

Applied Academic Skills (AAS): Sustainability

Winter 2017 • University of Washington

Instructors: Roxanne Brame, Mike Smolker, Amy Renehan

Overview

Applied Academic Skills (AAS) â€“ Sustainability

This is a one-hour course that integrates and provides a forum for advanced international students to practice the skills that students will need in a university or college seminar-type course. AAS incorporates all language skills and represents a capstone course for students who are completing the Intensive English Program at the UW. It is a thematically-based content course that introduces students to the type of assignments, projects and activities they will encounter in higher education. Students use critical thinking to comprehend, evaluate and apply information from readings and class lectures.

Role of Service-Learning in the Course

This quarter, students will be expected to participate in a service learning project that is related to the class theme: Sustainability. One of the objectives of service learning for these international students, is to give them a unique and authentic opportunity to practice their speaking, listening, writing and reading skills, and gain valuable, work, social and cultural experiences.

This student population is comprised of international students in the International and English Language Program (IELP). Some students are participating in a one-year study abroad program sponsored by the Jackson School of International Studies and the University of Washington IELP. Others are finishing their English studies and moving on to apply to degree programs in the US.

Assignments Related to Service-Learning

Students will be required to keep a service learning journal throughout the quarter.

They will also write a short paper (3-5 pages) integrating their experiences as a service learning volunteer with some secondary research about the organization or practices of the organization with which they are working. They will be asked to conduct a short interview with one of the organization leaders or administrators about the organization.

Students will also be required to give a final presentation (in groups or pairs) about their service learning organization and experiences.

Carlson Leadership & Public Service Center

Center for Experiential Learning & Diversity • University of Washington
171 Mary Gates Hall • (206) 616-2885 • <http://exp.washington.edu/carlson>