

Environmental Science Internship Syllabus

Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences

ENVS 3000 Fall 2026

Dalhousie University operates in the unceded territories of the Mi'kmaw, Wolastoqey, and Peskotomuhkati Peoples. These sovereign nations hold inherent rights as the original peoples of these lands, and we each carry collective obligations under the Peace and Friendship Treaties. Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, recognizes and affirms Aboriginal and Treaty rights in Canada.

We recognize that African Nova Scotians are a distinct people whose histories, legacies, and contributions have enriched the part of Mi'kma'ki known as Nova Scotia for over 400 years.

Course Instructor

Name	Email	Student hours
Dr. Caroline Franklin (she/her)	Caroline.Franklin@dal.ca	Please email to schedule an appointment

Course Description

This course allows students to gain hands-on experience while addressing a question of personal and academic interest relevant to the field of environmental science by working as interns for 8 hours a week over a twelve-week period on a specific project at a sponsoring agency.

Course Prerequisites

Must have completed 54 credit hours with a minimum GPA of 3.0, or permission of instructor. Open only to students majoring or minoring in Environmental Science.

Course Structure

Course Delivery

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 submit a final project at the end of the term. The times of the internship are very flexible and finalized with the placement supervisor.

Course Materials

Please refer to the course Brightspace site for course materials and grades. The site will also be used to upload assignments or other documents.

Learning Objectives

- To gain experience in the field of environmental science in a supervised learning context
- To work on a specific project related to the field of environmental science
- To reflect on practice
- To develop communication and leadership skills by interacting with a professional

Assessment

Component	Weight (% of final grade)	Date
Internship participation/performance	50%	Throughout term
Reflective journal entries	25%	Weekly
Final project	25%	Last week of internship

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

Late assignments are deducted 10%/day (including weekends) up to a maximum of seven days, after which a grade of zero will be assigned. 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 two or more scheduled workdays, they will be asked to withdraw from the course or will automatically be given an F on their transcript. A student may work as an intern for this class in either a paid or voluntary capacity.

Course Policies related to Academic Integrity

Students are expected to complete assessments independently. Students are not allowed to use generative AI for course assessments including reflections. If generative AI is used, it will be considered an academic integrity offence, and the student will be subject to appropriate disciplinary and/or corrective measures.

Course Content

Procedures Before the Internship

- 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 they wish to commence a placement
 - The student and Environmental Science Internship Coordinator will then meet (in person or remotely) 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 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 their 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

Procedure During the Internship

- The student will submit the signed Environmental Science Internship contract form 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 at their sponsoring agency
- The student will submit weekly journal entries to the Environmental Science Internship Coordinator through Brightspace
- The student will complete and submit a final project that should benefit the host organization at the end of the term (an appropriate format will be determined by the student, supervisor at the placement, and the Environmental Science Internship Coordinator)

Course Accessibility

Students should contact the [Student Accessibility Centre](#) if they want to begin the process of requesting a formal academic accommodation. Students are eligible for accommodations based on [protected characteristics](#) such as religion. If you have [religious, cultural, or community-significant observances](#) that conflict with course requirements, contact the instructor as soon as possible to collaboratively find alternatives for completing the course requirements.

Syllabus Appendix

Syllabus Appendix: Student Supports & University Statements, Policies, and Guidelines