2016-17 Curricular Enhancement Grants: Awardees and Projects

Alexander Barron (ENV): ENV 201/202: Researching Environmental Problems
Adapt the curriculum and materials to cover important methodological concepts and draw links to policy. Develop core lab exercises to include off campus, real-world problems that can then translate into individual projects in a service learning setting with local partners.

Sarah Hines (HIST/LALS): FYS: The World Water Crisis
Develop a new course that takes an interdisciplinary and historical case-study approach to begin to answer the question of why 1 billion people today lack access to safe and reliable drinking water and the implications of addressing the crisis. Develop independent research projects to engage students with local water initiatives in order to facilitate an understanding of the land, water supply issues and local Western Massachusetts histories.

Niveen Ismail (EGR): EGR 390: Contaminant Fate and Removal in Aquatic Systems
Modify the curriculum and materials to explore contaminant fate and transport in aquatic systems in a more hands-on manner. Expand the number of discussion-based class sessions through integration of relevant case studies and peer-reviewed literature in addition to including a semester-long independent group project.

Michelle Joffroy (SPP/LALS): FYS: Vida y Tierra: Land and the Ecological Imagination in U.S. Latin@ Literature
Develop a new course focused on the ecological imagination in literature. Work with students and local organization Casa Latina to develop a series of local Latin@ land narratives with the goal of developing digital narratives to be used in a story mapping project. One ultimate goal of the story mapping will be to create a community resource that could be used in local community building and cultural memory preservation projects.

Nancy Sternbach (SPP): SPN 245: Topics in Latin America and Penninsular Studies: Buen Provencho: Food and the Spanish-speaking world
Modify the curriculum by incorporating even more environmental concepts. Deepen student connections with farm workers and whole, unprocessed food by visiting a local farm and participating in at least one harvesting activity.