

Environmental Science Internship Syllabus

Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences

ENVS 3000 Fall 2023

Dalhousie University acknowledges that we are in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq People and pays respect to the Indigenous knowledges held by the Mi'kmaq People, and to the wisdom of their Elders past and present. The Mi'kmaq People signed Peace and Friendship Treaties with the Crown, and section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and Treaty rights. We are all Treaty people.

Dalhousie University also acknowledges the histories, contributions, and legacies of African Nova Scotians, who have been here for over 400 years.

Course Instructor(s)		
Name	Email	Office Hours
Dr. Tarah Wright	Tarah.wright@dal.ca	LSC 810. Meetings by appointment.

Course Description

This class is intended to allow students to gain hands-on experience while addressing a question of personal and academic interest relevant to the field of environmental science. Students will also be asked to reflect on practice and to present lessons learned at the end of the term. Students will work as interns for 12 weeks (minimum 6 hours per week) on a specific project at a sponsoring agency. The internship is guided and evaluated by a supervisor at the sponsoring agency and an advisor at Dalhousie University.

Course Prerequisites

Must have completed 54 credit hours

Student Resources

LIBGUIDES: The following subject guides can provide quick access to relevant databases, books and other resources for your thesis/major project research:

- Environmental Science subject guide
<http://libguides.library.dal.ca/content.php?pid=454>

University Policies and Programs

Important Dates in the Academic Year (including add/drop dates):

http://www.dal.ca/academics/important_dates.html

Classroom Recording Protocol:

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/classroom-recording-protocol.html

Dalhousie Grading Practices Policies:

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/grading-practices-policy.html

Grade Appeal Process: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/grades-and-student-records/appealing-a-grade.html

Sexualized Violence Policy: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/health-and-safety/sexualized-violence-policy.html

Scent-Free Program: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/occupational-safety/scent-free.html>

Learning and Support Resources

General Academic Support – Advising (Halifax): https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/advising.html

General Academic Support – Advising (Truro): <https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/agricultural-campus/ssc/academic-support/advising.html>

Student Health & Wellness Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/health-and-wellness.html

On Track (helps you transition into university, and supports you through your first year at Dalhousie and beyond): https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/On-track.html

Indigenous Student Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html

Indigenous Connection: <https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/indigenous-connection.html>

Elders-in-Residence (The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel, and support. Visit the office in the Indigenous Student Centre or contact the program at elders@dal.ca or 902-494-6803:

<https://cdn.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/academics/UG/indigenous-studies/Elder-Protocol-July2018.pdf>

Black Student Advising Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/black-student-advising.html

International Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/international-centre.html

South House Sexual and Gender Resource Centre: <https://southhousehalifax.ca/about/>

LGBTQ2SIA+ Collaborative: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/vpei/edia/education/community-specific-spaces/LGBTQ2SIA-collaborative.html>

Dalhousie Libraries: <http://libraries.dal.ca/>

Copyright Office: <https://libraries.dal.ca/services/copyright-office.html>

Dalhousie Student Advocacy Services: <https://www.dsu.ca/dsas?rq=student%20advocacy>

Dalhousie Ombudsperson: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/safety-respect/student-rights-and-responsibilities/where-to-get-help/ombudsperson.html

Human Rights and Equity Services: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/hres.html>

Writing Centre: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/writing-and-study-skills.html

Study Skills/Tutoring: http://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/study-skills-and-tutoring.html

Faculty of Science Advising Support: <https://www.dal.ca/faculty/science/current-students/undergrad-students/degree-planning.html>

Safety

Biosafety: <http://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/biosafety.html>

Chemical Safety: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/chemical-safety.html>

Radiation Safety: <http://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/radiation-safety.html>

Laser Safety: <https://www.dal.ca/dept/safety/programs-services/radiation-safety/laser-safety.html>

