

GLST 271, Community Engaged Learning

Environmental Disaster and Response with MDS

Course Description

This immersive course focuses on the direct environmental disaster impacts on a local community, with an emphasis on social inequalities and the resources, relief, and response available to communities post-disaster. This interdisciplinary course builds upon social policy, climate change, inequalities and disaster management scholarship. Clear community service and action-research opportunities and expectations are built into the course.

Program Overview

UPCOMING TERMS & TRIP LEADERS

May Term 2023-24 (every year): Luke Beck Kreider
May Term 2024-25 (every year): TBA

ADDITIONAL COURSES TO COMPLETE SST

GLST 241: Foundations, Environmental Sociology OR Ethnography (3 credit hours on campus)
GLST 251: Cultural Perspectives, Environmental Economics in AZ (3 credit hours)
GLST 300: Global Issues, Environmental Disaster (3 credit hours on campus)

THEME(S)
Environmental Justice

LENGTH
3 weeks

LOCATION
A disaster site in the U.S.

CREDITS
3 credit hours

EXTRA COST
\$100 travel fee; commuters note that room and board is + \$1110
First deposit non-refundable.

REQUIRED LANGUAGE
None



What you can expect to see/learn/do...

You will spend two weeks volunteering on a recent disaster site with Mennonite Disaster Service. You will live in communal housing and share communal meals. The last four days of the course provide time for reflection, synthesis and final projects.

You do not need to have construction skills to participate, but you do need to be physically able to do repair and clean-up work for 8 hours per day. Also note that your food choices will be limited to whatever food is prepared for us.

The 2020-21 class worked on housing construction in Mariana, Florida, which was still recovering from Hurricane Michael.