



Concordia University

Arts and Science

Department of Geography, Planning & Environment



ENVIRONMENTAL
ASSESSMENT
INTERNSHIP
PROGRAM



ABOUT US

The Department of Geography, Planning and Environment, Concordia University, offers a Masters Program in Environmental Assessment (EA) which integrates the human and biogeophysical aspects of environmental assessment in a multidisciplinary academic and real world setting.

Established in 2009, the MEnv offers a one and half to two year multidisciplinary curriculum that draws upon the expertise and resources of specialists in Biology, Chemistry, Ecology, Economics, Engineering, Geography, Geology, and Political Science, to provide students with knowledge, training and skills in the field of environmental assessment and environmental management.

The MEnv program offers students an opportunity to develop a sound and critical understanding of environmental assessment processes and methodologies. It exposes them to the range of public policy and social science considerations involved in environmental planning, sustainable development and provides a thorough understanding of how to apply geographic information systems (GIS) to environmental decision-making.

INTERNSHIP

An important requirement of the MEnv program is an internship during which students gain hands-on experience under professional and professorial supervision. This practicum allows them to relate environmental assessment theory to hone their job skills.

An internship must be a minimum 4-month full-time, relevant, supervised work placement (normally paid) or the equivalent (600 hours) in part-time work. Our interns are available every semester: summer (May-Aug), fall (Sep-Dec), or winter (Jan-Apr). The University accepts requests for renewals from the same employer, as our program requires one internship but can facilitate up to two, should the employer wish to keep the student on staff.

Program students can potentially intern with environmental consulting firms, federal, provincial and municipal government agencies/departments, environmental agencies, and non-governmental organisations (NGOs).



BENEFITS TO EMPLOYERS

The needs of today's employers in the environmental sector are complex and ever changing. They require personnel who are skilled, motivated, adaptable and committed to their work. In the area of environmental assessment, and environmental management in general, there is a huge shortage of qualified personnel. To satisfy this need employers are turning to professional training programs such as Concordia University's Master of Environmental Assessment (MEnv).

A typical MENV student intern profile:

- Strong Research skills
- Background in Federal, Provincial and Municipal EA legislation
- Environmental assessment and management analytical skills
- Background in biophysical processes, environmental and adaptive management as well as social and economic impact assessment and community participation
- Good report writing style
- Strong interpersonal – communication skills
- Well developed computer and statistical analysis skills – including GIS
- Community minded – from involvement in Sustainable Concordia to community environmental organizations
- Respect for diversity and multiculturalism
- Bi- and multi-lingual

Interns from the Environmental Assessment program at Concordia University in Montreal make unique contributions to the workplace. They combine their high enthusiasm, intellectual energy, and rigorous methodological training to meet whatever challenges are put before them.

There are many tangible benefits to participating employers:

- Access to quality candidates from diverse talents and backgrounds
- Stimulate workplace with new energy, ideas and the latest strategies in the field
- Evaluate the student for potential full time employment
- Cost effective
- Exposure for your company, opportunities to network, and partnership within Concordia University



HIRING PROCESS

- The employer provides a job description to the Internship Coordinator
- The job is posted
- After the posting deadline, the employer can review intern's applications
- The employer identifies candidates of interest for interviews according to their availability
- An offer is made to the preferred candidate
- The employer and intern sign an agreement drafted by the Internship Coordinator
- Internship coordinator lightly monitors placement to ensure satisfaction of both parties

CONTACT INFO

If your organization is interested in the Environmental Assessment Internship Program, please contact me for further information:

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"During my internship in a renewable energy consultants firm, I was amazed at the relevancy of Concordia's Master in Environment (Environmental Assessment). The program provided me with the solid theoretical and practical knowledge for the tasks I was asked to perform. This realization was confirmed by the employer who offered me a permanent position when the internship came to an end.

Doing environmental assessments for wind energy development was just the beginning. Among other activities, I get to participate in public consultation activities, learn the intricacies of dealing with regulatory agencies and collaborate with professionals from many different disciplines during environmental studies. As an added benefit, my professional network is constantly growing; opening new opportunities I had not considered when I chose to study Environmental Assessment. The work is motivating, challenging and dynamic. After more than a year working as an environmental specialist, I can honestly congratulate myself for choosing Concordia's program."

Frédéric Gagnon, Environmental Specialist

