Soc 101-Seema Bahl

Sustainability-related Service Learning Assignment

Fieldwork Assignment:

This assignment addresses the Service Learning component of this class. You are required to find diverse cultural groups that are incorporating sustainability into their lives and communities. This could be an investigation into the farmers of color that are part of Seattle Tilth, or even the attempt of certain social groups (folks in the queer/transgendered community, immigrants, women, people of color) to open 'sustainable' retail business, such as sustainable cafes, clothing shops, etc. Where are diverse communities 'going green'?

You are to contact one of these organizations and arrange for a ‘field observation’ visit. When you visit the organization, you must take your note pad and write down your observations about how the organization is incorporating sustainability into its mission and activities.

In your paper, be sure to explain what specifically you observed. Also, provide specific examples and numbers to help illustrate your descriptions when appropriate. Equally important, you need to explain how your findings relate to the topics discussed in class. Your paper should be about 3 typed pages. Turn in your detailed field notes along with your paper.

This fieldwork project will be worth 100 points.

Course Outcome:

* + Critically examine the social landscape in which you live and understand how groups, communities, and institutions impact individual lives;
  + Explain social constructionism and how life experiences and opportunities differ according to race, class, gender, and sexuality.

Sustainability Outcome:

* + Apply an ethical perspective in which one views oneself as embedded in the fabric of an interconnected world.
  + Explain how sustainable thinking and decision-making contribute to solutions for current and emerging social, environmental and economic crises.