

'Knowing Our Place': A Journey of Collaborative Learning. (A01-simmons164059-Oral)

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Abstract:

In spring 2002, an honors colloquium was first offered to undergraduate students that considers the concept of 'place' as a significant formative element in our society, as well as for us as persons. This paper describes this colloquium from both subject matter and learning process perspectives. The colloquium emphasizes collaborative and community-based/experiential learning, as well as involving a substantial amount of reflective writing, samples of which are included on the course web site (www.coafes.umn.edu/csi/place/index.htm). Although the subject matter content may vary, we contend that the processes utilized in this colloquium are very important for fostering stronger personal/professional self-awareness and maturity for undergraduate students in agricultural, food and environmental sciences.

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