

Connecting Sustainability to the Humber Learning Outcomes

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This article is about a four-minute read.

Something that both past and present Humber students have in common is that during their time at Humber, they gained skills to become career-ready citizens. But what does that entail? Being a career-ready citizen means you have the confidence and knowledge to be successful not only in the workforce, but also in your personal life. It means being equipped with core competencies such as innovation, strategic problem solving, leadership, collaboration, and communication. These skills and values make up the Humber Learning Outcomes (HLOs), which Sarah Neiman and her team help integrate into academic and co-curricular programming.

The Humber Learning Outcomes Framework is a part of Humber's 2018-2023 Strategic Plan. The Humber community aims to support the development of global citizens who embody the knowledge and skills to lead and innovate.

As the Project Manager for the Humber Learning Outcomes (HLOs), Sarah ensures that Humber students can "articulate the skills and mindsets that they have acquired through their Humber experiences and take ownership of their skills development."



HLO Framework



Background

After Sarah completed a Master of Arts in Religion and Modernity, she went on to work as a theatre stage manager. Interested in expanding her skillset, she decided to pursue a Professional Writing and Communications graduate certificate program at Humber College.

During her time at Humber, Sarah did a summer internship at a business association that focused on sustainable practices to meet the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Following her internship, Sarah got enlisted to oversee the Humber HLOs and has since pursued a Master of Education and further certificate programs to advance her own abilities and bring value to her role.

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HLO Sustainability Connection

The HLOs were created by consulting Humber staff, faculty, and students about what skills and mindsets they believed were essential for graduates to develop. The topic of sustainability came up quite a bit and Sarah's team knew it would be essential to include in the framework.

A key part of the HLOs is the Sustainability Literacy Assessment, which measures the knowledge students gain of sustainability during their time at Humber.

BUILDING CAREER-READY CITIZENS



Above: Two students working on their laptops.

"Sustainability is a Humber value, and because of [the] urgency with the climate emergency ... it had to be present in our framework."

Highlighting Sustainability

Sustainability is important to Sarah because 'without it, we can't prosper - as individuals, communities, or as a species.' Sarah believes that everything in the world is interconnected and having a sustainable mindset is relevant to everyone, whatever field they may be working or studying in.

For anyone looking to get involved with environmental and or social projects, Sarah recommends starting small and close to home. Find an issue that you are passionate about and network with likeminded individuals to share perspectives and gain opportunities.

For more information about the Humber HLOs, visit <https://humber.ca/svpa/ilos/hlo-framework/>.