Community College: Johnston Community College

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Courses that were updated with an international focus:
LSG 122 - Spring Gardening Lab
LSG 123 - Summer Gardening Lab
ART 265 - Digital Photography II
ART 212 - Gallery Assistantship I
ENG 111 - Expository Writing

How frequently are these courses taught? ENG 111 is taught every semester while the other courses are currently taught once a year.

How many students enroll in this course per academic year?

This project served 8 landscape gardening students, 8 English students, and 8 photography/art students.
Total 24
Final Report and Project Evaluation
Globalized Module for Landscape Gardening, Photography and English
Johnston Community College

Either in groups or individually, students participating in this project visited eight local gardeners in Johnston County. English students interviewed the gardeners. Photography students photographed the gardeners and their gardens, and landscape gardening students took cuttings of the plants in the gardens.

All eight interviews were transcribed and saved onto disks for review by the gardeners. Each gardener received a copy of his/her transcript and related photographs as mementos of the experience. Four of the eight transcripts have been approved by the interviewed gardeners. Complete sets of the approved transcripts and photographs have been shared with the Johnston County Heritage Center and the UNC Southern Historical Collection. Copies will also be housed in the Donnie E. and Linda V. Lassiter North Carolina Room of JCC’s new Learning Resource Center.

The faculty and staff members involved in the project also plan to create either a digital or printed display of the photographs taken by the students. The display will be shared through the college’s web site and the community’s television station. It also will be featured at the Arboretum in conjunction with the official opening of JCC’s Southern Garden in the spring of 2012.

Time was the major challenge for this project. A project that spanned two semesters provided too many opportunities for students to withdraw from the project. Some withdrew for unexpected personal reasons. Others withdrew when landscape gardening courses were moved to an evening schedule and they changed their programs of study because they were only available for day classes. Also, the college does not offer the participating courses during the summer so the collected plants did not survive the drought without the care that could have been provided by landscape gardening students if classes had been in session.

A major lesson from this project is that entire departments should have been involved in the development and implementation of the project. Integration by department instead of by course would have provided a larger pool of students for the project as well as potential replacements for students who must withdraw.

Despite the challenges, JCC will continue to find ways to connect students at the college in new ways and to prepare them to succeed in an interconnected, diverse, and multicultural world.