

To Whom it May Concern,

The Environment, Sustainability and Society (ESS) engagement project offered by the College of Sustainability is intended to allow students to gain hands-on experience with a sponsoring organization while addressing personal and academic interests relevant to the field of sustainability and adding value to the host organization.

The ESS engagement project course (SUST 3002) is open to students above second year who have declared ESS as one of their subjects in an undergraduate degree and who have maintained a 3.0 GPA average. ESS students are typically enrolled in a double major program with second subjects as diverse as biology, environmental science, political science, international development studies, history, or economics.

For the ESS engagement project, students work as voluntary* interns for 12 weeks (six to eight hours each week) on a specific project at the host organization. The engagement project is coordinated by the College of Sustainability Engagement Project Coordinator (Debra Ross, Outreach Manager with the College of Sustainability); guided and evaluated by our designated academic supervisor (Peter Mushkat, Lecturer at the College of Sustainability) and a mentor/supervisor at the sponsoring agency.

After initial contact from our Engagement Project Coordinator, we require that the student work with the potential placement host to determine if there is a willing mentor/supervisor and a suitable engagement project. If there is a fit, the student will discuss the details of the engagement project with the mentor/supervisor and have them endorse an Engagement Project Agreement describing the duties to be performed, expected outcomes, and the hours required. The Faculty Advisor and/or Engagement Project coordinator will review the proposal, approve it if it meets the program requirements, and indicate that the proposal has been accepted. We appreciate the opportunity to partner with your organization and hope that this arrangement will be mutually beneficial. Please contact either of us if you have any questions about the ESS engagement project or any other related issue.

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