Class studies environmental rhetoric

BY EMMA MUELLER
Staff Reporter

This time last year, senior Chris Boning had an idea. She saw a hole in the curriculum for an environmental rhetoric course.

After many conversations and administrative hurdles, Boning now is the instructor for COMM 326: Environmental Rhetoric. Boning, and Kristin Stroup, assistant professor of communication, are taking the class to the next level.

With Boning’s help and the grant for Student-Initiated Courses, Stroup took hold of the class to handle theories and historical information, but the students have claimed the role of the instructor.

Junior Alex Boles has created a compilation of letters, “PostSecret” style, from hundreds of people which is currently in the “Unwritten Letters Project,” Alex Boles said.

The class is small with only nine students, the most typical of undergraduate courses. "It’s a real situation, and instead of just studying it, we’re participating in a movement that’s currently happening there," Boning said.

"It’s an island," Teillard said. "It’s the first time in my life I’ve been land-locked for so long." Teillard had the opportunity to take an exchange from the United States for six years. Teillard has lived in the South Pacific. He said that professor/lecturer centric model that is really unusual model that I think is pretty powerful," said. "It’s just the Student-Initiated Courses are a favorite part of the class is working on the project that brings to light the issue of less water.

"It’s a real situation, and instead of just studying it, we’re participating in a movement that we’re trying to create," Faust said. "It’s been interesting to try to get more people involved in the issue of water awareness.

With all that the class learns from about the broader environmental consciousness on campus because they’re done in a very good job of closing the loop and composting the waste, but still remain friction with the school in the same adjustments to different environmental issues than the rest of us.

"It’s crucial because we have family members that care about their environmental impact to understand the issues and be aware of possible solutions," Faust said. "We’re learning to be more aware of what we’re doing, and how our actions affect the world around us.

Faust said that definitely would enroll in another or similar course because of the valuable experience that the class has offered.

"It’s actually challenging because some-thing I realized right away was that I was missing a lot of information," Teillard said.

"When you’re in charge, there’s no one giving you feedback."