

The SEE-Beyond Award

Suggestions and ideas for environmental studies opportunities

The SEE-Beyond Award is an opportunity for you to get funding for valuable summer experience. It can be used to support any summer field or laboratory research experience, internship, workshop, course, or other experience that complements your studies at Skidmore and helps you accomplish your academic plan. Think about what you can get out of the experience that is unique and relevant to your Skidmore education. Your application should cover clearly defined learning goals for what you hope to achieve through your summer experience and how it will enhance your coursework.

The ideas below are organized by which track you are following for your ES major, either Social and Cultural Perspectives or Environmental Science. Within that, it is organized by theme. While you are not required to have an organizing theme for your major, it may help provide a framework to connect your summer experience to your work at Skidmore. (Check out the ES webpage for more information on themes, and lists of complementary classes for each theme - http://cms.skidmore.edu/environmental_studies/themes.cfm) This list is by no means exhaustive – one or two ideas are listed for each theme in order to provide an example of a potential summer experience, but you can think creatively to come up with other experiences that match your goals. Some of the suggestions listed below have formal programs, internships, and courses in place, but many will require you to develop your own proposal.

Social and Cultural Perspectives Track:

Environmental Policy

- * EPA Volunteer Internships (www.epa.gov/internships/#paidother)
 - Internships are offered by individual EPA offices in Washington DC and around the country.
(EPA also offers paid internships at www.my.usajobs.gov/StudentJobs)

- * Policy Internship at Ohio Ecological Food and Farm Association (OEFFA), Columbus OH (<http://www.oeffa.org/documents/InternshipOEFFAPolicy2012-2013.pdf>)
 - Interns will perform at variety of tasks related to food and agricultural policy, including coordinating specific projects related to priority policy issues, such as labeling GE foods, protecting farmland from fracking, and/or passing a sustainable farm bill. Interns will also research policy topics and write letters and articles.

Sustainable Development

- * Yestermorrow Design/Build School (www.yestermorrow.org)
 - Students take courses in sustainable design, construction, and woodworking.

- * Foundation for Sustainable Development International Internship Program (<http://www.fsdinternational.org/trainingprograms>)
 - This program offers students an intense, immersive opportunity to gain international development experience and training. Participants collaborate with

community partners to enhance local capacity to address health, social, environmental, and economic issues. FSD currently works in Argentina, Bolivia, India, Kenya, and Nicaragua, and each country has specific issues that interns work on.

Natural Resource Policy and Planning

- * US House of Representatives Natural Resources Committee Internship, Washington DC (<http://naturalresources.house.gov/info/internships.htm>)
 - Interns assist the Chairman and Committee staff in a variety of operations, including researching legislative initiatives, preparing memos, and attending hearings.

Public Health

- * Children's Defense Fund Internship Program, Washington DC (www.childrensdefense.org/about-us/join-our-team/internship-program)
 - Interns gain public policy and child advocacy skills and experience.
- * American Red Cross Summer Internship Program (www.redcross.org/support/get-involved/summer-internship-program)
 - Interns at the Red Cross gain a comprehensive perspective on the Red Cross mission, including experience in humanitarian services, government relations, the hurricane recovery program and other disaster services, and public health and safety services. This program is based on Washington DC, but some interns are based in field offices around the country.

Environmental Economics

- * Green Economics Institute, London (www.greeneconomics.org.uk/page370.html)
 - The internship covers global environmental economics and sustainability, with a focus on UK issues.

Environmental Sociology

- * One Heart Source summer volunteer program (www.oneheartsource.org)
 - Programs are designed to attack three major problems gripping many communities in sub-Saharan Africa: the cycle of AIDS/HIV, an ineffective education system, and poverty. Volunteers live and work in local villages and organize educational initiatives.

Energy Analysis and Planning

- * Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI), Washington DC (<http://www.eesi.org/jobs>)
 - EESI is a non-profit organization that educates Congress on energy efficiency and renewable energy and advances innovative policy solutions. Interns help advance the environmental and policy agenda of EESI and gain insight into how environmental and energy issues develop within the public policy arena.

Science Track:

Water Resource Management

* Stanford Summer Intensive Studies - Environmental and Water Studies Program

(www.stanford.edu/group/ees/summer)

- This program offers an 8-week course focused on complex water and environmental problems, technologies, processes, and solutions.

Land use and Watershed Planning

* Marin Municipal Water District, (MMWD), Corte Madera CA

(<http://marinwater.org/controller?action=menuclick&id=635>)

- MMWD offers internships in natural resource management on the Mt. Tamalpais Watershed. Interns are involved with vegetation ecology, biological monitoring, mapping with GIS and GPS, and plant identification. Interns are mentored by MMWD's volunteer coordinator, vegetation ecologist, and GIS specialist.

Environmental Remediation and Restoration

* Fundacion Runa, Ecuador

(<http://www.fundacionruna.org/forest-conservation-and-watershed-management-internship.html>)

- This internship is geared toward undergraduate and graduate students majoring in environmental science, policy, business, and/or agriculture. The project aims to conserve 10,000 hectares of forest, and interns will collaborate with farmers and community members to create a monitoring system. Interns must be fluent in Spanish.

* The Watershed Project Internship, Berkeley CA

(<http://www.thewatershedproject.org/WhoWeAre/InternshipCareers.html>)

- Interns have the opportunity to work on restoration of native stream organisms, environmental education, and outreach.

Natural Resource and Wildlife Management

* NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Kingston NY

(http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/job_opportunities/icims_internships.shtml)

- DEP offers internships in a variety of fields, including urban planning, watershed protection, and wastewater management.

Conservation Biology

* Enkosini Eco Experience, southern Africa (www.enkosini.com)

- Self-funded volunteers work at leading terrestrial and marine wildlife conservation, rehabilitation, and research programs in South Africa and Namibia. Programs range from 1-12 weeks, and provide opportunities to explore wildlife research, animal rehabilitation and reintroduction, game tracking, anti-poaching, and reserve maintenance and management.

* Conservation Education Department, Lehigh Valley Zoo, Schnecksville PA
(www.aza.org/jobs/detail.aspx?id=27984)

- Conservation Education Interns work to further environmental awareness and conservation through zoo programs and projects, including assisting with on and off-site education programs, conducting literature research for educational information, assisting with daily husbandry of the program animals.

Agro-Ecology

* Agroecology Practicum, UC Santa Cruz Summer Session, Santa Cruz CA

(<http://summer.ucsc.edu/classes/syllabus/reader.php?f=cf3c472f8c177a521c5791c23f526b70>)

- UCSC offers a 5-week course covering lectures and field applications of sustainable agriculture, horticultural practices and principles, and agroecological principles.

General summer opportunities:

* Fairfax County VA Summer Internships

(<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/wp-rmdinternopps.htm>)

- a range of internship opportunities, including conservation, environmental education, and natural resource management

* NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

(<http://www.dec.ny.gov/about/34336.html>)

- Students in the P2 Intern Program (Pollution Prevention) work with DEC scientists to provide technical assistance to NY businesses to reduce pollution, reduce energy use, enhance water quality, design green infrastructure, in addition to other goals.
- Students in the *New New York Leaders Student Intern Program* works with an executive branch agency or department on policy issues.