Sustainability
PUP 3204
Spring 2014
Instructor: Dr. Peter Jacques

Contacting the Professor		Contacting the Class	
Office Hrs:	M/W 10-Noon	**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)
Informal Essays	TBA	200 (50 points each)
Formal Essays	2 essays with revision of one	400
4 Exams	Based on readings and modules, 100 points each	400

CAVEAT DISCIPULI ---- Course Protocols available in webcourses are part of this syllabus, students are expected to read the syllabus and protocols prior to asking questions.

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 New York Times*. Call via 800-369-2834, ask for a student rate for the semester or get them free on campus or read them at any library.

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.

Informal Class work:
Informal essays are typically assigned weekly, see schedule below, but are randomly graded. You will only be assigned a grade for 4 of the informal essays you write but there will be more than that assigned. Informal essays must discuss a concept or argument from assigned reading by using a quote that highlights the issue, and connect that quote to current events in the *New York Times*. You are not graded on grammar but you are graded on simple clarity and command of the issues and proper use of material. You must properly use and cite at the quote from the assigned reading and one recent article from the NYT in-text and in a complete work cited list.

Formal Essays: Informal work/writing will build up to formal essays that use a book or game to explore concepts and thinking. These two essays (below) are graded on readability, thinking, and use of course reading. One essay will be revised and submitted at the end of the semester, graded on the revision, readability, and thinking. These essays are no less than 750 words. You must at least 5 sources from the module in a meaningful way, and 1 outside source that is not assigned in the module. And, all 6 sources must be formally cited in APA format both in-text and in a complete work cited list.

At the end of the term, you will choose the essay you need the most work on and revise this essay and submit this essay over again, introducing at the beginning the improvements you made in the work. The revision is graded both on the end product and the improvement made.

- **Limits to Growth**. What is required, according to this book, to maintain adequate food, energy, and material production? What are the main challenges to these necessities? What are the main causes of collapse in the models, and where are we now compared to their projections? Due at the end of Module 1.

- **Oryx and Crake Review (200 points)** Think about the themes of this novel. Discuss what the work really wrestles with what it means to be human not only individually but as a species, and therefore it is taking on the issues of "defining our temple" that we wish to sustain—what role does science have in this "temple"? Equity and Justice? Dignity? Safety? Commerce? How do the author's ideas and concerns work with First Principles? What kind of insight does this speculative work bring to thinking about sustainaibility? Avoid recapitulating the plot, but focus on the themes, and be sure to use brief quotes from the book to support assertions. Due at the end of Module 3.

- Revision of one of the above essays, graded on the end product and improvement made (so don't choose your best essay). 100 points. Due at the end of Module 4.