This document contains three versions of the course syllabus for CSUS 200 (sections 1, 2 and 3)
CSUS 200
Introduction to Sustainability

Fall 2015
Tuesday/Thursday, 2:40 – 4:00 p.m.
223 Natural Resources Building

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Michael W. Everett
Department of Community Sustainability
Michigan State University
480 Wilson Road
140 Natural Resources Building
Telephone: 517-432-0292
Email: everettm@msu.edu

OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday, 12:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. (140 Natural Resources)

LOCATION: Room 223 Natural Resources Building

MEETING TIMES: Tuesday/Thursday from 2:40 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Introduction to sustainability and personal role in sustainability initiatives. Implications of individual actions for key sustainability challenges. Application of sustainability principles and leadership skills in community.

COURSE GOALS: Students will be able to:
1. Identify key themes and principles in sustainability development
2. Apply a variety of critical thinking, analysis and research skills to evaluate the credibility of sustainability policy positions and scientific arguments.
3. Identify the concept of an ecological footprint and recognize their ecological footprint.
4. Improve decision-making capabilities within the context of sustainability.
5. Assess whether a societal issue is a wicked or tame problem.
6. Develop team leadership skills within groups to advance change within communities.
7. Use information technologies in their formal and non-formal learning.
8. Consider the importance of the Commons in developing community sustainability strategies.
9. Identify individual worldviews as they relate to sustainability and their implications for individual actions.
10. Examine the interaction between agriculture, food, natural resources and Michigan communities using a systems approach.
11. Use Life Cycle Analysis to consider the true costs of products and services.

SUPPLEMENTAL DOCUMENT: Choices for Sustainable Living – Northwest Earth Institute (also available as a PDF) (available at http://www.nwei.org/store/) (needed ASAP)
CLASS SCHEDULE

Week 1 – Introduction
1 - September 3, 2015 – Introducing the Class

Week 2 – Wicked Problems
2 - September 8, 2015 – What are Wicked Problems?
3 - September 10, 2015 – Trash Sort (Meet at MSU Recycling Center)

Week 3 – Thinking Critically
4 - September 15, 2015 – Analyzing Web Sites and Credibility of Information/Evaluating Policy
5 - September 17, 2015 – A Call to Sustainability (CSL Discussion - #1)

Week 4 – Human/Environmental Interdependence
7 - September 24, 2015 – Governing the Commons

Week 5 – Human/Environmental Interdependence
8 - September 29, 2015 – Is Water the 21st Century Oil
9 - October 1, 2015 – Ecological Principles (CSL Discussion - #2)

Week 6 – Food Systems
10 - October 6, 2015 – Real Cost of Food
11 - October 8, 2015 – Feeding Yourself for a Year

Week 7 – Food Systems
12 - October 13, 2015 – Developed or Not?
13 - October 15, 2015 – Food (CSL Discussion - #3)

Week 8 – Energy Systems
14 - October 20, 2015 – Transforming Energy - Thermodynamics and Energy Efficiency
15 - October 22, 2015 – Recycling Energy Use

Week 9 – Strategies for Communities
16 - October 27, 2015 – Implementing Sustainability Strategies for Communities
17 - October 29, 2015 – Community (CSL Discussion - #4)

Week 10 – Ecological Footprint
18 - November 3, 2015 – Analyzing an Ecological Footprint/What’s Your Ecological Footprint?
19 - November 5, 2015 – Transportation (CSL Discussion - #5)

1 Topics or dates may change due to availability of resources
Assignments

Assignments will be turned in electronically via D2L or on a Flash Drive. The Final will be written during the scheduled time. More than one application (e.g. a Web browser, Microsoft Word, Prezi, Excel, etc.) may be needed for a given assignment. Written assignments must adhere to APA format, doubles-spaced, and Times New Roman or Arial (12 font). Papers must include a title page with appropriate information (Name, class, assignment, date). A running header must include the students number as the identifier for all pages in the document.

1. Class Attendance and Participation. Your active participation in class is expected (including prior assigned readings) and worth 5 points per class (30) for a total of **150 points. (You must be in class in order to earn the 5 points). A class sign-in sheet will be passed around at the beginning of class. You will NOT be allowed to sign-in late.**

2 & 6. R³ – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle. The assignment spans the semester. The task the first week is for you to identify a daily personal behavior that you can change which results in reducing, reusing or recycling a resource/product. Some examples would be decreasing the number of miles you drive your car each week, decreasing your water usage each week, decreasing your use of plastic, or eliminating your use of bottled water to name a few. You will blog each week of the semester. The first week blog will focus on the selection of your behavior (subject to Dr. Everett’s approval) to modify (as well as baseline data for what you are currently doing) and the following blogs will summarize your successes (and failures) to change your
behavior. You also need to keep a spreadsheet to track your changes (e.g. commute miles via bike – e.g. how many bottles of water do you currently drink each day on average) on an appropriate basis (daily or weekly). You will also prepare a brief report that summarizes your change over the semester and analyses the environmental impact of your behavioral change at the individual level as well as the impact the change would have if every undergraduate at MSU had changed the same behavior (assuming they were not already doing it). The report should include summaries from your spreadsheet (2 page written reflection). You also will turn in your spreadsheet with your report. Report should be a Microsoft Word file and the spreadsheet an Excel file. Place the paper and the spreadsheet in the appropriate drop box in D2L. The blogs are worth 150 points (10 points per blog) and the report is worth 150 points. (Each Weekly Blog is due by midnight Friday – e.g. Blog 1 is due September 11, the report is due at midnight on Friday, December 11).

