

Urban Agriculture - Permaculture and Local Food Systems

Assignment 2a – Group Project

Instructions

1. Please do this written assignment as a group report, and submit it to uag.uu@analys.urkund.se. Make one person from the group responsible for sending in your report. Name the file GROUPNUMBER_Assignment2a.
 2. Size: 12, Spacing: 1.5, Font: Times New Roman.
 3. Language: English.
 4. The grades are Pass/Fail
 5. Refer to the course literature (a minimum of 6 references are required). This must include at least 2 references from **either** Patrick Whitefield's *Earth Care Manual*, **or** David Holmgren's *Essence of Permaculture*. Furthermore, include 4 references from any other course literature.
 6. In addition to the required references, you may of course refer to any other literature, course lectures, and documentaries which you feel are relevant.
 7. The referencing style is Harvard. If you are unsure about the Harvard referencing style, the following website is useful: <http://libweb.anglia.ac.uk/referencing/harvard.htm>
 8. Avoid plagiarism. More information can be found in the Urkund plagiarism handbook: http://www.urkund.se/EN/documents/Urkund_plagiarism_handbook.pdf
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Important Dates

- Each group must submit a first draft of their 'Goals Articulation' in an email to uag@csduppsala.uu.se latest by Monday, June 16 at 23:00.
 - The final group paper is due on Tuesday, July 8, at 23:00.
 - Group presentations will take place on Wednesday, July 9 from 10:15-15:30 at Frödingsalen, Ulleråkerssjukhus.
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Background to the Ulleråker project:

The Ulleråker area was previously used by hospital staff and patients for rehabilitation, recreation and food production up until the late 1970s. However, due to changes in medical routines and prioritizations, the garden, its greenhouses, the grain fields and the orchards were eventually deconstructed and abandoned.

Since 2010, a group of practically oriented Uppsala residents has been interested in recreating a garden in the same area using permaculture ethics and principles. In the spring of 2014 this project was kick-started with a small showcase garden. The project will however continue in late summer/autumn 2014 with the preparation of a significantly larger portion of land in order to establish one of Sweden's largest permaculture projects.

Purpose of the assignment:

Students are to actively apply the theoretical knowledge, as well as the tools and techniques learned during the course to create a design of the area.

The work that results from the group work will undoubtedly be extremely useful and inspirational for the creation of the garden during the late summer/autumn of 2014. All students will at that time also be welcome to get involved in the establishment of the garden. Of course, as you will learn during the course, the design process is ever ongoing. Therefore, there will always be room for plenty of new ideas, observations and design suggestions as the project develops over the upcoming seasons and years.

Instructions to the assignment:

Each group is to analyze and make a design of the garden area you have been introduced to in Ulleråker. You may choose a portion of the area or the entire site. (Note: If you choose a smaller area, you *may* be able to get into more details in your design. If you choose the entire site your design *may* focus more on patterns rather than details.)

You will receive a “Project Toolbox” including the following resources:

- Basemaps, “Scale of Permanence” checklist, sun sector calculator, a Master's thesis about the history of the Ulleråker garden (in Swedish) and a link to updated weather and soil temperature statistics for Uppsala

Use the following steps to guide your design process:

Step 1 - Goals articulation

What is your project setting out to accomplish? Who are the stakeholders? What is your vision? Are you attempting to, for example, create a community center, a food cooperative, a community garden, a food business, an educational outreach project, a farmer’s market, a seed exchange network, a rehabilitation garden, a wwoofing initiative, a farm with rural-urban linkages or a combination of several of these? Who do you want to involve?

Step 2 – Observation and Analysis

Describe the context: e.g. what are the **current** conditions? Take into consideration aspects like: sun/shade, wind, microclimates, slope/topography/water movement, vegetation and wildlife, current stakeholders in the area, roads and access, soil conditions, infrastructure, sources of pollution and aesthetics. Feel free to use the 'Scale of Permanence' checklist. Mark your group's relevant observations on the basemap(s). The maps can be handed in in hard or soft copy.

Step 3 – Design

Based on your stated goals and vision, as well as your observation and analysis, put on your permaculture goggles and start the design process! Use the following points as guidance:

- Which people will be involved? What are their personal/communal needs and wants? (Users, stakeholders, neighbors, general public, etc.)
- Describe how the area, project or initiative would look/function at various points in the year, and explain why you have designed features in this way.
- What permaculture principles are being used in your design? For example, how are individual elements filling multiple functions? How are important functions being supported by many elements?
- What resources will be needed and where can they be obtained?
- Describe any problems you may encounter, regarding environment, authorities, economic viability, pollution, harvesting, pests, etc.

Your site analysis and design must be physically drawn/sketched by hand or using software of your choice and sent in/handed in with the final group report. Both should be clear to understand and be appropriately labeled.

Each group should describe their design process in an essay of 3,000 words. Explain your goals articulation, your analysis and your reasoning behind the design of the area. Identify what connections exist within the system - why does it look and function in this way? Using either David Holmgren or Patrick Whitefield as your theoretical basis, **explain how permaculture principles have guided you in your design.** Give examples of at least 5 principles and how you have applied them.

Appropriate photos are highly encouraged, and can be fitted into the text body or in an appendix.

The Group Assignment assesses your understanding of the following course learning outcomes:

- 1 – “Account for key concepts and theories concerning sustainable urban agriculture, permaculture and local food systems.”
- 3 – “Apply relevant theories and examples concerning sustainable urban agriculture in a local context.”

Grading Criteria

1. **Clarity**; the language must be clear and understandable.
2. **Argumentation**; the arguments must be relevant, adequate, and concise.
3. **Academic**; research methods and arguments must be anchored in scientific sources.
4. **References**; Harvard referencing style, used appropriately.

Please don't hesitate to ask Olivia or Chris if you have any questions. Good Luck!