For my Sustainability and the Mission project, I focused on Pope Francis’s Laudato Sí, Chapter 4, Integral Ecology. This initiative is exciting for its broad vision of a world in which humanity connected with all of God’s creation. In this paradigm, people value connections with people from across the globe as well as across party lines, with the plant, animal and insects, sky, land and waters. In this sense, integral ecology encompasses more than climate change and could create personal, social, and systemic changes that would attend to climate change.

While the final project is still in the works as I write this proposal, I can share more about what I have determined.

It seems most logical to share what I have learned in a meaningful way with my students.

Integral ecology would pair nicely with an ecology unit I am teaching in my FYS. In the seminar, we examine how natural resources in the Congo have impacted the country’s history and relationships within and outside of Africa.

My proposal is to create a Power Point on integral ecology, explaining what it means and how it is related to 1) FYS unit on ecology of the Congo; 2) Climate change; and 3) Jesuit values.

At the conclusion of the slides, I would like to raise questions about what it means to be good stewards of the land and good neighbors in terms of Jesuit values, commutative and distributive justice, as well as challenges to ethical responsibilities.