

OLIS 608: Leadership for Sustainability

CRN 14478

301 Gerlinger

Mondays, 12-1:50 pm

Fall 2014

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Office Hours: Mondays, 2-4

Course Overview

The Oregon Leadership in Sustainability (OLIS) Program is concerned with the ways in which leaders in government, non-profit organizations, communities and business institutions address some of the most important problems facing society today. This is the first course in a series of three focused on individual and group leadership development in light of adapting to complex problems. As a workshop, this course employs a variety of tools to strengthen personal awareness and skills in terms of leadership for sustainability: individual reflective exercises, group exercises, dialogue - ultimately a game plan for developing leadership capacity as change agents for a drastically and potentially transformational societal shift.

The purpose of the workshop is to provide students a space for learning and reflection regarding their future leadership role.

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, students are expected to:

- Understand their personal values, beliefs, passions.
- Communicate and collaborate more effectively through facilitation, dialogue, and outreach.
- Compare and contrast various theoretical scholarship within the leadership and sustainability theory field.
- Compare and contrast competing theoretical scholarship within the social change and resilience theory field.

Course Content and Structure of Sessions

Week 1, September 29: Course Overview, review of Prologue reader

Week 2, October 6: Community Resilience

Download and review:

http://www.baylocalize.org/files/Community_Resilience_Toolkit_v1.0.pdf

Rate your community's resilience, and answer the question: how could your community become more resilient?

Week 3, October 13: Psychological Resilience and Organizational Change

Download and review:

http://www.theresourceinnovationgroup.org/storage/trans-resilience/Beyond_Storms_and_Droughts_EcoAmerica.pdf

Look at the Resource Innovation Group's Transformational Resilience workshop descriptions, answer the question: how do these practices increase resilience?

Week 4, October 20: Political Resilience

Download and Review:

<http://gettingto2100.org/media/2013/01/Lowcarboneconomy.pdf>

What leadership strategies are useful in moving forward sustainability and climate change messages?

Weeks 5, 6 - October 27, November 3: Rhonda Smith, professional development

Bring cover letter and job description for October 27.

Week 7, November 10: New and Emerging Positions

Read the following articles (and 3 additional sources from):

<http://www.100resilientcities.org/blog/entry/what-is-a-chief-resilience-officer>
<http://www.100resilientcities.org/resilience>

Find a professional organization or source of funding for work in climate change and resilience.

Week 8, November 17: Presentation (part 1)

Profile a person, place, or organization that is working towards resilience, broadly defined. Define and describe their leadership, and share with the group what aspects you can emulate in your own work.

Week 9, November 24: Panel

We will have a group of city, county and other civic officials speak about their current initiatives in climate change resilience.

Week 10, December 1: Presentation (part 2)

Present your informational interview.

Assignments and Evaluation

- 25% Class Participation: Preparation of readings, discussion and quality of engagement with peers
- 25% Professional Development work with Rhonda Smith
- 25% Presentation Part 1
- 25% Presentation Part 2

Inclusion Statement

The School of Architecture and Allied Arts is a community that values inclusion. We are committed to equal opportunities for all faculty, staff and students to develop individually, professionally, and academically regardless of ethnicity, heritage, gender, sexual orientation, ability, socio-economic standing, cultural beliefs and traditions. We are dedicated to an environment that is inclusive and fosters awareness, understanding, and respect for diversity. If you feel excluded or threatened, please contact your instructor and/or department head. The University Bias Response Team is also a resource that can assist you. Find more information at their website at <http://bias.uoregon.edu/index.html> or by phoning 541-346-2037.

Students With Disabilities: If you need support or assistance because of a disability, you may be eligible for academic accommodations through Accessible Education Center (formerly Disability Services). For more information, call: (541) 346-1155, email: uoaec@uoregon.edu, or stop by Room 164 Oregon Hall.