3. Book Review. You will write a four-page book review related to sustainability broadly defined. Below is a selection of potential books (I encourage you to pick a book that you have not read before). If you read a book not on this list I will need to approve your selection to ensure that the book is applicable to sustainability. Resources on how to write a book review are available in D2L in the Assignment folder. The book review is worth 150 points (3-4 pages). The report should be placed in the appropriate drop box in D2L. (The Book Review is due by midnight on October 30).

Example Book Review titles

- Omnivore’s Dilemma by Michael Pollan
- Collapse by Jared Diamond
- The Story of Stuff by Annie Leonard
- An Agricultural Testament by Sir Albert Howard
- Last Child in the Woods by Richard Louv
- The Watchman’s Rattle by Rebecca Costa
- Eaarth by Bill McKibben
- Confessions of a Radical Industrialist by Ray C. Anderson
- Tomorrow’s Table by Pamela C. Ronald & Raoul W. Adamchak
- Storms of My Grandchildren by James Hansen
- The One Straw Revolution by Masanobu Fukuoka
- Coming Home: Letters from a Tiny House by Hari Berzins
- Cheap: The High Cost of Discount Culture by Ellen Ruppel Shell

4. “Your Zone” - Photo Diary. During the semester you will keep a photo diary of a spot in your “Zone.” The spot can be small (a bush or tree in your yard) or large (a field on the South Farm). You will take a picture of your spot from the same place every weekday (Monday through Friday). You can miss a maximum of five days during the assignment (not missing a day will result in a bonus) and you do not have to take pictures during spring break (unless you are here and want to). You will locate your spot during the first week of class and start your photo diary on September 14, 2015 and conclude it on November 20, 2015. You will turn in your photo diary presentation file to D2L. You will upload your PPT or movie presentation to D2L and provide a flash drive of your individual pictures. Additionally, you will develop a written reflection (2 pages) of your diary. What did you learn? What surprised you? What changed or didn’t change? Let your photo diary drive your reflection. Your written reflection and photo
diary presentation or movie is due and should be placed in the appropriate D2L folder by midnight November 24, 2015 (150 Points).

5. Policy Position Paper and Presentation. You are to identify a position on an issue that you care about that is relevant to this class and develop a policy paper (3-4 pages). A policy paper is a persuasive document that outlines your views on a particular policy or issue you have studied (and is of interest to you). The policy paper is a way to apply what you have learned in a format that communicates ideas or recommendations, or persuades people to consider your views. The audience for the paper may be other students, citizens, members of a public commission, elected representatives, or anyone else with a stake in the issue. There is a resource to help you with writing a policy position paper in the Assignments Folder on D2L. The paper is worth 100 points. (The paper will be due by midnight on December 10, 2015). Additionally, each student will present their position presentation at a randomly assigned time during classes 26-29. The presentation is worth 50 points and will be 3 minutes in length. There will be NO makeup opportunities for the presentation.


7. Final Exam. The Final will be comprehensive and open note. The Final is worth 100 points. (The Final is on December 15 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm).

Student Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Class Attendance &amp; Assignments</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>Weekly</td>
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<td>2. Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Blogs</td>
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<td>4. “The Zone” - Photo Diary</td>
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<td>7. Final</td>
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Grading Scale

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2 Late assignments will NOT be accepted
Important Dates

September 28      Last Day to Drop w/ Refund (8:00 PM)
October 10        Last Day to Drop w/ No Grade (8:00 PM)
November 27-28    Thanksgiving Break
December 15       Final (10:00 am to 12:00 pm)

Academic Misconduct
Article 2.III.B.2 of the Academic Freedom Report states that "The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards." In addition, the Department of Community Sustainability adheres to the policies on academic honesty as specified in General Student Regulations 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades; the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations. (See Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide and/or the MSU Web site: www.msu.edu.)

Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, lab work, quizzes, tests and exams, without assistance from any source. You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. Also, you are not authorized to use the www.allmsu.com Web site to complete any course work in CSUS 200. Students who violate MSU academic integrity rules may receive a penalty grade, including a failing grade on the assignment or in the course. Contact your instructor if you are unsure about the appropriateness of your course work. (See also http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/dishonestyFAQ.html). There will be no warnings – the maximum sanction allowed under University policy will occur on the first offense. Turnitin.com will be used for all written assignments.

Accommodations
Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at rcpd.msu.edu. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a verified individual services accommodation ("RISA") form. Please present this form to Dr. Everett at the start of the term and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date (test, project, etc.). Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.

