



Department of  
**Community Sustainability**

**Spring 2025**

**Community-Based Natural Resource  
Management in International Development**

**CSUS 848**

***3 credits***

Millions of people around the world depend on natural resources for their livelihoods; therefore, it is vital to manage those resources in a sustainable way. This course studies governance of natural resources in developing countries, focusing on the factors that lead to positive outcomes, e.g., conservation, cooperation through the creation of institutions, and improved income distribution. The course begins with a look at how human and natural systems interact, and possible ways to study that interaction. The course then addresses a variety of issues that influence natural resource management, including people's perceptions and values of natural resources, poverty, gender, livelihoods, and property rights regimes. It also examines policy approaches for promoting conservation where benefits are off-site, and payments for environmental services.

The course is appropriate for graduate students across campus who are interested in learning about community-based natural resource management in developing countries and developed countries.

This course is useful for students who have an interest in international development, natural resource management, conservation, governance of natural resources and institutions. It is also of interest to students who want either to do research on these topics or are considering working in these areas after graduation.

*For more information, contact the instructor:*

Dr. Maria Claudia Lopez ([mlopez@msu.edu](mailto:mlopez@msu.edu))

Associate Professor

*Course meets:*

Mondays            3:00 - 5:50pm

