Term 3 Built Environment Professional Placement (FADA6700) or Industry work experience

Community garden development
Ngemba - Baakindji Country / Bourke

Are you interested to live on site and support a First Nations-led community garden? Would you like to build experience in landscape architecture and community engagement? Would you like to learn more about First Nations knowledge of caring for Country?

12 September – 21 November 2022 (Term 3)

2 students Landscape Architecture or related fields including architecture, interior architecture
Live on Ngemba - Baakindji Country / Bourke (far western NSW)
Travel scholarships awarded to successful applicants

In this project, you be supervised by:
Bourke Aboriginal Corporations Health Service + Regional Enterprise Development Institute, Bourke
Botanic Gardens Greater Sydney, Community Greening Program

- Application closing date is Sunday 7 August, midnight –
  Submit a 1-2min video + CV to apply!

1. CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT AND THE HOSTS:

Through a long-term partnership between the Indigenous owned and led Regional Enterprise Development Institute (REDI.E) and the Bourke Aboriginal Corporation Health Service (BACHS), a community garden has been established on Country of the Ngemba and Baakindji People in what is also known as Bourke in regional NSW. The goal of the garden is to support a productive, culturally connected and environmentally sustainable community garden in this drought prone, semi-arid environment. Essential for this program is the work towards BACHS’s goal to reduce nutritional and food insecurity related poor health outcomes, and REDI-Employment’s goals around improving employment opportunities available, employable skill development, and employment-based programs to benefit the local community. The garden is located on REDI.E grounds.

The Botanic Gardens Greater Sydney (BGGS) will be supporting the garden development and community engagement through their Community Greening program, sponsored by the Department of Communities and Justice.

The UNSW Global Water Institute (GWI) has been collaborating with BACHS for the past 12 months through the provision of onsite expertise to install sustainable and water efficient garden beds. The project will develop systems to monitor and optimise water use and composting, to ensure capacity to deliver fresh vegetables to local families.

The North West Academic Centre will support in providing accommodation and cultural training to student partners, building upon a long history of multi-disciplinary student training programs.
2. **ELIGIBILITY:**

- 2 x UNSW Built Environment students
- Landscape Architecture or Interior Architecture/Architecture with experience/electives in landscape-related fields
- Minimum 2nd year of undergraduate studies
- First Nations students are welcomed

3. **POSITION DESCRIPTION**

Position title: **Landscape and community engagement intern.** In this position, you will support the development of the Bourke Community Garden. You will work with staff from REDI.E, BACHS and BGGS towards improving food security, biodiversity, training opportunities and socio-cultural connection through the garden. The garden strives to be:

- **A place for nutrition**
  The garden will improve access to fresh, healthy food for Aboriginal people in Bourke, improving physical and mental health outcomes. The garden will reduce food insecurity through increased and more biodiverse yields, connected to local grassroots supply chains.

- **A place for education**
  The garden will be a place for employment pathways for Aboriginal people in Bourke, including horticultural training and skills development for the REDI.E community and the broader Bourke community.

- **A place for community**
  The garden will be a place for social and cultural connection in Bourke, including improved accessibility and useability.

4. **PLACEMENT ACTIVITIES**

1. Pre-travel background research and cultural training
2. **Learning on and with Country** with placement hosts and First Nations Knowledge Holders (ongoing!)
3. Develop return brief for Placement project to clarify expectations from all stakeholders
4. Participate in BGSS-facilitated **community-garden workshops** (e.g. community visioning, horticulture/permaculture)
5. Regular as garden labour works required by REDI.E/BACHS (e.g. building beds, planting, watering, soil improvement)
6. Student-led ongoing **place analysis** (climatic, geological, hydrological, flora/fauna, ethnographic, etc.)
7. Student-led **graphic posters** and booklet of garden principles

*Feedback loops:* throughout the project, students will practice deep and active listening to learn about Country and the needs of REDI.E/BACHS. This will involve connecting with workplace hosts, knowledge holders, community garden users (human, more than human), and other community members connected to the garden (e.g., distribution stakeholders).

*Students will also be required to vlog/blog/document their experience to share with all partners. Ethical considerations of knowledge sharing will be discussed.*

5. **SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED**

We are looking for students who can:

- Listen actively and deeply to First Nations voices.
- Think critically and relationally (including bringing together knowledge from your discipline and outside of it!)
- Apply knowledge and processes related to Landscape Architecture (place analysis, climatic conditions, etc.)
- Communicate visually (synthesise ideas and graphically communicate them to a non-design audience)

If you have the following experience, great, if not that’s ok:

- Industry work experience in landscape architecture (e.g., nursery, trade, construction, or design studio, etc.)
- Community-led projects or volunteering
- First Nations or cross-cultural engagement
6. LOGISTICAL DETAILS

This is a 10-week on-site placement in far-western NSW, the workplace hosts and UNSW will support with regular supervision.

**Location:** You will be located on Ngemba - Baakindji Country / Bourke, NSW.
**Accommodation:** Subsidised accommodation will be provided by the North West Academic Centre in Bourke.
**Travel:** Bourke can be reached from Sydney by car direct or by train/flight to Dubbo + bus/car.
**Scholarships:** Available to successful applicants for travel, accommodation and living expenses. This position is not otherwise paid.

**Placement hours:** 120 hours over 10 weeks, including site work, meetings, cultural activities, self-directed project development.

*What if I am enrolled in other courses in T3?* If your other courses are running in dual or hybrid mode, you can participate in these online. Please contact your course convenor if you have further questions.

7. APPLICATION PROCESS:

If you feel you fit the Placement description, please apply by **Sunday 7 August, midnight!**

Your application must include:

- **Video** (1-2min)
  Why are you interested in this project?
  What skills/experience/knowledge/outlook can you bring to this project?

  The video can be low-tech, just make sure we can see and hear you! This is a way to introduce yourself to the Placement hosts. We are looking for students who can provide tangible examples for each question and a genuine interest in this type of work as a future career path.

- **Curriculum Vitae (CV)** (1/2 page - 1 page)
  Your details including name, area of study and any relevant experience.

Please send your application to all three contacts below, who will be reviewing applicants:
Charlene Noye, Community Dietician, Bourke Aboriginal Corporations Health Service charlene.noye@outlook.com
Gavin Gibbs, Site and Garden Manager, Regional Enterprise Development Institute GavinG@redie.org.au
Eva Lloyd, Lecturer, UNSW Built Environment e.lloyd@unsw.edu.au

*Please note: If you have a Language or Cultural special consideration, a disability or impairment or use assistive technology, please contact us, so that we can help you complete and submit your application.*

8. HOST DETAILS

**Daily on-site supervision** will be provided by:
Charlene Noye, Community Dietician, Bourke Aboriginal Corporations Health Service
Gavin Gibbs, Site Manager, Regional Enterprise Development Institute (community garden is located here)

**With on-site and online support from:**
Phil Pettit, Community Greening Manager, Botanic Gardens Greater Sydney
Paddie Lane, Community Greening Education Officer, Botanic Gardens Greater Sydney

9. QUESTIONS?

Please contact **Eva Lloyd** (BE Lecturer and project partner) with any questions e.lloyd@unsw.edu.au