*Environmental Science20 Student Directed Study Self Reflection*

For my student directed study I chose the inquiry question, “What are the 3 biggest environmental concerns in North America and what needs to be done in order to solve, reverse or help with these issues?” This question relates to the course as it focuses on environmental issues, different types of wastes, climates, ecosystems and global warming. Two of the major unites of study in this class were wastes and climates. These are two major focuses in my projects which can be directly tied back so the course goals and outcomes.

Throughout doing this project I learned many things. I now know and understand more of the serious environmental concerns that are happening here in North America. Global warming, greenhouse gas emission and different wastes have become huge issues that are having negative effects on our Earth. Carbon dioxide is being released in large and harmful amounts which are causing damage to our ozone layer and polluting the environment. Waste is becoming a huge issue. Everyday people in North America waste over 4 pounds of garbage. This all goes into the landfills. The landfills then further pollute our world. We have one Earth and the more we destroy it the less we will have of it.

My topic of study can be related to the 3 pilllars of sustainability; social, economic and environmental. Socially my topic can be related as it directly relates to what people are doing and how they can make a change. Polluting the world directly effects different social groups as well as economic groups. That being said, it can also be related economically. This negative effects our environment is experiencing will often require money to help solve and reverse the damage. Environmentally this relates as it is focusing on environmental issues our continent is experiencing.

I chose this project so I could better understand environmental issues we are currently having in North America. I thought that if I really understood the issues I could make changes as well as encourage other people to make changes to help better our environment. Without a clear understanding of the environment and its issues it makes it very difficult to improve it. Another reason I chose this topic was because I felt it was important, interesting and really related to the curriculum goals and outcomes.

This is an important topic for people to understand. Without an understanding of our environment we can’t properly take care of it as well is maintain it. Knowing how to keep things like greenhouse gas emission, climate change and waste products under control we need to know why these things happen and how we can fix them. The more people know about our environment and understand it the more we can improve our Earth

Currently environmental issues are rising and becoming more of a concern. I feel like it is something that within the next few years will be able to be changed. More and more people are understanding and being educated on environmental issues. The more people understand the more they can help to change and improve our Earth. I think within 20 years or so we will start to see positive improvements.