Course Summary

Course: EVSP561  Title: Elements of Sustainable Design
Length of Course: 8  Prerequisites: N/A  Credit Hours: 3

Description

Course Description: This course is an introduction to the philosophical and practical principles of green and sustainable design through the exploration of environmental issues, sustainable materials and methods, and public policy and decision making. Sustainability principles, policies, and programs that encourage and guide current initiatives are analyzed. Innovative strategies for implementing sustainable projects, programs, and practices are investigated through the review of case studies and completion of a final course project.

Course Scope:

This course is a study of the practical application of sustainable design and principles. Topics such as the campus sustainability movement, smart growth, urban design and exurbia, architectural design including LEED certification, green cities, sustainable business and industry, and sustainable initiatives will be presented. Discussion will include case studies, comparisons, and evaluation of sustainability efforts.

Objectives

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

- LO-1 Distinguish the principles of sustainability and the roles of multiple disciplines in their effective implementation.
- LO-2 Analyze the complex and dynamic interactions between humans and their environment.
- LO-3 Assess the role of government policy at municipal, regional, national, and global levels in achieving sustainable development.
- LO-4 Analyze the political, regulatory, and economic barriers that prevent full implementation of sustainable products, goods and services.
- LO-5 Apply the principles of sustainability to complex environmental problems.
- LO-6 Analyze the role of sustainability in meeting critical resource needs, such as renewable energy and water quality and quantity, on the local, regional, national, and global scale.

Outline
Week 1: What is Sustainable Design?

Learning Objectives

LO-1 Distinguish the principles of sustainability and the roles of multiple disciplines in their effective implementation.

Required Readings and Resources
Assignments

Forum 1

Week 2: Campus Sustainability Movement

Learning Objectives

LO-2 Analyze the complex and dynamic interactions between humans and their environment.

LO-6 Analyze the role of sustainability in meeting critical resource needs, such as renewable energy and water quality and quantity, on the local, regional, national, and global scale.

Required Readings and Resources
Assignments

Forum 2

Case Study 1

Week 3: Regional Design & Smart Growth

Learning Objectives

LO-2 Analyze the complex and dynamic interactions between humans and their environment.

Required Readings and Resources
Assignments

Forum 3

Week 4: Sustainable Urban Design & Exurbia

Learning Objectives

LO-2 Analyze the complex and dynamic interactions between humans and their environment.

Required Readings and Resources
Assignments

Forum 4

Case Study 2

Week 5: Architectural Design & Green Cities

Learning Objectives
LO-2 Analyze the complex and dynamic interactions between humans and their environment.

LO-3 Assess the role of government policy at municipal, regional, national, and global levels in achieving sustainable development.

Required Readings and Resources
Assignments

Forum 5

**Week 6: Sustainable Business & Industry**

Learning Objectives

LO-5 Apply the principles of sustainability to complex environmental problems.

Required Readings and Resources
Assignments

Forum 6

Case Study 3

**Week 7: LEED Certification**

Learning Objectives

LO-4 Analyze the political, regulatory, and economic barriers that prevent full implementation of sustainable products, goods and services.

Required Readings and Resources
Assignments

Forum 7

Case Study 4

**Week 8: Sustainable Initiatives**

Learning Objectives

LO-5 Apply the principles of sustainability to complex environmental problems.

LO-6 Analyze the role of sustainability in meeting critical resource needs, such as renewable energy and water quality and quantity, on the local, regional, national, and global scale.

Required Readings and Resources
Assignments

Forum 8

Project

**Evaluation**
Grading:

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Materials

**Book Title:** Sustainable Design : Architecture, Planning, and Ecology  
**Author:** Williams  
**Publication Info:** John Wiley & Sons, Inc.  
**ISBN:** 9780471709534

**Book Title:** Course Materials will change for April & beyond. Please email booklist@apus.edu for an updated booklist.  
**Author:**  
**Publication Info:** Open Web Sources  
**ISBN:** APUPOT14

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

- Environmental Policy and Management:  

**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](#) 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.

University Policies

Student Handbook

- Drop/Withdrawal policy
- Extension Requests
- Academic Probation
- Appeals
- Disability Accommodations

The mission of American Public University System is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation’s military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.

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.