

STUDENT-BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION

ENVS 339 Low-Carbon Transitions: Theory and Practice

ENVS 339 is an undergraduate course offered each winter at the University of Northern British Columbia. Created alongside the Prince George Chamber of Commerce, ENVS 339 is an experiential, action learning course that partners students with local businesses to measure and reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. Students are equipped with the ISO Standards for carbon inventories and reporting and directly apply these skills by conducting carbon footprint analyses for small and medium-sized enterprises in the surrounding community. Students conclude the partnership by providing recommendations for emissions reductions and sustainable business practices.

BENEFITS FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES

- ➔ Provides businesses with a comprehensive inventory of the greenhouse emissions associated with their operations
- ➔ Helps businesses understand and quantify their environmental impact
- ➔ Provides businesses with practical and personalized recommendations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, resources, and operational expenses
- ➔ Provides a service for businesses seeking carbon-neutral certification
- ➔ Provides the tools to conduct subsequent carbon inventories
- ➔ Helps businesses become leaders in sustainability by engaging in carbon management and sustainability entrepreneurship

"This project has allowed us to recognize our carbon footprint, reduce our footprint, and purchase offsets to become carbon neutral. This has made a positive impact for our business and received significant media exposure."

-Doug Bell, Business Owner

'[The course] provided me with applicable knowledge and skills that have expanded my professional opportunities after graduation.'

-Shauna Kelly, UNBC Alum

THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

- ➔ Provides students with the valuable skills and knowledge of carbon accounting
- ➔ Increases professional opportunities for students
- ➔ Provides an opportunity for students to apply their classroom skills and education to address real problems
- ➔ Provides an avenue for students to get involved in their community

HIGHLIGHTS

- Inventories conducted for 61 businesses since 2015
- Representing 38 different sectors

GET INVOLVED

- Contact Professor Sinead Earley
sinead.earley@unbc.ca