Sustainability

PUP 3204
Fall 2011
Instructor: Dr. Peter Jacques

Contacting the Professor		Contacting the Class	
Office Hrs:	M and T 10:30-12:30	**Class E-mail:**	**Coursemail Only** for regular issues; use my office email for urgent messages only.
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Grade Categories	Description of the requirements	Weight toward final grade (1000pnts)
Peer Review Essays	8 informal essays and reviews of other student's essays (25 points each)	200
Portfolio	4 projects with revision, submitted as final a Portfolio. Directions are in webcourses.	400
4 Exams	Based on readings and modules, 100 points each	400

CAVEAT DISCIPULI---- Read the whole syllabus before you ask any questions; if you ask questions found in the syllabus or Course Protocols, I will deduct 10 points from your grade. Further, the Course Protocols are in webcourses are part of this syllabus, and they contain my rules for the courses, e.g., when I round up to a higher final semester grade.

Required Reading

1. *A New Green History of the World*, Clive Ponting
2. *Limits To Growth, the 30 year update*, Donnella Meadows et al
3. *Oryx and Crake*, Margaret Atwood
4. Subscription to *The Wall Street Journal*. Call via 800-369-2834, ask for a student rate for the semester and tell them it is for my class. They do have semester subscriptions, tell the WSJ it is for my class.

Learning Modules:
Within the course are detailed modules that replace my lectures from a face-to-face course, and will require time for you to go through them as if you were sitting in lecture. I have loaded in a lot of videos, etc...—these links are not necessary for you to follow, unless they are in the syllabus. Otherwise links within the modules are there for the curious of mind only.

Newspaper Reading and Discussions.
I require that you read *The Wall Street Journal* throughout the week to be an informed citizen, and if you are studying politics as we are, it is *absolutely* essential. Call 800-369-2834, ask for a student rate for the semester and tell them it is for my class.

Exams

The purpose of the exams is to test your command over concepts. Exams open at the end of each module. They are 50 questions of multiple choice, 2 points each. You will have 75 minutes to complete the exam once it is opened. Save your answers as you go in order to minimize computer problems.

Peer-review essays.
You will write 2 informal essays per module, and then you will read other student's essays and provide them with feedback, guided by questions in the assignment directions. These essays are meant to engage you with the concepts, prepare for the larger essays, and do well on the exams; and, these essays will help you think about things differently as you work with other people's ideas.

Portfolio Drafts and Final
Each assignment will build into a larger portfolio that will accumulate into a body of environmental work you will do. You will submit the first three of these works as drafts, and you will receive feedback from us, with the expectation that you will revisit, re-think, and revise your work for the final portfolio grade which also includes your service learning field report. The assignments begin with smaller points at stake and end with a lot more, to acknowledge that both learning and writing is a process that takes practice.

If the reading is not in one of the course texts, you will find the article in the Media Library in either the "Readings" or the "Climate Change Reader" sections in Webcourses (one of the main buttons on the left side of the home page) or in the respective module. All modules are open, you may do the readings and assignments either in step with us or ahead of us if you so choose, though I will likely grade all assignments at once.

Supplemental readings are not included in tests but are recommended for a more full understanding of the material.

Module 1: Introduction and Defining the Terms

4 weeks: 8/20-9/14

Assignments all due at 6pm in webcourses

- 2 Peer review essays due on 8/31, and 9/7
- Synthetic Essay: Sierpinsksi Gasket exercise Due 9/14 at 6pm.
- Exam 1: Open 9/12 at 6 am to 9/15 at 6pm

Week One: Introduction—Defining the Terms

- "The Concept of Sustainability" by Robert Goodland
- Orr, “Four Challenges of Sustainability”
- Princen, "Principle of Sufficiency"
- Jacques, Sustainability: The Basics Chapter 1

Week Two and Three: Principle Issues

- Preface and Chpt 1-4, 6,7 in *Limits to Growth*
- Jacques, *Sustainability: The Basics,* Chapter 2

Supplemental

- Joel Cohen, “Human Population: The Next Half Century”
- Arrow et al, “Are We Consuming Too Much?” (they answer no)
- Daly et al respond to Arrow-- “Consuming Too Much for What?”

Week Four: Measuring Sustainability

- Turner: “A comparison of The Limits to Growth with 30 years of reality”
- "Tracking the Ecological Overshoot of the Human Economy" by Wackernagel et al
- Jacques, *Sustainability: The Basics,* Chapter 3.

Module 2: Development

4 weeks: 9/17-10/12

Assignments- due at 6pm in webcourses.

- 2 Peer Reviews Due 9/21 and 9/28
- Synthetic Essay: Third World Farmer due 10/12
- Exam 2: Open from 6am 10/10 to 6pm 10/13.

Week 5 and 6: Modern Theories of Development

- York, Rosa, and Dietz, "Footprints on the Earth: The Environmental Consequences of Modernity"
- Bhagwati, "The Case for Free Trade"
- Haque, "The Fate of Sustainable Development Under Neo-liberal Regimes in Developing Countries"
- Brohman, J., *Universalism, Eurocentrism, and the Ideological Bias in Development Studies: From Modernisation to Neoliberalism.*

Supplemental:

- Schurman, "Snails,

Ecological Moderniziation

- Glasby, "Sustainable Development as a New Paradigm"

Week 7 The Subsistence Perspective

- Mies and Bennholdt-Thomson, Intro and Chapt 1in "The Subsistence Perspective"
- Thompson, *Biopiracy of Biodiversity* , chapter four "Sustaining Farmers, Sustaining Harvests."

Supplemental:

- Ridgeway, "Globalization from the Subsistence Perspective"

Week 8 Indigenous Knowledge Systems

- The Book of Hopi, all of part 1.

Module 3: Science and Society

3 weeks: 10/15-11/2

Assignments- due 6pm.

- 2 Peer reviews due 10/19 and 10/26
- Synthetic Essay: Ecotopia/Power-up Critique due 11/2
- Exam 3: 10/31 6 am- 11/3 6pm.

Week 9 Environmental Skepticism

- Bjorn Lomborg, "Predicament or Progress?"
- Oreskes, "What's Proof Got to Do with it?"
- Jacques, “The Rearguard of Modernity”

Week 10 Responsibility and Science

- Orr and Ehrenfield, “None So Blind: The Problem of Ecological Denial”
- Norton, “Sustainability”

Week 11 Precautionary Principle, Resilience and Sustainability Science

- Tickner and Raffensberger, "The Precautionary Principle in Action"
- Folke, “Resilience: The emergence of a perspective for social–ecological systems analyses”
- Turner et al, “A framework for vulnerability analysis in sustainability science”
- Lubchenco, “Waves of the Future”

Module 4: Democracy, Ecology and the Collapse of Civilizations

4 Weeks: 11/5-12/3

Assignments- all due 6p.m.

- Journal Essays: 4A due 11/18; 4B due 11/25.
- Synthetic Essay: *Oryx and Crake* review 11/30
- Final Portfolio Due 12/3
- Final Exam will be open in webcourses 12/3 6am - 12/5 6pm

Week 12 Dark Ages and World Systems

- "Collapse and Triggers into Dark Ages" by Sing Chew
- All of Ponting, *A Green History of the World*, finish by next week

Week 13 and 14 Collapse of Civilizations

- All of Ponting, *A Green History of the World*

  Supplemental
- J. A. Jameson (1884) "Is Our Civilization Perishable?"

Week 15: Work on Revisions for the Final Portfolio