ARTS&SCI/ISCI 31E1: Interdisciplinary Experiences
“Grant Writing – Integrating Science, Sustainability and Community”

Benefits: The ability to research, write and apply for grant funding is a skill that is truly interdisciplinary. Whether an individual is pursuing a career in academics, government or private industry, grant writing is a skill and experience that is necessary and highly marketable.

Students will experience the entire grant writing process - from research of potential funding sources; scripting an appropriate background, purpose, budget and timeline; to writing and submission of the finished grant application.

Context: This year, grants will be sought to support and maintain community outreach initiatives here at McMaster. Examples of these initiatives include the McMaster Teaching & Community Garden (MTCG), McMaster Outdoor Learning Space (MOLS), McMaster Eco-Lab (MEL) and McMarsh, a reclamation project for Lot M. All of these projects are collaborations from many facets of the McMaster community. Funding is needed to establish, maintain and further the development of these great ideas. The ultimate goal is to use the acquired funding to generate greater outreach presence for McMaster with the broader Hamilton community. Future opportunities, modules and projects will arise if funding for these initiatives is achieved.

Logistics: The module will run Fall Term 2013 as an independent project. Students can work on their own, or in pairs, under the supervision of the module Instructor. The exact timeline of the module will vary with respect to particular grant agency deadlines, but is estimated to take 3-4 weeks.

Enrollment: 1-8 (with #’s greater than 4 working in pairs)

Supervisor Profile: Chad Harvey is an Assistant Professor in the Integrated Science Program and Dept. of Biology. He is an ecologist and entomologist who studies invasive species and agricultural systems. He is actively working to establish four outdoor teaching and learning facilities associated with McMaster University.