

Seminar Assignment 1:

Perspectives on Sustainable Development and Projects

Desired learning outcomes for this task are for you to:

- *thoroughly describe a delimited part of the sustainability challenge;*
- *account for and critically relate to the practical and ethical dilemmas that can arise when working for a sustainable development.*

The Aim of this assignment is to critically reflect upon your background and vision for doing a project course within Sustainable Development.

Instructions

- Read the questions and instructions thoroughly.
- The paper should consist of 3 pages.
- Size: 12. Spacing: 1,5. Font: Times New Roman.
- Put your name on the top of each page. For the title of the document, use your name plus assignment number (per.andersson.assignment1).
- Hand in online on studentportalen – you will find the link under “file area” **Deadline: September 17, 12.00.** (Hand in on time – the possibility of handing in your assignment on studentportal will be shut after time of deadline.)

References

- For question 1: Refer to Pollard (2008) in course reader.
Question 2: No literature from the course required, but back up arguments and facts with relevant literature.
Question 3: Refer to 2 different articles, books, lectures or movies from the course.
- Make sure to make it very clear to the reader when you express your own ideas and opinions, and when you refer to sources and other people’s opinions or research.
- Make sure to refer properly to sources. Use either footnotes, i.e. the Oxford system¹ or include the references in the text, i.e. the Harvard System; example: (Hornborg, 2001, p. 39).
- Support your arguments and basic facts with references.

1 Example: Hornborg (2001), ”The Thermodynamics of Imperialism: Towards an Ecological Theory of Unequal Exchange”, in *The Power of the Machine*, p. 39.

What to do?

1) Reflections about myself (1 page)

Start by reading the article by **Pollard (2008) “Finding the sweet spot” in the course reader**. You will need to refer to this article when answering this question. After reading his text, describe and reflect upon your own qualities: academic or non academic. *Key words: Gifts, Passion and Purpose*

Try to find a greater purpose for your ideas and visions.

Answer things such as: What are your passions? What do you enjoy and love to do? What are you especially good at? Account for your gifts in relation to sustainable development, and if that could contribute to a project in this course. What makes you angry, sad or happy regarding sustainability issues; are you in some way connected to sustainability questions?

2) The Project idea (1 page)

Describe your project idea. This can be very specific or very broad – depending on how far you have come in your thinking process. Your idea does not have to be perfect now: you will have time to develop, enhance and change your idea before the implementation. Please include the following in your answer:

- What would you like to do? Why is this relevant? Who’s problem are you addressing?
- What kind of additional gifts (other than your own) could be of use for your project idea? academic and non academic.

3) Quick and Dirty Project Evaluation (1 page)

Find a project that someone else is doing for sustainable development (preferably in your own area of interest) and make an evaluation. You need to do proper referencing to at least two articles, lectures or movies from the course or other relevant material.

- What kind of change does this project have the aim of reaching?
- What is the potential of this project in reaching the change it aspires?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of the project?

Good luck!

/Per and Isak