The School of the Environment’s ENV440H1 “Professional Experience” course consists of what we call an “Academic Internship,” where students undertake between 70 to 80 hours of engagement within a community organization while completing required readings and assignments and participating in several in-class sessions.

Throughout the ENV440H1 course, students will support the priorities and objectives of their host organization, engaging in meaningful and authentic projects or roles outside the classroom. Working with Partners such as Food Share, the Ontario Clean Air Alliance, Credit Valley Conservation and others, students will develop confidence and skill in applying their Program-specific knowledge to an organization’s challenges and priorities; deepen and refine their communications skills and knowledge (written, spoken, presentation, internal, external etc.); and gain insight into some of the varied, complex challenges which professionals who are working within the environmental sector in Canada face daily. ENV440H1 students will benefit from structured, reflective skills building, with a focus on professional skills development related to their environmental studies.
To be considered for this Experiential Learning course, students must submit the ENV440 Student Intake Form by February 26th (Summer cohort) or June 14th (Fall cohort). If desired, students may also submit a résumé as an optional, additional component. Preference will be given to students who have a minimum of 12 course credits at the time of registration, and who are enrolled in Environmental Programs at the School of the Environment, the Department of Geography and Planning, or the Institute of Forestry and Conservation in the John H. Daniels, Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design. The Intake Forms are available here. Details, dates and deadlines for application to and assignment of an Academic Internship for ENV440H1 are provided in the Intake Forms.

To be successful in this unique and demanding course, students must be pro-active, mature, open to new experiences, and willing to tackle challenges within a small group context under the supervision of an organization’s staff member.