

Sustainable Manitoba ENVR 3850 / GEOG 3850

COURSE OUTLINE 2009

Course Description

This course approaches local sustainability issues from an interdisciplinary perspective. By looking at the ecological, social and economic aspects from a variety of discipline perspectives, a fuller understanding of sustainability is achieved. The broad range of perspectives is achieved through participation of guest speakers from other faculties and outside of the university as well as excursions outside of the classroom.

Prerequisite: 60 credit hours

Certain threads that will be found throughout the course include the role of the arts in sustainability, aboriginal issues, social justice, human health, and landscape's relationship to identity.

As one small step towards living more sustainably, we ask that all students and guest speakers use only refillable beverage containers in class such as reusable coffee mugs and water bottles. Through education and small personal actions such as these, we can realize positive change.

Course Objectives

- to introduce students to a broad range of sustainability perspectives with a focus on local issues
- to address themes from an ecological, social and economic perspective
- to explore the role of the arts and literary / cultural studies in sustainability
- to integrate learning about sustainability issues from different discipline perspectives into a fuller understanding of sustainability
- to enhance understanding of the interdisciplinary nature of sustainability issues
- to promote interdisciplinary thinking and balanced perspectives

Timeslot

Wednesday evening, 7:00 – 9:45 pm

Location

258 St. Paul's College

Course Instructor Team

Dr. Renate Eigenbrod, Native Studies, Aboriginal Literatures

Ms. Kristina Hunter, Environmental Science / Studies*

Professor Ted McLachlan, Landscape Architecture

Dr. Shirley Thompson, Natural Resources Institute

*Primary Contact Person

If you have questions about the course content, grading or assignments, please contact: Kristina Hunter, hunterkn@ms.umanitoba.ca

250 Wallace, Office hours: Monday, Wednesday 10:30-11:00 or by appointment.

Attendance – miss more than 2 classes will be asked to withdraw

Cite references

For course information and student discussion tools please go to

www.umanitoba.ca/angel

Field Trip

A one-day field trip will be held on **Sunday, March 8th, 2009**. Transportation will be arranged by the University and is covered in the course's field fees. A waiver must be signed by each participant. Attendance is optional, but recommended. Confirmation of attendance is required by February 25th, 2009.

Assignments

All assignments are due in class, at the beginning of the class time (7:00 pm), late submissions will only be accepted based on medical or compassionate grounds.

Journal (2x15%) 30% (Independent)

Objective: To reflect upon and integrate the materials presented and discussed in class.

A personal reflection on each of the topics covered in class is required. You will be asked questions to reflect upon and will be expected to add your own materials from outside sources such as news events, online sources, and other areas of your life. A

minimum of one entry per week is required. Each entry must be dated, and labelled "Week #". The journals must be in a bound book and should be hand written, legibly. Additional materials such as drawings, news clippings, photos, etc, can be added to the journal. The marks are based on effort and quality of reflection, not necessarily quantity. The journals will be submitted twice through the term and must be picked up in class the following week.

Due: Jan 28, Mar 4, April 1

Issue Tracking 20% (Group)

Objective: To research the background and history behind a local Manitoba Sustainability issue / problem.

Each group of three or four students will select a local sustainability issue or problem and track it in the media and academic literature. Students will be presented with numerous topic choices or can select their own. The topic should be followed as far back as practical through newspapers, press releases, journals and other published works. A chronological summary of the issue should be compiled into a timeline format. The concept must first be approved by a course Instructor.

Due: Concept: Jan 21 Tracking Report: Feb 4

Issue Proposition 40% (Group)

Objective: To develop a well researched and feasible plan or proposition to address the issue tracked in the previous assignment.

Work through PESCE – resolve issue – propose action plan

Each group of students will follow-up on the issue that they have been tracking by developing a detailed proposition or plan for how to effectively resolve the issue, keeping the various definitions of sustainability in mind (ecological, economic, and social). Propositions will be presented in class. The recommended referencing format must be used to cite all references. (see Angel)

Due: March 18

Visual Art Assignment 10% (Independent)

Students are asked to submit a digital photo or other electronic representation of a piece of art work which best represents the issues of sustainability covered in this class. You will be asked to give a brief presentation on why the piece was selected and how it relates to the course content.

Due: Digital Art: April 1, 7:00 pm, in class, Presentation: April 8, 7:00 pm in class.

Schedule 2009

	Date	Theme	Activity	Assign Due
1	Jan 7	Intro – What is sustainability?	Shirley, Kristina, Ted Renate / PESCE discussion (Ted) – define MB issues for journal	
2	Jan 14	Food Security	Shirley / Paul Fieldhouse? Glenn Koroluck's film Slow Food Revolution?	
3	Jan 21	Touch the Land: creating sustainable landscapes	Ted Manufactured Landscapes?	Issue Tracking Concept
4	Jan 28 K away	Aboriginal Writing & Environmental Justice	Renate / Allison Calder – creative writing workshop – perhaps we should split this into two sessions?	
5	Feb 4	Art and the Environment	Kristina (theory) / Ted (application)? <i>This is a</i>	Issue Tracking Report

			<i>new suggestion - Goldsworthy film</i>	
6	Feb 11	Personal and Political	Kristina / Sheldon McLeod	Journal 1
	Feb 18	Reading Week	No classes	
7	Feb 25	First Nations and Resource Management	Sophia Rabliausks / Peter Kulchiski - Renate	
8	Mar 4	Where we Live: Urban Issues in Sustainability	<i>Richard Milgrom – Ted Perhaps offsite? Guest speaker / Group discussion?</i>	
9	Mar 11	Visualizing the Future	Student Presentations – propositions Discussions – to be defined	Proposition
10	Mar 18	Visualizing the Future	Student Presentations - proposition	Proposition
11	Mar 25	Visualizing the Future	Student Presentations - proposition	Proposition
12	Apr 1	Waste management	Shirley / Crapshoot ?	Visual Art electronic submission / Journal 2
13	Apr 8	Sustainability in Art	Student Presentations – Visual art	Visual Art Presentations

Academic Dishonesty

Plagiarism and other forms of cheating are prohibited. Plagiarism is to take words, ideas or other materials such as photos, diagrams or data that you did not create, and pass them off as your own. You must provide adequate and correct citation of the sources of ideas whether quoted directly or paraphrased. To collaborate with another student when not permitted to do so by the Instructor is “Inappropriate Collaboration” and is subject to penalty under the Student Discipline By-law. Students should acquaint themselves with the University’s policy on Academic Integrity found in the University of Manitoba General Calendar,

<http://webapps.cc.umanitoba.ca/calendar07/regulations/regulations07.pdf>.

Other policies of interest including the Respectful Work and Learning Environment policy can also be found in the General Calendar,

<http://webapps.cc.umanitoba.ca/calendar07/policies/policies07.pdf>.

Environmental Science / Studies Grade Scale

Percentage Grade Letter Grade

90 – 100	A+
80 – 89.9	A
76 – 79.9	B+
70 – 75.9	B
66 – 69.9	C+
60 – 65.9	C
50 – 59.9	D
0 – 49.9	F

Voluntary Withdrawal Date
19 March, 2009