Bereavement:
Students seeking a grief absence should be directed to the Grief Absence Request Form found on the RO home page (https://reg.msu.edu/) under ‘Student Services – Grief Absence Request Form’ OR to StuInfo (https://stuinfo.msu.edu/) under ‘Academics - Enrollment Information and Services – Grief Absence Request Form.’ Per policy, graduate students who should see their major professor and notify course instructors are directed to do so when they access the form.
**Drops and Adds**
The last day to add this course is the end of the first week of classes. The last day to drop this course with a 100 percent refund and no grade reported is September 28. The last day to drop this course with no refund and no grade reported is October 10. You should immediately make a copy of your amended schedule to verify you have added or dropped this course.

**Commercialized Lecture Notes**
Commercialization of lecture notes and university-provided course materials is not permitted in this course.

**Attendance**
Students whose names do not appear on the official class list for this course may not attend this class. Students who fail to attend the first four class sessions or class by the fifth day of the semester, whichever occurs first, may be dropped from the course. This course follows the General University Attendance Policy. If you miss a class due to a Special Consideration Absence as defined by University Policy, your class participation grade for those excused absences days will be the average of your earned participation grades.

**Internet**
Some professional journals will not consider a submission for publication if the article has appeared on the Internet. Please notify your instructor in writing if you do not want your course papers posted to the course Web site.

**Disruptive Behavior**
Article 2.III.B.4 of the Academic Freedom Report (AFR) for students at Michigan State University states: "The student's behavior in the classroom shall be conducive to the teaching and learning process for all concerned." Article 2.III.B.10 of the AFR states that "The student has a right to scholarly relationships with faculty based on mutual trust and civility." General Student Regulation 5.02 states: "No student shall . . . interfere with the functions and services of the University (for example, but not limited to, classes . . .) such that the function or service is obstructed or disrupted. Students whose conduct adversely affects the learning environment in this classroom may be subject to disciplinary action through the Student Faculty Judiciary process.

**Campus Emergencies**
If an emergency arises in this classroom, building or vicinity, your instructor will inform you of actions to follow to enhance your safety. As a student in this class, you are responsible for knowing the location of the nearest emergency evacuation route or shelter. These directions appear on the maps posted on the walls throughout this building. If police or university officials order us to evacuate the classroom or building, follow the posted emergency route in an orderly manner and assist those who might need help in reaching a barrier-free exit or shelter. To receive emergency messages, set your cellular phones on silent mode when you enter this classroom. If you observe or receive an emergency alert, immediately and calmly inform your instructor. (See also www.alert.msu.edu.)
E-Learning Policies
Information technologies such as D2L and email are widely used in this class. As a result there are some additional policies that need to be understood.

- Students should visit the course’s D2L site on a regular basis.
- Students should check their email frequently (all class email is sent to the student’s official MSU email account).
- All assignments submitted electronically, either on disk or via email, should be free of any viruses and/or worms. Any infected file or media that is submitted will receive a zero (0) for that assignment.
- This course recognizes the students’ right to privacy and adheres to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- Excessive emails make an unreasonable time demands on both sender and recipient. Please ensure you have a legitimate need before you write.
- Dr. Everett will answer email about:
  - Questions arising from difficulty in understanding course content.
  - Requests for feedback about graded assignments.
  - Private issues appropriate for discussion within the teacher-student relationship.
- Dr. Everett will NOT answer email which:
  - Poses questions answered in the course information sections of the course D2L site
  - Poses questions answered in the course syllabus.
  - Lacks a subject line clearly stating the purpose of the email and the course number (CSUS 200).
  - Raises an inappropriate subject.
- Dr. Everett will make every effort to answer email received on a given day no later than close of work on the next workday.
- The Web site tech.msu.edu provides a number of information technology resources for students.
- You are responsible for the operation of any personally owned computers you use on or off campus. A malfunctioning computer system is NOT a valid excuse for submitting late work.
- Students are expected to have a high degree of self-motivation and self-direction in this class and develop the needed technology skills to excel in this class and in life.
CSUS 200:2
Introduction to Sustainability

Fall 2015
Monday and Wednesday, 12:40-2 p.m.
138 Brody Hall

Michael W. Hamm, C.S. Mott Professor of Sustainable Agriculture
312B Natural Resources
Cell: 517-604-0148 (can text/best number)
Office Phone: 517-432-1611
Email: mhamm@msu.edu

Books and Readings:
• Required book: Choices for Sustainable Living – Northwest Earth Institute (please order online - available at http://www.nwei.org/store/ - $27 and also available in PDF format if preferred) (needed by Week 3)
• All other assigned readings online and can be found on D2L site: https://d2l.msu.edu/

Office Hours: T 1-2 PM and by appointment

DESCRIPTION

Total Credits 3, Lecture/Recitation/Discussion 3 hours. An introduction to sustainability and an individual's role in sustainability initiatives. The implications of individual actions for key sustainability challenges will be discussed. The application of sustainability principles and associated leadership skills in a community will be explored.

COURSE AIMS
1. Apply key ecological concepts to explain relationships between people and ecosystems
2. Recognize and define basic systems language, properties and behaviors.
3. Explain and apply core concepts of community in the context of oneself and sustainability.
4. Develop a greater sense of self and relationship of your worldview to others.

