

**Sustainability in Action      IDS 4940, section 3852**

**Spring 2009**

Tuesday 8-9 (3:00-4:55); Thursday 9 (4:05-4:55) in Matherly 112  
Office Hours: Tuesday 11:45-2:45; Thursday 12:45-3:45 in Anderson 302  
Syllabus available at [www.clas.ufl.edu/users/thiele/](http://www.clas.ufl.edu/users/thiele/)

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**Course Description:**

Sustainability in Action is restricted to students pursuing a Minor in Sustainability Studies who have successfully applied to the Faculty Advisor to participate in this capstone course.

Students will meet twice a week for the first three weeks of the semester while their internships, service learning opportunities, or integrated research projects are organized. At this time, we will be exploring historical and contemporary examples of individual and collective action in the arenas of environmental protection, social justice, and sustainable economic enterprise. During the following eleven weeks, students will be involved in internships, service learning opportunities, or integrated research projects. During this period, we will meet a total of 3 times to discuss readings, update fellow classmates on your practical experiences, create synergies, and maintain the classroom community. Students will meet twice a week for the final two weeks of the semester to present formal accounts of their experiences and accomplishments.

**Course Objectives:**

Sustainability in Action gives students practical experience in sustainability related projects and enterprise. It is designed to help students integrate the diverse forms of knowledge gained during their coursework for the Minor in Sustainability Studies, foster social and technical skills that will prove useful in their careers, create a sense of civic empowerment, and develop collective action and/or workplace experience.

**Required Texts:**

Doug McKenzie-Mohr and William Smith, *Fostering Sustainable Behavior* (New Society Publishers)  
Peter Senge, et al. *Presence: An Exploration of Profound Change in People, Organizations, and Society* (Doubleday)  
Carl McDaniel, *Wisdom for a Livable Planet* (Trinity University Press)  
Theodore Roszak, M. Gomes, A. Kanner, eds. *Ecopsychology* (Sierra Club)  
David Whyte, *Crossing the Unknown Sea: Work as a Pilgrimage of Identity* (Riverhead Books)

**Course Assignments and Grading:**

This course is graded S/U. In order to pass the course, students must attend all scheduled classes (unless documented medical emergencies arise), complete all required readings, successfully carry out their internships, service learning opportunities, or integrated research projects, and skillfully present accounts of their practical experiences in class. All students are required to abide by UF's Honor Code ([www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/honorcode.php](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/honorcode.php)). Students requesting classroom accommodation for disabilities must provide documentation from the Dean of Students Office.

**Course Schedule**

**Weeks 1 – 3** (January 6-22): Classes are held each Tuesday and Thursday period

Readings:      *Fostering Sustainable Behavior, Presence* (Part 1)

**Weeks 4-14** (January 27-April 9): Students are doing their internships, service learning, or integrated research projects

Classes will be held on February 10, March 3, and March 24.

Readings:      *Presence*, Part 2-4 (February 10)  
                      *Wisdom for a Livable Planet* (March 3)  
                      *Ecopsychology* (March 24)

**Weeks 15-16** (April 14-21): Classes are held during each Tuesday and Thursday period

Readings:      *Crossing the Unknown Sea*

