

ENVST 2100 Syllabus

Introduction to Environmental and Sustainability Studies

3 credit hours Spring 2018

Professor

Dr. Jennifer Watt

Office: Bldg 73 (Old Law School), room 235

Environmental and Sustainability Studies Program

Jennifer.watt@envst.utah.edu

Teaching Assistant

Josh Mueller

Joshua.Mueller@utah.edu

Office Hours: by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course examines human-environment relations from a variety of disciplines. It consists of a series of lectures from University of Utah faculty and community members on a wide variety of sustainability-related research. The course will engage students in a diverse range of research, viewpoints, and approaches to studying environmental/sustainability issues, and provide a unique opportunity for students to be exposed to the great wealth of research and teaching the university offers. Students will hear a dramatic range of opinions, be exposed to many different kinds of intellectual inquiry, and hear from research faculty from many disciplines.

The textbook will provide the necessary conceptual overlay and explain how the material from the guest lecturers fits into the larger inter-disciplinary context of environmental and sustainability studies.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Students will:

- Discuss key topics for sustainability including how they are analyzed by various academic disciplines.
- Formulate your own approach to sustainability by integrating identified research and readings.
- Investigate various solution-oriented approaches to socio-ecological conditions.
- Participate in and reflect on citizenship behavior

REQUIRED BOOKS AND MEDIA:

1. *Humans in the Landscape* by Lee, Freudenburg, and Howarth

CHOICES FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS:

Discussions – There will be a weekly discussion throughout the semester, covering guest lecture videos and textbook topics. (*Discussions are worth 60% of your grade*)

Assignments– There will be four unique assignments throughout the semester.

- Peer Reviewed Journal Review
- Popular Press Article Review
- Current Event
- Citizenship Activity

There will be additional explanation and details for these assignments in canvas. (*Assignments are worth 30% of your grade*)

Short Answer Exam – There will be a short answer final exam (*Final Exam is worth 10% of your grade*)

**** Late assignments will be reduced by 10% of the grade earned each day they are late.**

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Consultation:

Since this is an online course, I will schedule appointments with students as needed. Please e-mail my regular e-mail to set up a time to meet with me.

Accommodation:

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. If you need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be

made available in alternative format with prior notice to the Center for Disability Services.

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Wellness Statement:

Personal concerns such as stress, anxiety, relationship difficulties, depression, cross-cultural differences, etc., can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive at the University of Utah. There are excellent resources, often free and confidential, on campus. For more information, contact the Center for Student Wellness
- www.wellness.utah.edu; 801-581-7776.

Academic Dishonesty:

Any act of academic dishonesty will result in a course grade of E and a recommendation of additional disciplinary action. Academic dishonesty includes:

-cheating: giving or receiving unauthorized assistance on any academic work.

-plagiarism: presenting the language, structure or ideas of another person as one's own original work.

-falsification: any untrue statement, either oral or written, concerning one's own academic work or the academic work of others, or the unauthorized alteration of any academic record.

-original work: all academic work undertaken in this course must be original, i.e. it must not have been submitted in a prior course or be submitted in a course being taken concurrently without prior approval of instructor.

Let me make this clear: if you get caught engaging in any of these behaviors, you will be removed from the course and given a failing grade, no exceptions, no excuses.

FACULTY AND STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

All students are expected to maintain professional behavior in this class, according to the Student Code, spelled out in the Student Handbook. Students have specific rights in the classroom as detailed in Article III of the Code. The Code also specifies proscribed conduct (Article XI) that involves cheating on tests, plagiarism, and/or collusion, as well as fraud, theft, etc. Students should read the Code carefully and know they are responsible for the content. According to Faculty Rules and

Regulations, it is the faculty responsibility to enforce responsible classroom behaviors, beginning with verbal warnings and progressing to dismissal from class and a failing grade. Students have the right to appeal such action to the Student Behavior Committee. Faculty must strive in the classroom to maintain a climate conducive to thinking and learning. Students have a right to support and assistance from the University to maintaining a climate conducive to thinking and learning.

NON-CONTRACT NOTE

The syllabus is not a binding legal contract. It may be modified by the instructor, when the student is given reasonable notice of the modification