

EVSP312

STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

Course Summary

Course : EVSP312 **Title :** Introduction to Sustainability

Length of Course : 8

Prerequisites : N/A **Credit Hours :** 3

Description

Course Description: This course will introduce students to the principles of environmental sustainability. Students will explore various aspects of sustainability, including energy use, industrial processes, waste generation and disposal, and the built environment. As part of the focus on solutions, the course will introduce students to tools society can use to attain and implement sustainable practices, such as policy, law, education and communication, marketing, research advocacy, and international agreements and collaboration.

Course Scope:

As a foundational course, Introduction to Sustainability presents major concepts, programs, and problems in environmental sustainability. Emphasis will be on applying the principles of sustainability through hands-on activities, laboratories, and discussions. Students will be expected to use critical thought, innovation, and creativity to solve challenging sustainability problems and to suggest changes in policy that will further the implementation of sustainable practices in the U.S. and globally.

Objectives

After successfully completing this course, you will be able to:

- LO-1 Explain the principles of resource sustainability.
 - LO-2 List examples of sustainable practices in industrial, waste generation and disposal, and construction applications.
 - LO-3 Explain society's dependence on fossil fuel and traditional energy sources.
 - LO-4 Explain the use of education, communication, and marketing as tools to implement sustainable practices.
 - LO-5 Evaluate policies, regulation, and law as mechanisms to implement sustainable practices on the national and global scale.
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Outline

Week 1: Introduction to Sustainability and Sustainability Practices

Learning Objectives

LO-1 Explain the principles of resource sustainability.

Readings

National Research Council, Our Common Journey, Chapter 1

National Research Council, Sustainable Critical Infrastructure Systems, Chapters 1 and 4

National Research Council, The Drama of the Commons, Chapter 1

Week 1 Lessons

Assignments

Forum 1

Assignment 1

Week 2: Energy Revolutions

Learning Objectives

LO-1 Explain the principles of resource sustainability.

LO-3 Explain society's dependence on fossil fuel and traditional energy sources.

Readings

Brown, Chapters 4 and 5

Week 2 Lessons

Assignments

Forum 2

Assignment 2

Week 3: Industrial Sustainability

Learning Objectives

LO-1 Explain the principles of resource sustainability.

LO-2 List examples of sustainable practices in industrial, waste generation and disposal, and construction applications.

LO-3 Explain society's dependence on fossil fuel and traditional energy sources.

LO-4 Explain the use of education, communication, and marketing as tools to implement sustainable practices.

LO-5 Evaluate policies, regulation, and law as mechanisms to implement sustainable practices on the national and global scale.

Readings

Brown, Chapters 3 and 6

National Research Council, Our Common Journey, Chapter 2

Week 3 Lessons

Assignments

Forum 3

Assignment 3

Week 4: Sustainability Transition

Learning Objectives

LO-2 List examples of sustainable practices in industrial, waste generation and disposal, and construction applications.

LO-3 Explain society's dependence on fossil fuel and traditional energy sources.

Readings

Brown, Chapters 2, 7 and 9

Week 4 Lessons

Assignments

Forum 4

Week 5: Sustainability Management

Learning Objectives

LO-2 List examples of sustainable practices in industrial, waste generation and disposal, and construction applications.

LO-3 Explain society's dependence on fossil fuel and traditional energy sources.

LO-4 Explain the use of education, communication, and marketing as tools to implement sustainable practices.

LO-5 Evaluate policies, regulation, and law as mechanisms to implement sustainable practices on the national and global scale.

Readings

National Research Council, Our Common Journey, Chapters 4 and 6

National Research Council, Sustainable Critical Infrastructure Systems, Chapter 3

National Research Council, The Drama of the Commons, Chapters 2 and 12

Week 5 Lessons

Assignments

Week 6: Governance and Policies effecting Sustainability

Learning Objectives

LO-2 List examples of sustainable practices in industrial, waste generation and disposal, and construction applications.

LO-3 Explain society's dependence on fossil fuel and traditional energy sources.

LO-4 Explain the use of education, communication, and marketing as tools to implement sustainable practices.

LO-5 Evaluate policies, regulation, and law as mechanisms to implement sustainable practices on the national and global scale.

Readings

Brown, Chapter 10

National Research Council, Sustainable Critical Infrastructure Systems, Chapter 2

National Research Council, The Drama of the Commons, Chapter 4, 8 and 9

Week 6 Lessons

Assignments

Forum 6

Assignment 4

Week 7: International Trade and Globalization

Learning Objectives

LO-1 Explain the principles of resource sustainability.

LO-2 List examples of sustainable practices in industrial, waste generation and disposal, and construction applications.

LO-3 Explain society's dependence on fossil fuel and traditional energy sources.

LO-4 Explain the use of education, communication, and marketing as tools to implement sustainable practices.

LO-5 Evaluate policies, regulation, and law as mechanisms to implement sustainable practices on the national and global scale.

