

COURSE INFORMATION:

Internships in Climate Action

11:374:482, 1, 2, 3 Credits

SP 2024, day time TBD, meeting location TBD

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Instructor: Angela Oberg, Ph.D.

Office Location: Cook Office Building

Office Hours: By appointment

Phone: 848.932.9153 (office)

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COURSE MATERIALS:

There is no textbook for this course. All materials are provided through the course site.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Minimum hours contact time per semester will vary with the internship project and credits taken (some projects may require more or less contact hours appropriate to credits earned). For 3 credits, a minimum of 135 contact hours, 90 hours for 2 credits, and 45 hours for 1 credit. This course may be used toward fulfilling the Experience-Based Education requirement for SEBS students. Internship opportunities will be provided to students by the course instructor. Students will participate in one class period at the beginning of the semester for orientation, and one (or two to accommodate a larger class) at the end of the semester to present their internship results.

All students will undertake internships in climate action with internship mentors from Rutgers University, sponsoring organizations and agencies. Students must expect to work a minimum of 125 hours in the internship, plus maintain a journal and present project conclusions to the class. Internship opportunities will be identified for student consideration and applications, but each student is responsible for receiving approval from both the internship sponsor and Dr. Oberg prior to or during the first week of class, resulting in a signed internship contract.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Internships will provide opportunities for real-world engagement with climate action, involving a range of activities that may include field work, research, writing, or other substantive activities. Internships are professional development experiences (i.e., they are not opportunities for sponsoring organizations to acquire inexpensive office help).

DEPARTMENTAL LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

Goal 2: Students will acquire the skills to use appropriate conceptual and methodological tools to structure inquiries about human-environment interactions

- 2.6. Identify appropriate governance tools to manage human-environment impacts and be capable of engaging with regulatory, legislative and other democratic processes.
- 2.7. Apply this understanding to identify policies and plans that address the problem.
- 2.8. Identify different decision-making processes and criteria for selecting from among alternatives.
- 2.9. Evaluate the alternatives' environmental and differentiated social consequences.
- 2.10. Identify relevant audiences, determine communication goals and communicate the results in oral and/or written form in a manner effective for each targeted audience.

2.11. Work effectively in team settings.

SEBS EBE LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- The development of problem solving skills
- The ability to interpret data, information and ideas

ASSIGNMENTS/RESPONSIBILITIES & ASSESSMENT:

The internship is the primary focus of the class. Each student will keep a log of work performed and results achieved, and develop a short presentation to be given at the end of the semester. Students and internship sponsors will assess the results of the internship.

EXAMPLES OF PAST INTERNSHIPS:

Internship opportunities will be provided to students accepted for the course. Recent students have been involved with a wide range of internships, including the following:

- Conservation easement assessment
- Municipal sustainability planning and outreach
- Developing a community-based water quality monitoring program
- Stream assessments for physical and biological impairments
- Watershed assessment and evaluation for web sites
- Brownfield restoration public education
- Water quality monitoring to identify sources of bacterial pollution
- Dam removal project planning
- Flood reduction through watershed management
- Stormwater management education and outreach
- Planning and promotion of public access to the Raritan estuary

OTHER INFORMATION:

Students will be responsible for adhering to the academic integrity policies found at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu>.

It is important that students have the tools to succeed in this course. Please see the instructor as soon as possible with any difficulties or questions regarding the course materials. In addition, the Office of Student Affairs is available at <http://studentaffairs.rutgers.edu> for any other needs or concerns.
