



IDS 450: Sustainability Minor Internship Plan

20% of final grade

Complete this assignment PRIOR TO or IN the FIRST WEEK of the internship.
See syllabus for more information on assignments.

During or before the first week of the semester, prepare a plan for your internship experience in collaboration with your on-site supervisor. You must answer the following prompts (at least 2 pages). Feel free to answer them in a continuous essay or one-by-one.

1. What are your goals for your internship experience? List at least 2 goals, and inform at least one of them with research into reliable sources.

For example, you may be interning at a local community garden. You might research the impact of community gardens on food insecurity, food sovereignty, or the mental health benefits of green spaces: link this to one of your goals as a garden intern. If you are interning at a recycling facility, you might research the markets for recycled materials, capacities of local MRFs or landfills, or community recycling rates: link this to one of your goals as a recycling intern.

2. Discuss the job/internship description that you have submitted with your internship agreement. What will be your internship responsibilities? Which tasks do you believe you are prepared for? Which tasks seem like they might be challenges?
3. Choose two facets of your sustainability education that you believe will inform your internship experience or be enhanced by your internship experience.
 - a. What are they? Try to link them to specific classes or experiences.
 - b. How do they relate to the three dimensions of sustainability: environmental, sociocultural, and economic?
 - c. What are your expectations related to integrating your sustainability education with your internship?
4. How will you be evaluated by your site supervisor? Note any prospective meetings, assignments by the supervisor, site-required self-evaluations, etc. Your discussion should include *at least* the two mandated site supervisor evaluations, and you should discuss with your supervisor how they plan to provide feedback to you.

How will this be graded?

Plans should meet these criteria:

1. They should be submitted on time.
2. All questions will be discussed thoroughly and thoughtfully, demonstrating your preparation and background in sustainability.

3. Responses should reflect a discussion with your site supervisor, to make sure all expectations are clear.
4. Responses should be written professionally, adhering to conventions of standard written English. The document should reflect the fact that you are moving from the more developmental world of academic assignments to the professional world, in which your readers do not care “how much time you put into it,” and more about whether your writing is polished, accurate, and satisfies the purpose of the document.

Interdisciplinary Studies:
Sustainability Internship



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