

ECL290 (Fall 2009): Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability in our Research Labs



Registration information

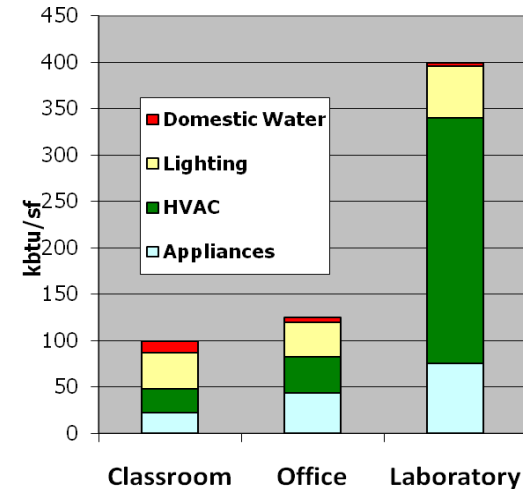
Professor Johan Six, Fall 2009

CRN: 19873, section 014

Time: Wednesday 4:10-5pm

Units: 1

Room: TBA



How much energy does it take to run an ultra-cold freezer, a laser or a gas chromatograph? Can you save plastics, borrow a spectrophotometer, eliminate mercury from your methods, or switch away from distilled water, and what are the resource impacts? While researchers understand limits to air, water and habitat quality, we rarely pursue conservation practices at work, partially because we are preoccupied and also because the benefits and costs are invisible to us. We are also insulated from operational decisions, which can simply complicate our work, and greatly increase campus costs.

Consider joining us this fall to explore how we can make research labs more efficient and greener. Enrolled students will learn about current technologies and lab practices to conserve resources. Each week, we will review current literature in the following arenas: energy; water; solid waste, recycling & re-use; electronics; green chemistry. As well, visiting experts will describe what goes on to run our buildings or deliver our supplies. Students will research topics, present findings and lead discussion to explore, understand, and implement low-impact, highly-effective research. By the end of the quarter, the goal will be a green lab certification program for labs of all disciplines at UC Davis, and be a model for the UC system.