Readings

National Research Council, Sustainable Critical Infrastructure Systems, Chapter 2

National Research Council, The Drama of the Commons, Chapters 6 and 7

Week 7 Lessons

Assignments

Forum Week 7

Assignment 5

Week 8: Biodiversity and Future Strategies

Learning Objectives

LO-1 Explain the principles of resource sustainability.

LO-2 List examples of sustainable practices in industrial, waste generation and disposal, and construction applications.

LO-4 Explain the use of education, communication, and marketing as tools to implement sustainable practices.

LO-5 Evaluate policies, regulation, and law as mechanisms to implement sustainable practices on the national and global scale.

Readings

Brown, Chapter 8

National Research Council, Our Common Journey, Chapters 3 and 5

National Research Council, The Drama of the Commons, Chapters 10, 11 and 13

Week 8 Lessons

Assignments

Forum 8

Assignment 6

Evaluation

Grading:

Name	Grade %
Forums	24.00 %
Week 1	3.00 %
Week 2	3.00 %
Week 3	3.00 %
Week 4	3.00 %
Week 5	3.00 %
Week 6	3.00 %
Week 7	3.00 %
Week 8	3.00 %
Assignments	55.00 %
Assignment 1: Web site visit 1	11.00 %
Assignment 2: Lab 1	11.00 %
Assignment 3: Draft Proposal	11.00 %
Assignment 4: Lab 2	11.00 %

Assignment 5: Website Visit 2	11.00 %
Final Proposal	21.00 %
Final Proposal	21.00 %

Materials

Book Title: Drama of the Commons - Online link provided inside the classroom

Author: Stern, Paul C. / Weber, Elke U. (Eds.) / National Research Council

Publication Info: National Academies Press

ISBN: 9780309082501

Book Title: Our Common Journey : A Transition Toward Sustainability - Online link provided inside the classroom

Author: National Research Council

Publication Info: National Academies Press

ISBN: 9780309086387

Book Title: Sustainable Critical Infrastructure Systems: A Framework for Meeting 21st Century Imperatives - Online link provided inside the classroom

Author: National Research Council

Publication Info: National Academies Press

ISBN: 9780309137928

Book Title: Plan B 4.0 : Mobilizing to Save Civilization - Online link provided inside the classroom

Author: Brown, Lester R.

Publication Info: W.W. Norton

ISBN: 9780393337198

Required Readings

See the Lessons section of the classroom for additional readings and weekly lecture notes

Additional Resources: Please go to the program guides in the APUS Library for additional resources:

- Environmental Science: http://apus.libguides.com/environmental_science

Software Requirements

- Microsoft Office (MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint) - American Public University System provides Microsoft Office 365 to AMU/APU students and faculty at no cost
- Adobe Acrobat Reader

Course Guidelines

Citation and Reference Style

- Attention Please: Students will follow the APA Format as the sole citation and reference style used in written work submitted as part of coursework to the University. Assignments completed in a narrative essay or composition format must follow the citation style cited in the APA Format.

Tutoring

- [Tutor.com](https://www.tutor.com) offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours* of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for 'Tutor' to create an account.

Late Assignments

- Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. The due date for each assignment is listed under each Assignment.
- Generally speaking, late work may result in a deduction up to 15% of the grade for each day late, not to exceed 5 days.
- As a working adult I know your time is limited and often out of your control. Faculty may be more flexible if they know ahead of time of any potential late assignments.

Turn It In

- Faculty may require assignments be submitted to Turnitin.com. Turnitin.com will analyze a paper and report instances of potential plagiarism for the student to edit before submitting it for a grade. In some cases professors may require students to use Turnitin.com. This is automatically processed through the Assignments area of the course.

Academic Dishonesty

- Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite.

Submission Guidelines

- Some assignments may have very specific requirements for formatting (such as font, margins, etc) and submission file type (such as .docx, .pdf, etc) See the assignment instructions for details. In general, standard file types such as those associated with Microsoft Office are preferred, unless otherwise specified.

Disclaimer Statement

- Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

Communicating on the Forum

- Forums are the heart of the interaction in this course. The more engaged and lively the exchanges, the

more interesting and fun the course will be. Only substantive comments will receive credit. Although there is a final posting time after which the instructor will grade comments, it is not sufficient to wait until the last day to contribute your comments/questions on the forum. The purpose of the forums is to actively participate in an on-going discussion about the assigned content.

- “Substantive” means comments that contribute something new and hopefully important to the discussion. Thus a message that simply says “I agree” is not substantive. A substantive comment contributes a new idea or perspective, a good follow-up question to a point made, offers a response to a question, provides an example or illustration of a key point, points out an inconsistency in an argument, etc.
 - As a class, if we run into conflicting view points, we must respect each individual's own opinion. Hateful and hurtful comments towards other individuals, students, groups, peoples, and/or societies will not be tolerated.
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University Policies

[Student Handbook](#)

- [Drop/Withdrawal policy](#)
- [Extension Requests](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)

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