



FALL 2021

# Urbanization and Connecting to Nature

with Dr. Willandia Chaves

Photo by Carlos Durigan

**FIW 4984**

Overview of challenges and opportunities that urban environments create for biodiversity conservation and human wellbeing. This course is focused on social aspects of the issue and their implications for conservation. Through readings on urbanization, conservation, and connection and access to nature in urban areas, students will learn how domestic and international issues are being addressed. The course will start with an overview of how urban environments create challenges and opportunities for conservation, both within and outside urban areas. This will be followed by a review of how urban residents across the globe access and connect to nature. This portion will include hands-on activities such as interviews of people around Blacksburg area to understand their access and connection to nature. The course will conclude with an overview of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in nature-related recreation, access, and connection to nature in urban areas in the US and abroad.

## WHO Should Take This Course?

This course is most appropriate for juniors and seniors, but it can be taken earlier if student has a particular interest in the social aspects of urbanization and conservation.

Students in the Human Dimensions Option may take this course to fulfill a Social Sciences Restricted Elective.

## Registration Information

Fall 2021-FIW 4984  
Urbanization and Connecting to Nature  
CNR: 93052  
CREDITS: 3  
Course prerequisites: none

## Meeting Times and Location

Meeting Time: TR – 2:00-3:15 pm  
Location: Hutcheson Hall, 310

## For QUESTIONS Contact:

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