Course Structure

Course Delivery

The Internship Class is intended to allow students to gain hands-on experience while addressing academic and personal interests relevant to the field of environmental science. Students volunteer as interns for 12 weeks (a minimum of six hours each week) on a specific project at a host organization, department or agency. The nature of the internship (online, in-person, or hybrid) is determined in consultation with the host organization and the Coordinator of the Environmental Science Internship program. The internship is guided and evaluated by a supervisor at the host organization and the course instructor at Dalhousie University. Each student will be asked to reflect on their internship and make a presentation at the end of the term. The times of the internship are very flexible and worked out with your placement supervisor,

Lectures

n/a

Laboratories

n/a

Tutorials

n/a

Course Materials

Please refer to the course Brightspace site for materials related to this course. Relevant literature, readings and discussion forums can be found on this site.. The site will also be used to upload assignments or additional documents where required and grades.

Assessment

Component	Weight (% of final grade)	Date
Internship Participation	50%	Throughout semester
Project Journal	20%	Weekly
Final reflection paper	30%	TBD

Conversion of numerical grades to final letter grades follows the

Dalhousie Grade Scale

A+ (90-100)	B+ (77-79)	C+ (65-69)	D (50-54)
A (85-89)	B (73-76)	C (60-64)	F (0-49)
A- (80-84)	B- (70-72)	C- (55-59)	

Course Policies on Missed or Late Academic Requirements

A student must be present (virtually or in person) at the internship workplace at a minimum of once every two weeks. If a student misses 2 or more scheduled workdays she/he will be asked to withdraw from the course or will automatically be given an F on her/his transcript.

A student may work as an intern for this class in either a paid or voluntary capacity.

Course Policies related to Academic Integrity

Explain your policy on collaboration (for individual and group assignments or projects) – state explicitly whether students are allowed to work together on assignments. Indicate if and how plagiarism software (e.g., URKUND) will be used in the course.

Learning Objectives

- To give a student a meaningful opportunity to gain experience in the field of environmental science in a supervised learning context.
- To give a student an opportunity to work on a specific project related to the field of environmental science.
- To give a student an opportunity to reflect on practice and to present lessons learned at the end of the term.

Course Content

Procedures Before the Internship Semester

- Initial Contact
 - The student must contact the Environmental Science Internship Coordinator with their interest in enrolling in ENVS 3000.03 at least 4 weeks before the term in which she/he wishes to commence a placement
 - The student and Environmental Science Internship Coordinator will then meet (in person or electronically) to determine the student's eligibility for the course and internship interests

- Determination of Placement
 - In the case where a student has an internship placement in mind, the Environmental Science Internship Coordinator will review the potential placement with the student in order to determine the appropriateness of the placement.
 - In the case where a student does not have a specific internship placement in mind, the Environmental Science Internship Coordinator will put the student in touch with a potential sponsoring agency based on his/her interests.

- Establishing Details of Internship
 - The student works with the potential sponsoring agency and the Environmental Science Internship Coordinator to determine (a) the nature of the internship, and (b) the most appropriate supervisor at the agency
 - The student takes the responsibility for completing and getting the appropriate signatures for the Environmental Science Internship (see form below)

Procedure During the Internship Semester

- The student will submit the signed Environmental Science Internship contract form (see below) within 2 weeks of the beginning of the semester.
- The student will work as an intern for 12 weeks (at a minimum of 6 hours per week) on a specific project within your sponsoring agency.
- The student will submit weekly journal entries to the Environmental Science Internship Coordinator through Brightspace
- The student will complete all assignments related to the course within a reasonable time (as determined by the Environmental Science Internship Coordinator and the student)

University Policies and Statements

Recognition of Mi'kmaq Territory

Dalhousie University would like to acknowledge that the University is on Traditional Mi'kmaq Territory. The Elders in Residence program provides students with access to First Nations elders for guidance, counsel, and support. Visit or e-mail the Indigenous Student Centre at 1321 Edward St or elders@dal.ca. Additional information regarding the Indigenous Student Centre can be found at: https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/communities/indigenous.html

