors.

8.10 Design process and outcome evaluation plans, based on behavior change mediators and program objectives, using appropriate data collection methods.

9.3. Engage and educate through simple, clear, and motivational language appropriate for diverse audiences.

9.4 Advocate effectively for action-oriented nutrition education and healthy diets in various sectors and settings.

10.1 Analyze, evaluate, and interpret nutrition education research and apply it to practice.

**Course evaluation:**

Research review and system analysis: 50 pts

Project plan, draft: 50 pts.

Communication plan: 25 pts

Evaluation measures and results: 20 pts

Final Report: 100 pts

Presentation to community stakeholders: 50 pts

Professional portfolio: 23 pts

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| Calendar\* | Topic | Evidence/flow of work  **All assignments are due on the Friday, 11:59 pm** |
| **Week 1**  **Monday Jan 24- Zoom meeting** | Introduction-Review the syllabus and requirements of the course. | Plan for community partnership, review assignments |
| **Week 2**  **Jan 31-Zoom meeting** | Organizational meeting with Dr. S | Meet with Dr. S for 20 minutes on Monday or Wednesday |
| Week 3  Feb 7 | Organizational meeting with community partner | Topic is identified. Plan with community partner. Project agreement |
| **Week 4**  **Feb 14** | Research for project | Discuss review and analysis assignment progress |
| Week 5  Feb 21 | Professional development and communication | Professional skill development identified **Research review and system analysis paper due** |
| **Week 6**  **Feb 28** | Project plan developed | **Project plan agreement signed by community partner due**  **Project Plan Draft assignment due** |
| Week 7  March 7 | Project plan implemented | Community partner meeting |
| **Week 8**  **March 14** | Project plan implemented | Progress report  **Communication plan due** |
| Week 9  March 21 | Spring break | Take a break, enjoy and rest |
| **Week 10**  **March 28** | Project evaluation | Professional skill development report |
| Week 11  April 4 | Analyze project results | Community partner meeting |
| **Week 12**  **April 11** | Project implementation | **Evaluation and results paper assignment due** |
| Week 13  April 18 | Project Implementation |  |
| **Week 14**  **April 25** | Write final report, communication developed | Draft report to peer |
| May 2 |  |  |
| **May 9** | Present your project to the class and stakeholder | Presentation to class  Report to community stakeholders |
| **Finals week** | Celebration | **Documents due:**  **Final report, professional portfolio due** |

\*Meetings in class are in bold.