



- Our **75 lessons** contain ideas for lesson plans, workshop activities, and fruitful discussions—many featuring published socio-environmental studies as illustrative examples of real-world applications.
- Our **40+ explainers** include straightforward approaches for conducting successful interdisciplinary research and for considering environmental problems beyond an ecological perspective.
- Our **100+ learning materials** allow users to watch videos that introduce them to disciplines like sociology or political ecology; listen to S-E researchers share their research journey in their own words; and discover the nuances and complexities of modeling S-E systems; and much, much more.

- Our list of nearly **1,000 SESYNC-supported journal articles** demonstrate the wide breadth of S-E research topics and approaches.
- Our **80 case studies** use real-world examples to illustrate important S-E concepts for students.



Creating Interdisciplinary Research Teams, A Two-Session Exercise

When creating interdisciplinary teams, certain strategies are important: fostering team diversity (both identity- and disciplinary-based diversity); learning empathy, interpersonal skills, and communication styles; supporting researchers across age and academic hierarchies; and integrating individual skills and styles effectively to synergize research

operations. **In this lesson, learners will practice the art of selecting, recruiting, and synergizing an interdisciplinary research team.** While team building may be hypothetical for this lesson, it can also be used as a way to generate diverse and synergetic teams at the beginning of an actual research project—for example, a semester-long experiential learning sequence that tackles a real-world problem.

Creating Actionable Science on Campus Lesson

In this lesson, learners will practice the art of stakeholder-engaged research by developing a sustainability project in their local campus or town. Learners will not conduct new research but will use existing science, solicit and assess various stakeholder views, and strategize how to integrate the diversity of opinion into a valued, new sustainability initiative. The ideal result of this lesson is not only to learn ways to integrate science with implementation but to launch a collaborative, semester-long experiential group project that tackles a real-world problem.



Environmental Sociology on Campus Lesson: A Field Trip

This lesson aims to get natural science students involved in empathic and perspective-building interactions with the less privileged members of their campus community. It will also expand their sense of what counts as ecological work and how environmental justice can factor into equitable socio-environmental solutions. **This**

lesson aims to get students to learn and apply sociological methods to the study of campus society, individuals, and their environments.

Exploring Novel Ecosystems Lesson: Field Trip to an Urban Forest Patch

Urban Forest Patches (UFPs) are one example of a novel ecosystem—those that support a unique community, including native and non-native species. **In this lesson, learners will go on a local field trip to explore elements that challenge the resilience of small forest patches.** (Note: an online alternative to a field trip is also provided.) They will be asked to consider the unrealized potential and value of UFPs that may be unnecessarily derided as weedy, trashy, or dangerous. The lesson will require student access to a UFP of at least one acre.



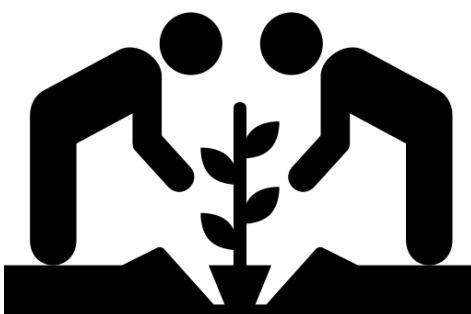
Practicing Reflexivity and Appreciating Diverse Perspectives Lesson

Studies have focused on how a person's positionality—that is their experiences, expectations, social values, personal identities, and world views—influences their research and how, and even when, people engage in group discussions. **This lesson centers around an activity that helps learners to identify the characteristics**

that create their own positionality. At its core, the activity: 1) challenges participants to reflect on their own positionality and biases; 2) helps increase comfort in discussing difficult topics; and 3) engages learners around a sustainability issue.

Qualitative Methods for Actionable Sustainability Science Lesson: Appreciative Inquiries and Learning Journeys

Two approaches for identifying solutions for enacting change are appreciative inquiry and learning journeys. Using these methods, participants listen to others' thoughts and views without judgment and search together for sustainability solutions that challenge old assumptions. **In this lesson, participants use appreciative inquiry and a learning journey to document positive actions on their campus and in their community.** This exercise will culminate in sharing a "good seed"—an idea or plan to move forward sustainability initiatives.



Sustainable Agriculture Lesson: Community Gardens – Justice, Safety, and Climate Solutions

This lesson synthesizes the socio-environmental challenges and benefits of community gardens with the call for cities to designate more community garden space in planning for climate change, resilience, food security and sovereignty, and community integration. **This lesson takes**

the form of a town hall meeting with city officials and residents weighing in on policy choices that will affect the gardens and the city's climate resilience.

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