UCONN
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Spring 2025

SYLLABUS: ENVE 3111Topics in Environmental Engineering: Brownfield Practicum

Meeting times

Tu & Thu 3:30-4:45 PM (weekly team meetings with instructor)

- Weekly Meetings with the Instructor Team (scheduled upon assignment of projects)

Instructors:

Randi Mendes, Ph.D.
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Office Hours: By appointment

External Advisors

Wayne Bugden, PG, LEP
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Graduate Assistants:

Aaron Hinze
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Course Overview

This course is a service-learning based course in which students will work with New England communities to assist them with the process of investigating, cleaning up, and putting back into use abandoned sites with suspected contamination, also known as brownfields.

Learning Objectives

Service Learning is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Identify and describe brownfield sites;
2. Develop criteria for brownfields prioritization;
3. Conduct brownfield prioritization lists for towns;
4. Conduct preliminary environmental investigations;
5. Design sampling plans and develop budgets for environmental assessments;
6. Draft community engagement strategies for communities with brownfield sites;
7. Develop redevelopment scenarios for brownfield sites.

List of partners and description of work

We have partnered with the following communities:

Town	Contact	Email	Project Title	Main Advisor & GA
Central Falls, RI	Jim Vandermillen	jvandermillen@city.centralfallsri.gov	Site Reuse Assessment	Demian S & Aaron H
Kingston, MA	Matt Panella	mpenella@kingstonma.gov	Site Reuse Assessment	Demian S & Dominic A
Lamoille County, VT	Victoria Hellwig	victoria@lcpcvt.org	Inventory	Randi M
Lamoille County & Morrisville, VT	Victoria Hellwig	victoria@lcpcvt.org	Site Reuse Assessment	Wayne B & Dominic A
Stonington, CT	Emily Bigl	ebigl@seccog.org	Inventory	Randi M
Windham, CT	Emily Bigl	ebigl@seccog.org	Inventory	Randi M
Bar Harbor, ME	James Smith	jsmith@barharbormaine.gov	Site Reuse Assessment	Wayne B & Dominic A

East Hampton, CT	Ryan Baldassario	ryan.baldassario@gmail.com	Site Reuse Assessment	Demian S & Aaron H
PVPC, MA	Eric Weiss	eweiss@pvpc.org	Inventory	Randi M
Burrillville, RI	Ray Goff	rgoff@burrillville.org	Site Reuse Assessment	Demian S & Aaron H
Berlin, NH	Pamela Laflamme	plaflamme@berlinnh.gov	Site Reuse Assessment	Wayne B & Aaron H
East Longmeadow, MA	Tom Christensen	tom.christensen@eastlongmeadowma.gov	Site Reuse Assessment	Demian S & Dominic A
Northfield, MA	Leslie Roberts	grantdevelopmentdirector@northfieldma.gov	Site Reuse Assessment	Wayne B & Aaron H

Course Materials

Links to reference materials and various documents will be provided on the Husky CT site for this course.

Class Policy

Depending on the scope of the project (noted in the table above), students will complete it either individually or in a group of two. Project assignments will be completed the first week of classes with student input (every student team will provide their three top choices); the instructor will complete the final assignment.

Students are also expected to provide contact information to their group members and respond to group communications within a reasonable time frame (generally 24 hours or less).

Class Deliverables and Important Deadlines

Progress Report: Progress on the project will be monitored based on the schedule provided for each project. Points are awarded for the completion of each deliverable and are graded by the GA and advisor. Students will have access to this record in order to see where they stand in the course as well as to be able to have the opportunity to make up lost points.

Final Report: The final report should be written as a technical report to the municipality, with the student group acting as consultants. It should include the scope of work, activities, results, conclusions, and recommendations, as well as data gaps. This is a group deliverable.

Final Presentations

A final presentation will be given along with the final report to municipal officials on the last day of classes.

Grading

The assessment of the class and the associated grades will be based on four components:

- Progress report 40%
- Final Report 50%
- Final Presentation 10%

Letter Grade	Grade Point	Percentage
A	4.0	94 - 100%
A-	3.7	90 - 93%
B+	3.3	87 - 89%
B	3.0	83 - 86%
B-	2.7	80 - 83%
C+	2.3	77 - 79%
C	2.0	73 - 76%
C-	1.7	70 - 72%
D+	1.3	67 - 79%
D	1.0	60 - 66%
F	0.0	0 - 59%