

EES 590 Section 0861-IND(8858) (Special topics in Ecology and Environmental Science)

# Boundary Spanning and Solutions-Oriented Science

An intensive one week graduate course

Spring Semester

Three Credits

Meeting Dates: January 3-6; closing seminar in March (date tbd.)

Instructors: Brian McGill, Kathleen Bell, David Hart and Laura Lindenfeld

This course provides an introduction to the role of boundary spanning in the process of moving from scientific research to solutions for society. Boundary spanning theory addresses the roles and processes involved in interfacing between distinct groups. This course focuses on four specific boundaries: 1) between interdisciplinary researchers, 2) between scientists and stakeholders at problem definition time, 3) between scientists and stakeholders at results interpretation time, and 4) between engaged participants and the general public. The course will include lectures, readings, and interactive discussions on the core theory and practice of boundary spanning. Participants will have opportunities to interact with key individuals in boundary spanning roles from industry, government and NGOs.

The intensive course will feature four days of interaction from January 3 – 6, followed by on-campus visits from guest speakers during spring semester. A one-day presentation of student research projects and feedback will take place in March, when students will present and submit their final course projects.

*Visiting guest experts will include representatives from*

NGOs, State Agencies, industry, and media

International, national, state, and local contexts

Research projects focused on a range of sustainability issues in Maine, including energy, climate change, urbanization, and forest management.

*This course is supported by the Sustainability Solutions Initiative & Maine's EPSCoR office. Please contact Ruth Hallsworth at 581-3196 for more information.*

If you need assistance registering for this course, please contact the University of Maine's Graduate School at 581-3291

