

## **Project in Sustainable Community Development**

Sustainable Community Develop. 404

Section: D100

Term: 2012 Spring

Instructor: Faculty

**Discussion Topics:** This is a practicum course. It is designed to balance, supplement, and integrate your academic SCD education in your previous core courses and electives with practical experience obtained during the practicum. This course should be thought of as an individual internship, much like the internships that doctors complete as part of their medical education. It will help prepare you for a career in SCD. The practicum is an individual directed studies requiring advance planning on the part of the student. It is intended to provide students with the opportunity to carry out a thorough evaluation of a SCD problem within a community or organization. The practicum consists of working in a SCD group or agency of the students choice, with the project goal of solving a problem in SCD. It is initiated and designed by the student in collaboration with their course advisor. Two or more students may choose to collaborate on a project if they wish. Students working toward this practicum course will need to exercise initiative in order to obtain employment or volunteer placement with a CED organization. There are numerous potential practicum opportunities in the Lower Mainland and elsewhere in BC, including organizations focusing on Vancouvers Downtown East Side, First Nations development organizations, local economic development associations, Community Futures Development Corporations, womens CED organizations, worker cooperatives, local government community development offices, CED support organizations, credit unions, and so on. Faculty and staff of the Centre can assist you with potential contacts, but you are ultimately responsible for arranging your own practicum.

**Grading:** The product of the SCD 404 internship will be a report that reflects the practical experience obtained during the internship and integrates it with your academic knowledge. The report should clearly demonstrate what practical skills you have learned. A SCD internship involves observation and mastering skills such as strategic planning, business plan development, meeting facilitation, project research, board development, presenting complex information, organizing campaigns, volunteer coordination, conflict resolution, fundraising, etc. This means you need to design your practicum so that you have an opportunity to develop your SCD skills. The student will also make an oral presentation on the contents of the report to a meeting of SCD faculty, SCD students and guests. Both the report and the presentation will be considered in awarding a final grade. If the student is taking the course through distance education, the course supervisor will determine alternative assignment arrangements.

**Required Texts:**

**Recommended Texts:**

**Materials/Supplies:**

**Prerequisite/Corequisite:** CED or SCD 301 (or CED 400), CED 401 and CED 403, and permission of the course supervisor, including prior approval in writing of the students practicum proposal. Proposal application form is available at the Centre for SCD and on the CSCD website <http://www.sfu.ca/cscd/academic/>. This proposal must be submitted to the course supervisor and receive approval no later than the first week of the semester in which the student proposes to register for SCD 404. Certificate students must apply for special permission to take this course.

**Notes:** YOU SHOULD HAVE YOUR PRACTICUM ARRANGED WELL IN ADVANCE OF THE BEGINNING OF THE SEMESTER. Enrollment is limited.

All SCD students will need to have an activated SFU email account by the end of the first week of the semester, to receive announcements, notifications and handouts. Go to <https://my.sfu.ca/> to the Log In box, to apply for an account.

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