

Written Assignment: Debating and Evaluating

This assignment is part of evaluating your projects and is **partly based on the book of choice**.

Assignment: Debating and Evaluating connects to the following course objectives:

- *account for and critically relate to the practical and ethical dilemmas that can arise when working for sustainable development.*

Practical instructions:

- Read through all questions and make sure you understand them fully.
- Reference requirements: Be clear about what your own arguments are and what the authors are.
- Have you referred to the required literature for each question?
- Use font size 12 and 1.5 line spacing. Put your name on the top of each page. For the title of the document, use your name plus assignment name *for example per.andersson.debate.doc*
- Use a proper referencing system for references (Oxford or Harvard system).
- Deadline: **May 6**, at 23:59. Upload your assignment on studentportalen.uu.se

Start by reading one of the following books:

- Suzuki (2007), *The Sacred Balance – Rediscovering our place in nature*, Greystone Books
- Jensen & McBay, (2009), *What We Leave Behind*, Seven Stories Press
- Robinson, Ken, (2010) *Out of Our Minds – Learning to be Creative*, Capstone Publishing Ltd
- AtKisson, Alan (1999), *Believing Cassandra - An optimist looks at a pessimist's world*, Chelsea Green Publishing Company

1) What's the Essence of the book? (0,5-1page)

Summarize the essence of the author's arguments and what you see as the aim of his/hers book. Be clear with what is your own view and the authors. Support with **reference to the book with page number**.

2) Review the book (0,5-1page)

Write a review of the book: Spill your guts! **Support your critique/analysis with referring to relevant literature from the course, at least 1 other course book and 1 other article.**

3) View of the project (0,5-1page)

Find an article, interview, news clip, documentary etc. anything that connects to your project. Try to find an argument, a point of view and/or something that interest you. How does it connect to the project and the book?

Try also to link this to why your project is important.

4) a. Debate paper –article is to be publicized online/ in newspaper or put on project blog (1-2pages)

A debate paper *expresses a point of view about a topic* and **supports it with evidence**. Writing a debate paper requires the author to go beyond summarizing material. The writer must read the material critically, question it, and either defend, refute, or offer a personal or new view of it. Most academic writing, in fact, requires this work to develop and illustrate your thesis or point of view.

You are free to choose the format and specific point of argument in your debate article but some things we require from you:

- **Relate to your project**
- **Use at least 3 references from the course literature (Books and articles)**
- **End with suggesting a solution/asking a question**
- **In addition to handing in 3a it should be published somewhere (blog, news paper etc.) When handing in the assignment, add a comment in the document about where you've published the article.**

b. Letter of authors response to the article (0,5-1page)

Imagine that the author of your book has read your article and is writing a letter of response to you. What would the author think of your project, and why? What parts would s/he approve of, and what parts would s/he not approve of? What is your view of her/his opinions?

Support your analysis with referring to your book of choice and additional relevant literature (if needed).

Bring a copy of the assignment to the seminar and be prepared to present your answers and ideas.