# Your Diploma Learning Pathway as a Design



Planning, Reflection, Connection, Learning, Dissemination

Jan Mulreany 2013

### YOUR DIPLOMA LEARNING PATHWAY as a design...

- takes the concept of the Diploma Learning Pathway (DLP) as a continuous cycle of action learning, ie. learning from doing, being, on your learning journey.
- outlines and tracks the actions you are taking, as you plan it out and go through it
- takes in your own personal development (as Zone 00) and encourages you to develop your design skills as you go along your pathway,, so that you plan how permaculture changes you!
- records how you have gone around the design cycle a few times, tweaking and adapting the DLP to suit your needs.
- is a valuable learning tool, as it shows the direct application of permaculture theory to invisible structures, which is helpful if you already have a lot of land-based designs.

Diploma in Applied Permaculture Design Guide to Accreditation Criteria

### 3. Demonstrating Design Skills

#### "The process of using design processes and tools to create working permaculture systems."

By the end of your Diploma apprenticeship, you will be able to:

- Use permaculture ethics, principles and theory as appropriate to the situation;
- Make accurate and appropriate use of intentional design processes;
- Use processes and tools that suit the clients and situation;
- Show that you can produce designs that include land and social elements;
- Use a variety of design tools;
- Create designs that are intelligible, coherent and effective;
- Choose and produce appropriate presentation and documentation for clients and third parties;

### **Observe yourself** - what's your Permaculture Journey - from then to here...



### **Create a conceptual base map of YOU**

### What does your 'own land' look like?

**Dimensions**: personal boundaries, emotional security, place in the world - orientation, fixed structures such as work, family, habits, your upper limits, leisure and free time, areas of life that get visited often & those left alone...

Environment: where do you have 'open' & closed spaces, what are your support structures, shelter belt - protectors?, what things tend to happen around your edges, where does nourishment happen? Addictions? Essential life-needs (water sources, personal microclimate: where is your energy source (sun), harsher stuff - irritants (rain & wind), where you find beauty in it (nature), zones 00-5?

**History of the ground**: eg. educational experiences: perennial issues, transient activities, political aspects, typical hunger for life, patterns of dependence, who/what are your 'predators' & 'pests', how do they get in?

**Resources**: food habits, age, finance, educational attainment, spirit, health, strengths and skills... etc....

### YOU as the client...

### O What are your own needs?

workplace, right livelihood, home redesign, family life, food production, community living...

### • Where do you want to be in two years' time? (your Permaculture

(your Permacultur Vision...)



### YOUR DIPLOMA LEARNING PATHWAY as a design...

### revisit / analyse your `learning ground'

how have you succeeded in the past, what's prevented you, what understanding of yourself do you have that can be recycled into this Diploma...

### What do you know about your learning styles?





### Choose a design framework





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# Start your Design Process





Brighton Permaculture Trust

**Permaculture Design Course** Building Sustainable Communities 2011

## For example Zones & Sectors

**G** used Zoning to help her gather information on the important parts of her life that would help her do her study, and where her designs might come from.

As a person who relates her learning to her body (kinaesthetic learning) she mapped it in this way.

Wider zones were linked to her working potential, often far away from her own emotional centre...



© Gillian Trott 2011

**Flo** used Zoning to help her design on her boundaries and limitations in her overall Pathway.

She analysed her work commitments, her family's needs, what other projects she had as short term and long term, and in deciding where to go next (about halfway though) she brought her state of health into play.

She decided her next project would be only up to the line around her Zone 2, her home and garden...





#### "Soil structure" analysis



**Claire** used the analogy of the soil structure as a growing 'ground' to look at how she had acquired her values and beliefs, skills and experience, in order to then build her Action (Diploma) Learning Pathway as a permaculture garden....



#### **DLP** as a Garden

... with her projects as plants and other living structures, her central core being her Yoga practice as a personal support system.

Note how she identified ecosystems and equated them with how she might go about dealing with issues and events...