Internationalization

At Dalhousie, 'thinking and acting globally' enhances the quality and impact of education, supporting learning that is "interdisciplinary, cross-cultural, global in reach, and orientated toward solving problems that extend across national borders." Additional internationalization information can be found at: <https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/internationalization.html>

Academic Integrity

At Dalhousie University, we are guided in all our work by the values of academic integrity: honesty, trust, fairness, responsibility, and respect. As a student, you are required to demonstrate these values in all the work you do. The University provides policies and procedures that every member of the university community is required to follow to ensure academic integrity. Additional academic integrity information can be found at: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/academic-integrity.html

Accessibility

The Student Accessibility Centre is Dalhousie's centre of expertise for matters related to student accessibility and accommodation. If there are aspects of the design, instruction, and/or experiences within this course (online or in-person) that result in barriers to your inclusion, please contact the Student Accessibility Centre (https://www.dal.ca/campus_life/academic-support/accessibility.html) for all courses offered by Dalhousie with the exception of Truro. For courses offered by the Faculty of Agriculture, please contact the Student Success Centre in Truro (<https://www.dal.ca/about-dal/agricultural-campus/student-success-centre.html>)

Conduct in the Classroom – Culture of Respect

Substantial and constructive dialogue on challenging issues is an important part of academic inquiry and exchange. It requires willingness to listen and tolerance of opposing points of view. Consideration of individual differences and alternative viewpoints is required of all class members, towards each other, towards instructors, and towards guest speakers. While expressions of differing perspectives are welcome and encouraged, the words and language used should remain within acceptable bounds of civility and respect.

Diversity and Inclusion – Culture of Respect

Every person at Dalhousie has a right to be respected and safe. We believe inclusiveness is fundamental to education. We stand for equality. Dalhousie is strengthened in our diversity. We are a respectful and inclusive community. We are committed to being a place where everyone feels welcome and supported, which is why our Strategic Direction prioritizes fostering a culture of diversity and inclusiveness (Strategic Priority 5.2). Additional diversity and inclusion information can be found at: <http://www.dal.ca/cultureofrespect.html>

Student Code of Conduct

Everyone at Dalhousie is expected to treat others with dignity and respect. The Code of Student Conduct allows Dalhousie to take disciplinary action if students don't follow this community expectation. When appropriate, violations of the code can be resolved in a reasonable and informal manner - perhaps through a restorative justice process. If an informal resolution can't be reached, or would be inappropriate, procedures exist for formal dispute resolution. The full Code of Student Conduct can be found at:

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/student-life/code-of-student-conduct.html

Fair Dealing Policy

The Dalhousie University Fair Dealing Policy provides guidance for the limited use of copyright protected material without the risk of infringement and without having to seek the permission of copyright owners. It is intended to provide a balance between the rights of creators and the rights of users at Dalhousie. Additional information regarding the Fair Dealing Policy can be found at: https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/fair-dealing-policy-.html

Originality Checking Software

The course instructor may use Dalhousie's approved originality checking software and Google to check the originality of any work submitted for credit, in accordance with the Student Submission of Assignments and Use of Originality Checking Software Policy. Students are free, without penalty of grade, to choose an alternative method of attesting to the authenticity of their work and must inform the instructor no later than the last day to add/drop classes of their intent to choose an alternate method. Additional information regarding Originality Checking Software can be found at:

https://www.dal.ca/dept/university_secretariat/policies/academic/student-submission-of-assignments-and-use-of-originality-checking-software-policy-.html

Student Use of Course Materials

Course materials are designed for use as part of this course at Dalhousie University and are the property of the instructor unless otherwise stated. Third party copyrighted materials (such as books, journal articles, music, videos, etc.) have either been licensed for use in this course or fall under an exception or limitation in Canadian Copyright law. Copying this course material for distribution (e.g. uploading to a commercial third-party website) may lead to a violation of Copyright law.