



# CEMUS



## Sustainable Development: Project Management and Communication Autumn 2016

### Individual Assignment I

The aim of this assignment is for you to critically reflect upon your background, experiences and vision for doing a project course within Sustainable Development.

#### **The Assignment**

In this assignment we want you to reflect and share your passions and your concerns as a basis to forming a concrete project idea to share with your new classmates later on. Instead of directly asking “what”, here we are more interested in the “why”.

The content covered here will also be used as the basis for a seminar and workshop after submission. Ultimately, it will also lay the basis for forming project teams.

#### **Requirements**

- Read the first chapter of Pollard (2008) “Finding the sweet spot”, available through Studentportalen, and the below questions. Respond to them in a creative or critical way of your choice.
- The assignment should consist of (roughly) 2-3 pages, depending on what format your reflection takes.<sup>1</sup>
- Put your name on the top of each page. For the file name of the document, use your name plus assignment number (e.g. ‘Hugh Jackman\_Individual Assignment 1’).
- Submit your assignment online on Studentportalen – you will find the link under “Hand Ins”. The deadline is **Sunday 11th September, 23.59**.
- Please note, this assignment is Pass/Fail

#### **References**

You must refer to the first chapter of Pollard (2008) “Finding the sweet spot”, available through Studentportalen, and at least two other references. Feel free to use materials from the course reader, articles, lectures, videos, course books or other appropriate material. Make sure to



# CEMUS



make it very clear to the reader when you express your own ideas and opinions, and when you refer to sources and other people's opinions or research.

Use either footnotes, i.e. the Oxford system<sup>2</sup> or include the references in the text, i.e. the Harvard System; example: (Hornborg, 2001, p. 39). Make sure you are consistent with your referencing. You can find extensive guides online.

We will use the outcomes of this assignment in the '**Individual Assignment 1 Seminar**' on **Tuesday 14th September, from 10:15-12:00**, thus it is essential that you hand this assignment in on time.

## **Inspiration**

Read through the below questions and use them as your inspiration. You don't need to respond to every question, but try to capture the key themes in your response.

### ***Passions and Gifts***

We want you spend some time reflecting upon your passions and gifts. Tell us about your passions, what do you have strong feelings/emotions for, make this section personal. Write about topics, events, activities etc. whatever gets you excited and makes you feel alive! You are welcome to respond in both a creative and/or critical way. Surprise us!

We also want to know about your 'gifts', what are you good at? Are your gifts and your passions related in any way? How did you get your gifts? Account for your gifts and passions in relation to sustainable development, and if they could contribute to a project in this course.

### ***What is Sustainable Development to you?***

Sustainable Development is a broad topic encompassing many issues in today's world. It can mean many different things to different people, some people have been involved in these issues for a long time, and others are new to the ideas and concerns that are brought up when we talk about sustainable development. What is Sustainable Development to you?

### ***What are your Concerns? Do you feel a sense of Purpose?***

Your concerns should be more a matter of interest or importance to you on a wider scale. What makes you angry, sad or happy regarding sustainability issues? Are you in some way connected to these sustainability questions and if so does this drive a sense of purpose? Could your contribution to a project in this course help relieve the concerns (even if it's a little)?



# CEMUS



In the second week of the course you will participate in a lecture, 'Psychology and Communication: why don't we act?' with Ira Sundberg. How can your passions and gifts, help you break through these 5 psychological barriers, when you're faced with sustainable development issues on both large and small scales (e.g. climate change)?

### ***Project Idea***

If you already have an idea for a project please describe it briefly. If you do not, list 3 keywords that you would be interested in working with. (e.g. waste, recycling, trees)

-----  
<sup>1</sup> Use a (readable) font to your liking. However, when having mandatory page numbers our reference will be Times New Roman size 12, line spacing 1.15. Make sure that what you hand in is comparable to these standards.

<sup>2</sup> Example: Hornborg (2001), The Thermodynamics of Imperialism: Towards an Ecological Theory of Unequal Exchange, in The Power of the Machine, p. 39.