COURSE OUTCOMES

Students will be able to:
1. Identify key themes and principles in sustainability development
2. Apply a variety of critical thinking, analysis and research skills to evaluate the credibility of sustainability policy positions and scientific arguments.
3. Identify the concept of an ecological footprint and recognize their ecological footprint.
4. Improve decision-making capabilities within the context of sustainability.
5. Assess whether a societal issue is a wicked or tame problem.
6. Develop team leadership skills within groups to advance change within communities.
7. Use information technologies in their formal and non-formal learning.
8. Consider the importance of the Commons in developing community sustainability strategies.
9. Identify individual worldviews as they relate to sustainability and their implications for individual actions.
10. Examine the interaction between agriculture, food, natural resources and Michigan communities using a systems approach.
11. Use Life Cycle Analysis to consider the true costs of products and services.

This course is intended to help meet both the MSU learning goals (http://learninggoals.undergrad.msu.edu) and the Dept. of Community Sustainability learning goals (http://www.csus.msu.edu/undergraduate).

CLASS SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Schedule</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1: 9/2 – Introduction to the class; discussion of various class components</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 2    | Recycling Center | 2: 9/7 - Labor Day- no class  
3: 9/9 - Field trip – Recycling Center |
| 3    | Wicked Problems and Sustainability | 4: 9/14 - What is ‘sustainability’? Why do people disagree so much? What is a wicked problem? Evaluating information and sources – what makes ‘good’ information; Evaluating policy positions  
5: 9/16 - A Call to Sustainability (CSL Discussion #1) |
| 4    | Sustainable Development | 6: 9/21 - What does sustainable development mean and what are it’s underpinnings?  
Global trends- where are we headed (maybe, probably, I don’t think so)?  
7: 9/23 - Field Trip – MSU Student Organic Farm |
| 5    | Ecological Footprint | 8: 9/28 - Ecological Principles (CSL Discussion #2)  
9: 9/30 - Ecological footprints – what are they and what does it mean? how do I measure mine? |
| 6    | MSU Power Plant | 10: 10/5 - Field Trip – MSU Power Plant (1/2 of class)  
11: 10/7 - Field Trip – MSU Power Plant (1/2 of class) |
| 7    | Food System – Agricultural Production | 12: 10/12 – A basic primer on agricultural production globally;  
13: 10/14 - Field Trip – Anaerobic digester and composting facility |
| 8    | Food System – Systems of Food Provisioning | 14: 10/19 - Life cycle analysis and what they mean  
15: 10/21 - Food (CSL Discussion #3) |
| 9    | Water Systems | 16: 10/26 - Water cycles and the world’s fresh water  
17: 10/28 - My water footprint and choices through life |
| 10   | Building Community | 18: 11/2 - Ecosystem services – what are they and what do they do?  
19: 11/4 - Community (CSL Discussion #4) |
| 11   | Energy Systems | 20: 11/9 - To heat or not to heat; the cost of movement  
21: 11/11 - Transportation (CSL Discussion #5) |
| 12   | Environmental Justice and the Commons |
22: 11/16 - Environmental justice
23: 11/18 - Human population growth and systemic sustainability

Week 13
24: 11/23 - System's Interactions
   Relationships between food, water, energy, land, and population
25: 11/25 - Consumption and Economy (CSL Discussion #6)

Week 14
26: 11/30 - Presentations/Wrap-up
   Policy Presentations
27: 12/2 - Policy Presentations

Week 15
28: 12/7 - Policy Presentations
29: 12/9 - Visions of Sustainability (CSL Discussion #7)

Week 16
Final Exam Thursday, 12/17 12:45-2:45 PM

ASSIGNMENTS

All Assignments will be turned in electronically via D2L. All writing should be formatted as 1” margins, 12-point font, and double-spaced. The Final will be written during the scheduled time. More than one application (e.g. a Web browser, Microsoft Word, Prezi, Powerpoint, Excel, etc.) may be needed for a given assignment.

1) **R3 – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle**. This assignment spans the semester – please note that it makes up a substantial part of the total points in the class.
   a. The task the first week is for you to identify a daily or weekly personal behavior that you can change which results in reducing, reusing or recycling a resource/product (we will discuss this the first day of class and you will need to finalize via email by the second day of class). Some examples would be decreasing the number of miles you drive your car by 25%, decreasing your water usage by 15%, eliminating your use of plastic shopping bags, eliminating your use of bottled water, reducing electrical use to name a few. You will write and submit electronically a 2-page narrative of what you want to do and why. Consider what the behavior is, why it is important to you to change it, and what you hope to accomplish by the change in both your personal life and the world at large. Name the report FirstnameLastnameR3Prelim.docx. This two page paper is due by midnight Friday, Sept. 18th.
   b. You will blog each week of the semester. The first week blog will focus on the selection of your behavior (subject to Dr. Hamm’s approval) to modify (as well as some baseline data for what you are currently doing) and the following blogs will summarize your successes (and failures) to change your behavior. **Weekly Blog is due by Midnight Friday – e.g. Blog 1 is due September 11th by midnight.**
   c. You also need to keep a spreadsheet to track your changes (e.g. commute miles via bike; bottles of water consumed per week; etc) on an appropriate basis (daily or weekly). **The spreadsheet is due with the final report on Friday, Dec. 11th at midnight.**
   d. You will need to do a 2-page literature review on your selected behavior change. What does the literature (this can include websites, online documents, papers, journal articles, etc) say about your intended behavior change. Name the report FirstnameLastnameR3Lit.docx. **This two page paper is due by midnight Friday, Nov 13th.**
e. You will prepare a brief report (3-4 pages) that summarizes your change over the semester and analyses the environmental impact of your behavioral change at the individual level as well as the impact the change would have if every undergraduate at MSU (assume 37,000 undergraduate students) had changed the same behavior (assuming they were not already doing it). The report should include summaries from your spreadsheet. You will turn in your spreadsheet with your report. Report should be a Microsoft Word file and the spreadsheet an Excel file. Name the report Firstname_LastnameR3.docx and the spreadsheet Firstname_LastnameR3.xlsx and place them in the appropriate drop box in D2L. The blogs are worth 130 points (10 points per blog) and the report is worth 120 points. The final report is due by Friday, Dec. 11th at midnight.

