

OL 201 Assignment Two Homework Instructions

Online Learning: OL 201 Designing and Funding Non Profit Projects

Center for Sustainable Development: <http://www.csd-i.org/ol-201-northern-nonprofit/>

This week's resources:

Assignment Two Discussion

CSDi Website Pages on Project Development

Magee Example Project Assignment Two

Assignment Two. What's your theory of a solution?

Developing a theory of how we plan to address the problem statement and project outline developed in week one.

Part 1.

Searching for project activities; a list of colleagues and websites that you consulted for potential activities.

Make a list of your community identified problems that you chose for your simple project outline in Assignment One with enough space beneath each one to write ideas down for potential solutions in the form of interventions/activities.

Approach colleagues in your office, tap your own experience, and explore the Internet for ideas for interventions for addressing the causes of your project's problem statement. Don't forget to use this website as a resource (such as the Field Tools link in the main website horizontal menu above).

Briefly list who you spoke with, what activity ideas they may have had, and what resources they may have offered your or suggested to you.

Make a list of the best 3 or 4 Internet resources' you discovered with program and activity ideas.

Part 2. The Program/Activity Solution List

After you have collected a list of appropriate activity/interventions, make a decision about a title for a program that would describe related activities. Each program should address one underlying cause from week one. When added together, the related activities should add up to equal the Program intent.

Now list the related activities beneath the Program title like an outline. In order to keep your course project simple, try and limit yourself to three or four activities per problem/underlying cause. Donors prefer simple projects. After the last course, two students were asked by donors to simplify their projects because they were too complicated.

So you should have an outline with this format:

Project Outline: Problem list combined with potential Programs and activities/solutions that I chose

[Problem 1].

Health and Hygiene Program [Solution to underlying cause #1]:

[Activity 1]. One activity/intervention you found in your search

[Activity 2]. A second activity/intervention you found in your search

[Activity 3]. A third activity/intervention you found in your search

Use the Magee Example Project Assignment Two as your template to reorganize last week's project outline to include your proposed activities so that it matches the outline in my example.

Notice that I cut and pasted the Problem Statement from Assignment One. I have annotated the Problem Statement, the project outline, and the goal statement so that you can see how they interrelate and that they are all parallel to each other. Please do the same with yours. They should all be equal and parallel. It will become obvious how important this is in the coming weeks. Keep the formatted look exactly the same complete with red annotations.

Go to Magee's Example Project Week 2 to see what this could look like.

Part 3. Goal Statement

If your problem statement is clear, concise, and simple, you will have a much easier time developing your goal. Your project's goal statement will be phrased to be a positive reflection of your problem statement (somewhat like mirror images of each other) and at the same time offer a general strategy for a solution (your theory of change).

Simply copy and paste your problem statement below your project outline—and without changing it structurally—make the negative words positive. This isn't the introduction to a proposal, so it needs to be left clean and simple and an exact, parallel reflection of the problem statement.

For example, if one of your problems says that "Community members don't have enough food to eat for the four months before the harvest," then your goal statement might say:

- community members will be able to enjoy food security 12 months of the year

Then after that positive statement include one of your proposed solutions such as:

- through a family garden program

Please note: Over the next 10 weeks we will be using techniques to expand upon the theory that you come up with this week, and we will be revisiting your problem statement, goal statement and activities as points of reference. We will lock in on this week's Project Outline as the final version to be used over the next 10 weeks. I actually go back and refer to your Assignments One and Two each week when I am reviewing your new assignments. I am unable to follow the development of projects over 10 weeks if the points of reference change.

Consequently, I will make suggestions to this assignment's Problem Statement, Goal Statement and Project Outline that will help align them with the weeks ahead and so that they will agree with donor standards and with contemporary management techniques. The comments will also make upcoming assignments easier to complete. If you feel that my comments this week aren't a good fit for your project—that's fine—please point this out to me. Otherwise, I will assume that my comments will have been incorporated by you and that our combined effort represents the final Problem Statement, Goal Statement and Project Outline that will be used intact over the next 10 weeks.

Forum postings



Forum Discussion.

1. If you are having trouble coming up with a good resource with activity ideas—ask the group for ideas or online resources.
2. If you find a good resource with activity ideas, post it for your classmates to see.
3. Reply to one of your classmates postings.



FaceBook Posting. If your login name begins with the following initials, you do not need to post to the forum this week: Instead post to Facebook instead. Each individual course participant needs to post: this is not a joint-partnership posting.

M-R first letter of your login name: 'Like' CSDi's Facebook page first (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/CSDi-Development-Community/121201584584078?ref=sgm>). Then, after you have 'Liked' the page, post a brief description to the wall about your project and ask a question of the group asking for their opinion, a request for an informational resource, or for their expertise in you project concept. Go to the FaceBook page to see an example. You can even add a foto or post a link to the course homepage (<http://www.csd-i.org/ol-341-adapting-climate-change/>).

The homework to turn in will be:

1. A list of colleagues and websites that you consulted for potential activities.
2. The problem statement.
3. A revised project outline that includes the potential programs and activities/solutions that you have chosen (as shown in my example)
4. Your goal statement.56. One short line about your forum discussion or Facebook posting.

Go to Magee's Example Project Assignment Two to see what this could look like.

See you next week.