The Piedmont Project

Cutting across curriculum boundaries

EMORY sustainability initiatives

HIGHLIGHTS

The Piedmont Project launched in 2001, and since that time, this interdisciplinary summer development program has given scores of faculty members and administrators the tools, connections and inspiration to infuse sustainability and environmental issues into the classroom and beyond. In 2004, the Piedmont Project was expanded to include a one-day workshop for graduate students, and Emory now hosts a workshop to demonstrate how the Project works to leaders from other universities.

In 2017, 60.61% of Emory departments offered sustainability courses, and thousands of students a year are engaged in the new or renovated courses taught by Piedmont Project faculty.

From 2015-2025, we plan to ensure that the number of sustainability-related courses available will continue to increase, and the Piedmont Project is critical to achieving that goal.

BENEFITS

- Each Piedmont project cohort represents a variety of departments, programs, and schools, which strengthens creativity and builds campus community.
- Learning about concrete examples from the Atlanta region fortifies a sense of place and supports imaginative connections for the courses.
- Examples of creative teaching efforts from the program include: A collaboration between the Russian and Theater department in which students read Chekhov outdoors, a team-taught course called “Water in Science, Philosophy, and Literature”, and a Chinese course that assigned students to create pamphlets in Chinese about sustainability at Emory
- Participating faculty members reported a growing awareness of sustainability which led them to new research pursuits, publications, and lifestyle changes. Read publications from faculty to learn about their Piedmont Project experiences.

HOW IT WORKS

- Each summer, 20 faculty applicants are accepted to participate in the four-part program designed to help faculty develop new courses or new course modules. The Piedmont Teaching Assistant Training and Teaching Opportunity Program (TATTO) is a one-day version of the program designed for 10-20 graduate students.
- Piedmont Project participants develop syllabi and then come together for a field trip at the end of the summer to share their experiences.
- The Piedmont Project has been funded by Emory Innovative Teaching grants and the Provost’s Office, and is currently supported by deans of the undergraduate and professional schools.
- Unfortunately, Piedmont Project programs were not able to take place during the 2020-2021 academic year due to the constraints of the COVID-19 pandemic, however they will be resumed for the 2021-2022 academic year.

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LEARN MORE

Find more information and apply to participate on the Piedmont Project's website.

Explore the recommended reading list of Piedmont Project participants.

Enter the name of a faculty member you know in the "Search" bar or zoom in to explore the many faculty alumni of the Piedmont Project:

QUESTIONS?

Contact bree.d.ettinger@emory.edu for more information about the Piedmont Project.

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