

Summer 2023 Sustainability Scholars Program Internship Opportunity

The UBC Sustainability Initiative (USI) is pleased to offer current UBC graduate students the opportunity to work on funded sustainability internship projects. Successful candidates work under the mentorship of a partner organization, and are immersed in real world learning where they can apply their research skills and contribute to advancing sustainability across the region.

- Visit the [Sustainability Scholars Program website](#) to learn [how the program works](#) and to [apply](#).
- Be sure to review the application guide on the Apply page to confirm your eligibility before applying.

Applications close at midnight on Sunday January 29, 2023.

Project title: Research to develop and evaluate an education course infused with Climate-Kind Pedagogy (CKP)

Project Background & Overview:

The climate crisis, the pandemic, and related social inequities indicate the need for education that teaches compassion and care towards the planet. Climate change and the related social impacts have necessitated a re-think of traditional pedagogies. University educators are faced with the challenge to not only engage learners in these conversations, but to support and address the range of emotions and pedagogical complexities that involve socio-scientific realities. Climate Kind Pedagogy (CKP) is a new pedagogy that cultivates climate and justice informed approaches and promotes the practice of kindness within educational settings.

The larger aim of our work is to develop and embed Climate Kind Pedagogy and approaches in the Teacher Education Program at UBC, specifically in three science courses in the Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) program for elementary and secondary science specialists. To that end, we want to incorporate climate education focused curriculum, strategies and pedagogies informed by a novel Climate Kind Pedagogy (CKP) framework in these courses.

To support this, we will be developing education resources including guidelines, curricula, assignment, activities and pedagogies to increase student engagement and awareness and enable educators to teach about the climate emergency with the goals of hope and sociopolitical action. The project will help embed CKP framework in an existing course and then evaluating the impact on students.

SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Project scope

To support the larger project, we are seeking a Sustainability Scholar to help us infuse the CKP framework into one UBC education (EDCP) course, which will also develop and further inform an educator's toolkit to support the framework and delivery of the Climate Kind Pedagogy.

Project activities will include:

1. Desk research to review the project related research done so far to understand the Climate Kind Pedagogy framework and its features.
2. Help develop course syllabi for an education course, to integrate interdisciplinary climate and kindness approaches in an inclusive course philosophy, and designing sustainability focused experiences, assignments, readings and assessment that support Climate Kind Pedagogy. This includes developing resources and identifying support activities (among other things) that enhances inclusive student experiences in an interdisciplinary and practical learning contexts for use by faculty and TAs.
3. Help develop an evaluation strategy with associated tools and scales to assess CKP's impact on student learning in the course. Using existing scales and evaluation frameworks, such as Competencies Survey (Savage, Tapics, Evarts, Wilson & Tirone, 2015), Sense of Belonging scale (Tovar & Simon, 2010) and the Survey of Wellbeing in Learning Environments (Zandvliet, Stanton & Dhaliwal, 2019) support the development of course specific evaluation tools, such as questionnaires, focus groups and interview scripts. This will further our understanding of the impacts of CKP and inform needed modifications of the framework.

Deliverables

- A final report containing a summary of the work completed, including course syllabi and materials developed to support integration of the novel CKP framework, as well as an evaluation report and outcomes accompanied by recommendations and possible future directions for the project
- A final report for the online public-facing [Scholars Project Library](#).

Time Commitment

- This project will take 250 hours to complete.
- This project must be completed between May 1 to August 15, 2023
- The Scholars is to complete hours between 9 am and 5 pm, Monday to Friday, approximately 10 to 12 hours per week.

Required/preferred Skills and Background

- Excellent research and writing skills
- Demonstrated interest in sustainability
- Strong analytical skills
- Ability to work independently
- Deadline oriented
- Project management and organizational skills

SUSTAINABILITY SCHOLARS PROGRAM

- ☒ Comfortable interacting with strangers to conduct public/in person surveys
- ☒ Familiarity with curriculum design and/or pedagogical frameworks, an asset
- ☒ Familiarity with appreciative inquiry, an asset
- ☒ Familiarity with climate or sustainability related pedagogies, an asset
- ☒ Familiarity with evaluation and assessment methods

Applications close **midnight Sunday January 29, 2023**

Apply here: [Click here to apply](#)

Contact Karen Taylor at sustainability.scholars@ubc.ca if you have questions

Useful Resources

We are holding a special **resume preparation workshop for prospective Scholars** on January 23, 2023. [Click here for details and to register.](#)

Below are some links to useful resources to help you with your resume and cover letter (there are many more online). Some of these resources also provide information on preparing for your interview.

<https://students.ubc.ca/career/career-resources/resumes-cover-letters-curricula-vitae>

<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/current-students/graduate-pathways-success>

<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/cover-letter-cv-resume-templates-ubc-career-services>