© Claire Hunt 2009



- Resources & LFs
- Needs & Wants
- Sector & Elevation
- Patterns / Flows

## honest reflections, realities...

TIP: get someone else to interview you

Your peer group maybe?

### An example...

### My needs

- Support to keep going
- A mirror for my thoughts
- Honest feedback
- Continued self-actualisation, especially in older age.

### My barriers

- A just-in-time person
- Very little spare time!
- Capable of sabotaging by doing things like displacement (well, when else does the floorwashing get done?)
- Less 'land-based' thinking than may be needed?
- Tendency to intellectualise

### My goals

- Getting the Diploma with a reasonable amount of work, but not overdoing it!
- Succession-planning for the BSC course, so I can hand over after 2005 run
- Develop a 5 yr Retirement Plan for 2009 !

### My ethics

- People Care comes first me too, so look after self a bit!
- Justice seems to be high on my list...fair shares, which can be challenging to me too...
- EarthCare a history which has now evolved into me using my purchasing power to support others' right livelihoods, rather than trying to do it all!

### My Learning Pathway - the initial idea...

My involvement in BPT - reviewing it, recording it, accrediting the course, etc.



Find 10 projects within all of this... present it as a website-based resource for others





My Learning Pathway

- the redesigned intention

TIP: let it get messy!





actually, always gathering stuff together



overlaying the theory...

adding the principles



# So... what's your `soil' like?



For a design about you ...

Earth care ?

**People care ?** 

Fair Share ?

as metaphor...

### YOUR DIPLOMA LEARNING PATHWAY as a design...

- what designs are you going to do, and when
- what learning needs, or technical gaps have you got
- how are you going to work with your Peer Group
- how do you meet the criteria at each stage
- what is your budget and are the other costs (time, carbon footprint, leisure, intimacy, etc)
- how will you keep a record of what you're doing
- how will you reflect on it and evaluate it
- how will you present it at the end



4. Applying permaculture in your own life

"The process of using permaculture ethics, principles and design strategies to enhance the sustainability of your own life and household."

By the end of your Diploma apprenticeship, you will be able to:

 Show how changes you have made bring you closer to a sustainable lifestyle, in line with permaculture's ethical framework.

### DIPLOMA LEARNING PATHWAY PORTFOLIO WRITE UP:

- \* The actual DLPs, showing the changes made.
- \* Visual impact of flowcharts, mindmaps, artwork, photos, colour, etc
- \* Clear outline and analysis of the Design Skills used in the DLP
- \* Prep for & results of tutorials with personal tutors, peer groups, feedback etc.
- \* Anything that you might have used as a "Learning Journal" over time a diary, a blog, etc.
- \* Technical tutorials, courses, other work to enhance your skills and experience.
- \* Evidence from your other projects where you can link and cross-reference your learning
- \* Where the ethics apply, and the relationship between ethics and principles.
- \* Reflective writing about your learning journey

\* Book lists, film lists, websites, anything that you have found useful over the time you've been doing the Diploma, acknowledgements of people who have helped and supported you.

### 5. Developing your permaculture practice

"The process of evaluating your work, and reflecting on your permaculture practice, to increase your skills and understanding."

By the end of your Diploma apprenticeship, you will be able to:

- Show how you have evaluated the effectiveness of your design work;
- Reflect on your use of permaculture theory and practice, including design processes, tools and practical skills; and
- Show how your skills and understanding have developed since completing the PDC.

Evidence will include:

- Documentation that shows how you have measured and evaluated the performance and effectiveness of a design or particular aspects of the design;
- Documentation that shows how you have reflected on the effectiveness of the process or particular tools that you used within a design;
- A piece of reflective writing, video journal, or other media that describes what you have learnt through the development of your ten designs.

It is recommended that one of the designs in the portfolio is your Learning Pathway, and its evaluation.

Graham Burnett's graphic design interpretation of Zone 00, personal development and permaculture practice

CONSUMPTION

Haz1:

SAFE

PHY5101.061CB

TRIANGLE

REALTIVE

(from A Beginners Guide to Permaculture © 2009)

ESTE

OVE