3) In-Class Writing Challenge. Over the course of the semester we will do 10 in-class, 20 minute writing challenges that will take a recent event around the world and analyze it within the context of course material. These will be free flowing and hand-written. There is not a length requirement so time should not be an issue. These will be worth 10 points each.

4) Book Review. You will write a four-page book review on a book of your choosing related to sustainability (do not pick a book that you have read before). If you want suggestions for the book feel free to ask – a list of books read in previous years is on the D2L site. All books should be vetted with Dr. Hamm before your final choice is made – you need to have chosen a book and email the title/author to Dr. Hamm by Friday, Sept. 18th at midnight. Resources on how to write a book review are available in D2L in the Assignment folder. The book review is worth 100 points. The report should be named Firstname_LastnameBook.docx and placed in the appropriate drop box in D2L. (The Book Review is due by Midnight on Friday, October 30th).

5) Policy Position Paper and Presentation. You are to identify a position on an issue at MSU that you care about, is relevant to this class, and that you would classify as a ‘wicked problem.’ Your task is to develop a policy paper around this position. A policy paper is a persuasive document that outlines your views on a particular policy or issue you have studied (and is of interest to you). The policy paper is a way to apply what you have learned in a format that communicates ideas or recommendations, or persuades people to consider your views. The audience for the paper should be a group on or affiliated with the MSU campus, for e.g. other parents, alumni, students, university/college administrators, faculty, staff or anyone else with a stake in the issue. There is a resource to help you with writing a policy position paper in the Assignments Folder on D2L. The paper and presentation is worth 150 points. (The Policy Position paper is due by Midnight on Wednesday, November 25th) and presentations will occur at the end of the semester.

6) Class Assignments and Participation. Active participation in class is expected (including prior assigned readings) and worth 5 points per class (29) with a bonus of 5 points spotted to you for a total of 150 points. (You must be in class in order to earn the 5 points).

7) Final. The Final will be comprehensive and open note. The Final is worth 100 points. (The Final is on December 17th from 12:45 to 2:45 PM).

STUDENT EVALUATION CRITERIA
Assignments¹

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<td>Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Lit Review</td>
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<td>Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Blogs²</td>
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<td>Reduce, Reuse, Recycle Final Report</td>
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<td>Book Review</td>
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<td>Policy Paper and Presentation</td>
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Grading Scale

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<td>&lt; 600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CLASS MANAGEMENT

Academic Misconduct

Article 2.III.B.2 of the Academic Freedom Report states: “The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards.” In addition, (insert name of unit offering course) adheres to the policies on academic honesty specified in General Student Regulation 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades; the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations.

Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, lab work, quizzes, tests and exams, without assistance from any source. You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. Also, you are not authorized to use the www.allmsu.com Web site to complete any course work in this course. Students who violate MSU regulations on Protection of Scholarship and Grades will receive a failing grade in the course or on the assignment.

Faculty are required to report all instances in which a penalty grade is given for academic dishonesty. Students reported for academic dishonesty are required to take an online course about the integrity of scholarship and grades. A hold will be placed on the student's account until such

¹ 10% deduction for each business day late
time as the student completes the course. This course is overseen by the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education.

Article 2.II.B.2 of the Academic Freedom Report states that "The student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards." In addition, the Department of Community Sustainability adheres to the policies on academic honesty as specified in General Student Regulations 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades; the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades; and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations. (See Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide and/or the MSU Web site: www.msu.edu). Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course assignments, including homework, lab work, quizzes, tests, and exams, without assistance from any source. You are expected to develop original work for this course; therefore, you may not submit course work you completed for another course to satisfy the requirements for this course. Also, you are not authorized to use the www.allmsu.com website to complete any course work in CSUS 200. Students who violate MSU academic integrity rules may receive a penalty grade, including a failing grade on the assignment or in the course. Contact your instructor if you are unsure about the appropriateness of your course work. (See also http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/dishonestyFAQ.html). There will be no warnings – the maximum sanction allowed under University policy will occur on the first offense.

Turnitin.com will be used for all written assignments.

