Prairie Project Assignment #1, due August 31, 2010 (for fall courses)

Assignment includes submission of the following:

- Course learning outcomes
- Planned activities to address the outcomes
- Plan for assessing whether the students achieved the outcomes
- Syllabus, module, assignment, or whatever you plan to do to implement the plan

Course Title: LAS 101 Freshman Seminar, Fall 2010
Course Theme: Environmental Sustainability and World Citizenship

[Note: LAS 101 course theme was chosen by Sharon Scott, Ruth Hoffman (LAS 101 course co-directors) and LAS Associate Dean Ann Mester in Spring 2010. LAS 101 textbook was developed through collaboration of Scott, Mester and Hoffman with McGraw Hill staff. Textbook editors include (in alphabetical order): R. Hoffman, H. Korab, A. Mester, H. Rushakoff and S. Scott.]

Submitted by: Dr. Sharon L. Scott, Co-director, LAS 101 and Dr. Ann Mester, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Date: August 30, 2010
I. LAS 101 Course Goals (from LAS 101 Syllabus, Fall 2010, p. 2)

All components of LAS 101 have been designed to help students achieve the following goals:

1. Make a successful academic and personal transition to University life.*
2. Develop effective strategies to meet the rigors and demands of university-level academics.
3. Develop a critical awareness of current events around the world, global issues, and diverse perspectives on citizenship.
4. Develop skills needed to work effectively with others in the classroom and on project teams.
5. Become aware of and engage in best practices in academic research.
6. Think holistically about sustainability, using perspectives across multiple disciplines.**
7. Develop an integrated vision for sustainability that embraces their personal lives, professions, local communities, and the world-at-large.**

*Note: This goal is a part of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign’s success initiative for first-year students, called University 101. For more information about University 101, see the menu of topics at http://www.istart.uiuc.edu/university101/.

**Note: Goals 6 and 7 are two of the 6 learning outcomes listed in the UIUC campus vision for sustainability [from Learning outcomes for sustainability (What every Illinois undergraduate should know). Handout distributed at Prairie Project Curriculum Workshop, May 26-27 2010, I-Hotel, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign]. To learn more about campus efforts regarding sustainability, visit the website of the UIUC Office of Sustainability, at: http://sustainability.illinois.edu
II. Planned activities to achieve the environmental sustainability course outcomes, and assessment plan

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week in Fall 2010 Semester</th>
<th>LAS 101 Activity</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Students are invited to participate voluntarily in U of I master’s degree candidate Corrin Behm’s master’s thesis research survey on environmental sustainability (online).</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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| Weeks 3, 6, 9, and 13 for lectures | Students attend or watch videos of 4 LAS 101 lectures on the theme of environmental sustainability. Lecturers and dates of lectures (in Foellinger Auditorium) are as follows:  
  - Professor Gillen Wood (9-8-2010)  
  - Professor Lou Turner (9-28-2010)  
  - Professor May Berenbaum (10-18-2010)  
  - Professor Paul Diehl (11-17-2010) | Lecture Worksheet on each lecture, plus class discussion during following class meeting |
| Weeks 4, 7, 10, and 15 for class discussions | Students read “UN Millennium Development Goal 7: Ensuring Environmental Sustainability” in LAS 101 text and discuss it in class. | Homework 4, a critical reading assignment on UN MDG 7 |
| Week 6                    | Students discuss ecological footprint quiz results and information gained through visiting campus and community websites on sustainability. | Homework 5, “Ecological Footprinting & Environmental Sustainability” worksheet |
| Weeks 6, 9, and 15        | Students voluntarily complete extra credit assignments focused on environmental sustainability:  
  1. Students read and write a critical review of their choice of one of several environmental sustainability readings, which we call “green reads,” posted on the U of I Library website e-reserves for LAS 101.  
  2. Students watch a [www.ted.com](http://www.ted.com) video on an environmental topic and write a critical review. Many of the relevant videos will be found at [http://www.ted.com/themes/a_greener_future.html](http://www.ted.com/themes/a_greener_future.html) | Extra credit assignments may be submitted in class Week 6, 9 or 15 |

III. Environmental sustainability assignment (due Week 7)  
LAS 101 Homework 5: Ecological Footprinting and Environmental Sustainability Worksheet (submitted by e-mail on Aug. 30, 2010)