

ENVIR 203

Introduction to Sustainable Practices

When: Winter, 5 Credits
Meeting time: MW 2:30-3:50, Discussion Tu 12:30-2:20 or 2:30-4:20
Instructors: Sally Brown email: slb@u.washington.edu
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Purpose: This class introduces sustainable practices that describe how our society actively participates in the sustainability of our environment: restoration ecology, soil remediation, life cycle analysis, renewable energy, sustainable building, soil amendments, and recycling. Faculty and guest speakers will introduce these various different activities, present current challenges and approaches to solving these challenges, and career opportunities. The class includes a Saturday field trip to a typical environmental activity.

This class is “paperless”, that will give the student practice with email distribution lists, web sites, and submitting and receiving assignments over the web. No assignments will be accepted in paper.

Prerequisites: There are no prerequisites for this course.

Objectives: There are three main objectives: 1) to introduce students to sustainable practices, 2) to inform students of sustainable environmental activities in the community, and 3) to provide students with information on future opportunities.

Texts: None

Web site <http://faculty.washington.edu/clh/sustainable.html>

Lectures: Lectures will take place in two 80-minute weekly meeting. Additionally, students will choose one of two two-hour discussion periods.

Assignments: Students will be required to do weekly assignments, that may include summaries, problem solving, or information gathering related to the topics given on the various aspects of sustainable practices. Assignments will include reading e-reserve literature. All students will be required to develop a website on one aspect of sustainable practices, and will review other students websites. Chosen students will present their websites in class. Students will go on a one-day weekend field trip, as an example of community environmental challenge. Communication within the class will be entirely by email and class web site.

Grade Will Be Based On:

Weekly assignments (10 @ 3% each)	20%
Field trip participation	10%
Website production	30%
Final exam	40%

Date	Title	Reading
Week 1	Class objectives & administration. The world of sustainable practices.	Excerpts from Gaviotas
	Conservation of earth's resources	The Earth Charter Initiative; Johannesburg Summit 2002
Week 2	Recycling as we know it!	New York Times & Seattle Times articles
	Sustainable infrastructure	Sustainable Germany
Week 3	Sustainable building	LEED
	Holiday	
Week 4	Renewable energy	<i>Nature</i> : Overview of Alternative Energy; Marketing the revolution in clean energy; US DOE Renewable Energy
	Life cycle analysis	ISO 14040
Week 5	Water and sustainability	Excerpts from Cadillac Desert ; excerpts from Water
	Wastewater and sustainability	Excerpts from Water ; Sustainability Guidelines
Week 6	Sustainable agriculture	<i>Nature</i> : Urban myths of organic farming; USDA Organics Rule
	The world of composting	The Compost Resource Page; US Compost Council
Week 7	Biosolids and other residuals	Understanding Biosolids
	Restoration ecology	The Society for Ecological Restoration primer
Week 8	Soil remediation	Remediation projects and handbooks
	Holiday	
Week 9	Phytoremediation	Phytoremediation on the brink of commercialization
	Bioremediation	Contaminated environments in the subsurface and bioremediation: organic contaminants
Week 10	Student presentations	
	Student presentations	
	Final Exam	

Student Eligibility: This class is open to all students. No prerequisites.

Academic Honesty

As UW Bothell students, you are expected to uphold the highest standards of academic conduct. In this class, you should be particularly aware that instances of cheating on exams or plagiarism in writing will be dealt with very seriously. A separate, more detailed handout on academic honesty will be provided to you on the first day of class. You are responsible for reading it thoroughly and understanding its contents.

All work on the exams and papers should be strictly your own and without the aid of any materials not specifically allowed. Plagiarism is defined in the UW Bothell catalog as (I have placed a section in bold and underlined it for emphasis):

“Plagiarism is the use of the creations, ideas or words of someone else without formally acknowledging the author or source through appropriate use of quotation marks, references, and the like. Plagiarizing is stealing someone's work and presenting it as one's own original work or thought. Student work in which plagiarism occurs will not ordinarily be accepted as satisfactory by the instructor, and may lead to disciplinary action against the student submitting it. **Any student who is uncertain whether his or her use of the work of others constitutes plagiarism**

should consult the course instructor for guidance before formally submitting the course work involved.”

Recitation sessions

Example

What is the example

Economics

Implementation

- small/individual
- large-scale
- regulations
- existing infrastructure
- costs
- incentives