Consistent with MSU’s efforts to enhance student learning, foster honesty, and maintain integrity in our academic processes, Dr. Hamm may use a tool called Turnitin to compare a student’s work with multiple sources. The tool compares each student’s work with an extensive database of prior publications and papers, providing links to possible matches and a ‘similarity score’. The tool does not determine whether plagiarism has occurred or not. Instead, Dr. Hamm must make a complete assessment and judge the originality of the student’s work. All submissions to this course may be checked using this tool.

If directed by Dr. Hamm, students should submit papers to Turnitin Dropboxes without identifying information included in the paper (e.g. name or student number); the system will automatically show this info to faculty in your course when viewing the submission, but the information will not be retained by Turnitin.

Accommodations

Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services, and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at rcpd.msu.edu. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, you will be issued a verified individual services accommodation ("RISA") form. Please present this form to Dr. Hamm at the start of the term and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date (test, project, etc.). Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.

Bereavement:
Michigan State University is committed to ensuring that the bereavement process of a student who loses a family member during a semester does not put the student at an academic disadvantage in their classes. If you require a grief absence, you should complete the “Grief Absence Request” web
form (https://www.reg.msu.edu/sitemap.aspx?Group=7) no later than one week after knowledge of
the circumstance. I will work with you to make appropriate accommodations so that you are not
penalized due to a verified grief absence.

Drops and Adds

The last day to add this course is the end of the first week of classes. The last day to drop this course
with a 100 percent refund and no grade reported is September 23 at 8 PM. The last day to drop this
course with no refund and no grade reported is October 16 at 8 PM. You should immediately make
a copy of your amended schedule to verify you have added or dropped this course.

Commercialized Lecture Notes

Commercialization of lecture notes and university-provided course materials is not permitted in this
course.

Attendance

Students whose names do not appear on the official class list for this course may not attend this
class. Students who fail to attend the first four class sessions or class by the fifth day of the semester,
whichever occurs first, may be dropped from the course. This course follows the General University
Attendance Policy. If you miss a class due to a Special Consideration Absence as defined by
University Policy, your class participation grade for those excused absences days will be the average
of your earned participation grades.

Internet

Some professional journals will not consider a submission for publication if the article has appeared
on the Internet. Please notify your instructor in writing if you do not want your course papers
posted to the course Web site

Disruptive Behavior

Article 2.III.B.4 of the Academic Freedom Report (AFR) for students at Michigan State University
states: "The student's behavior in the classroom shall be conducive to the teaching and learning
process for all concerned." Article 2.III.B.10 of the AFR states that "The student has a right to
scholarly relationships with faculty based on mutual trust and civility." General Student Regulation
5.02 states: "No student shall . . . interfere with the functions and services of the University (for
example, but not limited to, classes . . .) such that the function or service is obstructed or disrupted.
Students whose conduct adversely affects the learning environment in this classroom may be subject
to disciplinary action through the Student Faculty Judiciary process.
Campus Emergencies

If an emergency arises in this classroom, building or vicinity, your instructor will inform you of actions to follow to enhance your safety. As a student in this class, you are responsible for knowing the location of the nearest emergency evacuation route or shelter. These directions appear on the maps posted on the walls throughout this building. If police or university officials order us to evacuate the classroom or building, follow the posted emergency route in an orderly manner and assist those who might need help in reaching a barrier-free exit or shelter. To receive emergency messages, set your cellular phones on silent mode when you enter this classroom. If you observe or receive an emergency alert, immediately and calmly inform your instructor. (See also www.alert.msu.edu.)

E-Learning Policies

Information technologies such as D2L and email are widely used in this class. As a result there are some additional policies that need to be understood:

• Students should visit the course’s D2L site on a regular basis.
• Students should check their email frequently (all class email is sent to the student’s official MSU email account).
• All assignments submitted electronically, either on disk or via email, should be free of any viruses and/or worms. Any infected file or media that is submitted will receive a zero (0) for that assignment.
• This course recognizes the students’ right to privacy and adheres to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
• Students need to review the university policy “Acceptable Use of Computing Systems, Software, and the University Digital Network” at http://lct.msu.edu/guidelines-policies/aup/.
• Excessive emails make an unreasonable time demands on both sender and recipient. Please ensure you have a legitimate need before you write.
• Dr. Hamm will answer email about:
  • Questions arising from difficulty in understanding course content.
  • Requests for feedback about graded assignments.
  • Private issues appropriate for discussion within the teacher-student relationship.
• Dr. Hamm will NOT answer email which:
  • Poses questions answered in the course information sections of the course D2L site
  • Poses questions answered in the course syllabus.
  • Lacks a subject line clearly stating the purpose of the email and the course number (CSUS200).
  • Raises an inappropriate subject.
• Dr. Hamm will make every effort to answer email received on a given day no later than close of work on the next workday.
• The Web site tech.msu.edu provides a number of information technology resources for students.
• You are responsible for the operation of any personally owned computers you use on or off campus. A malfunctioning computer system is NOT a valid excuse for submitting late work.
• Students are expected to have a high degree of self-motivation and self-direction in this class and develop the needed technology skills to excel in this class and in life.
Instructor:

Professor Christopher Grobbel
231-499-7165
Email: grobbelc@msu.edu

Online class materials available on D2L
Class Schedule: 10:20 am – 11:40 am Tuesdays and Thursdays
1255 Anthony Hall, MSU Main Campus

