What competencies do restoration of natural systems students gain?

Restoration of Natural Systems Program

Program-specific competencies

Competencies are the skills, knowledge and attributes gained through every work, educational, volunteer and life experience. UVic students in the Restoration of Natural Systems program develop the following program-specific competencies.

Knowledge

• Understands how to design restoration projects that consider knowledge areas outside of the student’s professional area of expertise and include consideration of human factors
• Understands scientifically rigorous approaches to restoration projects
• Familiar with practices of dispute resolution, conducting consultative processes and consensus building
• Understands how to solve problems encountered in implementing restoration projects
• Understands national and international issues with ecological restoration

Skills

• Able to construct a restoration plan that includes a biophysical inventory, restoration goals, implementation plans, monitoring and adaptive management
• Evaluates projects on an ongoing basis and makes adjustments
• Able to read and analyze technical reports and scientific publications
• Recognizes personal values that affect an individual's decision
• Presents ideas clearly in oral, electronic and written formats
• Works in partnership with other professionals and stakeholders
• Uses current mapping and sampling technologies; familiar with the types of equipment and procedures used to sample the natural environment

Values

• Values and respects the complexity inherent in cultural-ecological interactions
• Recognizes and respects the diversity of perspectives and values inherent in environmental issues
• Appreciates the value of interdisciplinary research, as well as research across a range of disciplines
• Committed to collaborative research and practice, including community engagement, and respects a range of knowledge-holders and perspectives
• Respects scholarly integrity in all aspects of research and practice
• Appreciates the tensions and differences between research, advocacy and activism
• Understands the limitations of environmental knowledge and skills and the inherent uncertainties in environmental research
• Engages the world as an ecological citizen and recognizes a responsibility to others, future generations, equity and environmental justice

UVic Co-op and Career worked with the Department of Environmental Studies to develop this competency document.

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