

NPD2 – Project III

Members in Group _____

You have 25 minutes to walk around campus: walk, stop, look, notice, be attentive, watch people, what does the environment itself encourage people to do, to appreciate, to interact with, what is the function of that which is natural for this environments inhabitants, how does it shape how might think about the natural world, what does it do for you, how much work does this environment take to maintain?

Your task is to experience and analyze the campus as a natural/constructed environment that may or may not cultivate or encourage certain environmentally responsive virtues. (e.g. is it a space that allows for contemplative environmental virtues, if so where, how, what do you see or experience that does this; is it a space that gives a particular perspective on nature (orderly, friendly, hostile, to be controlled), what virtues or habits of thinking might this do for its inhabitants)

Organize You ideas according to the four kinds of virtue that Sandler notes:

- 1) What are the *virtues of sustainability* that this environment might encourage or discourage.

2) Does anything about this environment encourage or discourage *virtues of environmental activism*?

3) Does anything about this environment encourage or discourage *virtues of communion with nature*? What? Where? In answering this question, stop somewhere your group that you think is particularly helpful for encouraging a virtue of communion with nature. Sit there for 5 minutes in silence (really, no talking!) and just look and listen. Then, describe your experience, or the dispositions this cultivates in you.

4) How do the virtues of *interpersonal benevolence, peacefulness, or social stability* encouraged by the natural environment as it has been shaped on campus. Note particular areas, aspects of this.

5) Final Question: Overall, what is your assessment of this environment? Overall, does it make for better students in their moral formation toward a virtuous life? Have each person of the group weigh in.