Office Hours:
Room 311A Natural Resources Building, MSU Main Campus
Wednesdays 1 pm to 3 pm, and by appointment

Course Outcomes:

Students will be able to:
1. Identify and apply the essential components and principles of sustainability.
2. Identify and apply a cross-disciplinary and multifaceted approach to understanding sustainability and sustainable outcomes.
3. Develop and apply critical thinking and analysis skills to evaluate the credibility of sustainability policy positions and scientific arguments.
4. Improve decision-making capabilities within the context of sustainability.
5. Use information technologies in their formal and informal learning.
6. Consider the importance of the social, legal, economic, geopolitics, natural resource, values, environmental science, and time horizons in implementing sustainable projects/programs and approaching a more sustainable lifestyle.
7. Apply life cycle analysis and systems thinking approaches in considering sustainability.

Course Description:

3 credits, Lecture/Recitation/Discussion 3 hours. Interdisciplinary nature of environmental and community sustainability.

Week 1 – Introduction

Week 2 – Principles of Sustainability


Week 3 – Principles of Sustainability (continued)


Week 4 – Ecological Principles


Week 5- Consumption


Week 6- Sustainable Economy


Week 7 – Food

10. October 13, 2015- Reading Assignment: Session 4: Food, pp. 51 - 70. Consequences of large-scale, petroleum-based agriculture; the re-invigoration of small scale, organic farming; direct to consumers, farmers markets, local and slow food movements. Paper #5 assignment (1-2 pages, but no more than 2 pages) – “What does slow food mean to me?”
11. October 15, 2015 – Film: **A Place at the Table.** 2012. Class discussion

**Week 8 – Water**


**Week 9 – Climate Change**

14. October 26, 2015 – Film: **Carbon Nation,** 2011. Class Discussion. **Paper #7 Assignment – Calculate Your Personal Ecological Footprint. Go to www. footprintnetwork.org (Global Footprint Network) or www.Myfootprint.org (The Center for Sustainable Economy - $1 charge). Take one of the footprint questionnaires, honestly answer the questions. Save your results. Print out the email of your results and turn them in to Dr. Grobbel on October 29, 2015. Your results will be kept confidential.**


**Week 10 – Shelter**


**Week 11 – Shelter (continued)**

8. November 10, 2015 – Reading Assignment: on D2L: Chapter Six: “Adaptive Fuel and Shelter,” *The Resilient Farm and Homestead, Ben Faulk, 2013, pp. 207 – 243. Paper Assignment #9 (1-2 pages, but no more than 2 pages) – Contact an elder, parent, guardian, uncle/aunt, grandparent or other important adult in your life and ask them “1) From your experience what is the biggest lesson that you’d like me to know as I go through my life. **AND** 2) Are you hopeful about my future? Why or why not?”


**Week 12 – Embracing Resiliency**


**Week 13 – Visions of Sustainability**


13. November 26, 2015 - No class, MSU closed.

**Week 14 – Sustainable Community**

14. December 1, 2015 – Reading Assignment: Session 4: Community, pp. 71 - 84. Intentional communities and the sustainable village, community supported agriculture (CSA), citizens’ roles in transition, chaos and the great turning. Paper #11 assignment (1-2 pages, but no more than 2 pages) – “What are the three (3) greatest challenges that you think exist in creating sustainable communities?”


**Week 15 – Putting it All Together and Trending Toward Solutions**


17. December 10, 2015 – Case study: powerpoint presentation Professor Grobbel’s an introduction to permaculture farm/off the grid home in Leelanau County, Michigan.

**Week 16- Final Exam Week**

*No final exam. Course concludes December 10, 2015*

**Short Papers/Weekly Writing Assignments:**

Students will be assigned weekly topics for short papers. Weekly papers are to be 1-2 pages in length no longer than two (2) pages, and due at the beginning of class on the Thursday of each week. Papers may also be emailed to Prof. Grobbel at grobbelc@msu.edu or dropped off in person at Dr. Grobbel’s office no later than 5 pm on Thursdays. A make-up paper due date will be scheduled in the event of an excused absence. A written statement from a doctor will be required if medical reasons exist for such absence. In the event of successive absences during the course, alternative means of grading student progress may be utilized at the discretion of Prof. Grobbel.

**Class Participation:**

Class participation will be graded on the basis of student knowledge, willingness to participate, courtesy,
engagement, scholarship, professionalism and the students’ demonstration of ability to integrate course concepts in questions asked of speakers and/or the course instructor.

**Reading Assignments:**

Weekly reading assignments are required to be complete prior to class. The required text for CSUS 200: Choices for Sustainable Living, Northwest Earth Institute, *Students are expected to come to class having read assigned materials in advance of each session,* Course text is available at the student bookstores. Please see Prof. Grobbel if alternative or additional accommodations are needed for access to course materials.

