

Geography and Earth System Sciences Searches and their connection to the Expanding Knowledge Initiative of Grinnell College's Strategic Plan

The Expanding Knowledge Initiative of Grinnell College's Strategic Plan calls for enriching the curriculum by offering courses in emerging areas of knowledge beyond traditional disciplinary boundaries. These two positions should contribute to some of the following goals:

- To offer a slate of largely new courses with a distinctive interdisciplinary outlook allowing students and faculty members to investigate human beings, their societies, and their environment in spatial and quantitative terms.
- To provide sufficient overlap to allow for interdisciplinary work bringing together the natural and social sciences in the study of the earth, human beings, and their society.
- To enhance students' abilities in quantitative and spatial analysis, across the curriculum (e.g. GIS and Spatial Statistical Analysis).
- To strengthen and deepen the College's offerings of lab science (in the case of the earth science position) and field study courses (in one or both of these positions) addressing the interaction of human beings and their environment by adding expertise in earth systems science.
- To enhance course offerings that explore global issues and/or the College's location in the prairie region.
- To contribute to general education courses, such as the seminar required of all students in their first semester (<http://www.grinnell.edu/offices/dean/tutorial/>), and Statistics.
- To support the Environmental Studies and Global Development concentrations and the General Science major. Other concentrations that might be supported, depending on the specializations of the two appointments, are American Studies, other area studies, and Technology Studies. For more information about interdisciplinary concentrations, please go to <http://www.grinnell.edu/academic/>.
- To support the goals and activities of our interdisciplinary centers and programs, comprised of the Center for International Studies, the Center for Prairie Studies, the Center for the Humanities, and the Rosenfield Public Affairs Program (<http://www.grinnell.edu/academic/>).

For more information on Grinnell College's Expanding Knowledge Initiative, please visit the Office of Interdisciplinary Studies website at <http://www.grinnell.edu/offices/dean/eki/officeinterdiscstudies/>.