**Grading:**

Grading for this course will be on the basis of a point system as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points:</th>
<th>250 Total Possible:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly paper assignments</td>
<td>150 points possible (10 points each)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>100 points possible</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Course grading: 250 points possible.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points Range</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0 - 225 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.5 - 200 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>3.0 - 175 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>2.5 - 150 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>2.0 - 125 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>1.5 - 100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>1.0 - 75 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>0.0 - Less than 75 points</td>
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**Important Dates:**

Monday, 9/7/15 - University closed – Labor Day Holiday
Thursday 11/26/15 & Friday 11/27/15 - Thanksgiving break (no class, university closed)
12/14/15-12/18/15 - Final exams week

**Academic Misconduct:**

Article 2.III.B.2 of the Academic Freedom Report states that “the student shares with the faculty the responsibility for maintaining the integrity of scholarship, grades, and professional standards.” In addition, the Department of CSUS adheres to the polices and academic honesty as specified in General Student Regulations 1.0, Protection of Scholarship and Grades: the all-University Policy on Integrity of Scholarship and Grades: and Ordinance 17.00, Examinations. (See Spartan Life: Student Handbook and Resource Guide and/or MSU website: www.msu.edu.

Therefore, unless authorized by your instructor, you are expected to complete all course reading assignments, participate in class discussions and exams without assistance from any source. Students who violate MSU academic integrity rules may receive a penalty grade, including a failing grade in the course. Contact your instructor if you are unsure about the appropriateness of your course work. (See also http://www.msu.edu/unit/ombud/dishonestyFAQ.html). There will be no warnings – the maximum sanction allowed under University policy will occur on the first offense.
Accommodations:

Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities. Requests for accommodations by persons with disabilities may be made by contacting the Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities at 517-884-RCPD or on the web at rpcd.msu.edu. Once your eligibility for an accommodation has been determined, will be issued a verified individual services accommodation (“RISA”) form. Please present this form to Dr. Grobbel at the start of the semester and/or two weeks prior to the accommodation date (i.e., exam date, etc.). Requests received after this date will be honored whenever possible.

Drops and Adds:

The last day to add this course is the end of the first week of classes. The last day to change from credit to non-credit or visitor is September 9, 2015. The last day to drop this course with a 100 percent refund and no grade reported is September 28, 2015. You should immediately make a copy of your amended schedule to verify that you have added or dropped this course.

Commercialized Lecture Notes:

Commercialization of lecture notes and university-provided course materials is not permitted in this course.

Attendance:

Students whose names do not appear on the official class list for this course may not attend this class. Students who fail to attend the first four class sessions or class by the fifth day of the semester, whichever occurs first, may be dropped from the course. This course follows the General University Attendance Policy. If you miss a class due to a Special Consideration Absence as defined by University Policy, your class participation grade from those excused absences days will be the average of your earned participation grades.

Disruptive Behavior:

Article 2.III.B.4 of the Academic Freedom Report (AFR) for students at Michigan State University states, “The student’s behavior in the classroom shall be conducive to the teaching and learning process for all concerned.” Article 2.III.B.10 of the AFR states that “The student has a right to scholarly relationships with faculty based on mutual trust and civility.” General Student Regulation 5.02 states, “No student shall …interfere with the functions and services of the University (for example, but not limited to, classes…) such that the function or service is obstructed or disrupted. Students whose conduct adversely affects the learning environment in this classroom may be subject to disciplinary action though the Student Faculty Judiciary process.

Campus Emergencies:

If an emergency arises in this classroom, building or vicinity, your instructor will inform you of actions to follow to enhance your safety. As a student in this class, you are responsible for knowing the location of the nearest emergency evacuation route or shelter. These directions appear on the maps posted on the walls throughout the Natural Resources Building. If police or university officials order an evacuation of the classroom or building, follow the posted emergency route in an orderly manner and assist those who might need help in reaching a barrier-free exit or shelter. To receive emergency messages, set your cellular phone on silent mode when you enter this classroom. If you observe or receive an emergency
alert, immediately and calmly inform your instructor. (See also www.alert.msu.edu.)

**E-Learning Policies:**

Information technologies such as D2L and email will be used in this class. As a result there are some additional policies that must be understood.

- Students should regularly visit the course’s D2L site.
- Students should check their email frequently (all class email will be sent to the student’s official MSU email account.)
- Electronic course submittals, if any, should be free of any malware, viruses, worms, etc.
- This course recognizes the student’s right to privacy and adheres to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
- Excessive emails make an unreasonable time demand on both sender and recipient.
- Please be sure you have a legitimate need before you write.
- Dr. Grobbel will answer email about:
  - Questions arising from difficulty in understanding course content.
  - Requests for feedback about grades, exams, etc.
  - Private issues appropriate from discussion within the teacher-student relationship.
- Dr. Grobbel will not answer email which:
  - Poses questions answered in the course information sections of the course D2L site.
  - Poses questions answered in the course syllabus.
  - Lacks a subject line clearly stating the purpose of the email and the course number (i.e., CSUS 200).
  - Raises inappropriate subject(s).
- Dr. Grobbel will make every effort to answer email received on a given day no later than close of work on the next workday.
- The website tech.msu.edu provided a number of information technology resources for students.
- You are responsible for the operation of any personally owned computers you use on or off campus. A malfunctioning computer system is not a valid excuse for missing class or failing to participate in class discussion(s).
- Students are expected to have a have a high degree of self-motivation and self-direction in this class, and develop skills to excel in the course and in life.